# MEDIA RELEASE

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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**Pierce County Public Health Seeks the Community's Help to Report Positive Tests from Minnesota Providers**

Pierce County Public Health seeks the community's help in reporting their own positive test results if they were tested in Minnesota and have not heard from public health within 24 hours of receiving their positive test. PCPH has not received mandated notification of positive COVID-19 test results from some smaller clinics in Minnesota. When this occurs public health is unable to conduct prevention measures such as disease investigation and contact tracing in a timely manner. Missed positive test results or delayed public health interventions lead to ongoing community exposure to COVID-19. Close contacts of a positive case may continue, unknowingly, to go about their daily routines, in turn further exposing others. Early public health notification allows for a quicker response in attempt to keep our community safer.

“In the past week we have received notification through word of mouth of 3 confirmed COVID-19 cases that were tested at a small branch of clinics in Minnesota. This is concerning because the timely reporting of COVID-19 positive cases is crucial to slowing the spread of the disease,” says Dianne H-Robinson, COVID-19 Operations Chief for Pierce County.

“We’ve notified the Wisconsin Department of Health regarding these delays and missing reports from a few Minnesota-based providers so they can continue to work state-to-state to improve the accuracy and efficiency of the interstate reporting process,” said AZ Snyder, Health Officer for Pierce County.

Please call Pierce County Public Health if you live in Pierce County and do not hear from public health within 24 hours of receiving your positive COVID-19 test result.

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