



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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County Health Department and Highland Health & Rehabilitation updated COVID-19 case numbers

BELLINGHAM WA - The Whatcom County Health Department (WCHD) can now confirm a total of 54 positive cases of COVID-19 at Highland Health and Rehabilitation (Highland) in Bellingham.

To date, 37 residents of Highland have tested positive. Ten of those residents have died. Among Highland staff, 17 have tested positive for COVID-19. The outbreak at the skilled nursing facility began in mid-September.

Highland has worked closely with the WCHD to test and monitor staff and residents, isolate affected staff and residents, and quarantine anyone who was exposed. The WCHD staff and the Washington State Department of Health have recommended additional infection prevention protocols, such as cohorting residents to reduce further transmission risk.

The ten Highland residents who have died include:

- A woman in her 90s
- A man in his 90s
- A woman aged 100-109
- A man in his 90s
- A man aged 100-109
- A man in his 80s
- A man in his 70s
- A woman in her 80s
- A woman in her 90s
- A woman in her 80s

To better protect those in our community most vulnerable to the virus that causes COVID-19, everyone should continue to practice the behaviors that prevent the spread of this infection: wear a mask, wash hands, watch your distance and limit gatherings.

For more information about Highland Health and Rehabilitation's response to COVID-19, please visit <https://www.facebook.com/highlandrehabilitation/> and select "Learn More" within the COVID-19 Updates banner or call (360) 734-4800.

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