HEALTH COMMISSIONER ORDER

I, Wendy Gotschall, DNP, RN, NE-BC, Health Commissioner of the Carroll County General Health District, pursuant to the authority granted to me by the Carroll County Board of Health in Resolution 20-037 Declaration of a State of Emergency for Carroll County on March 18, 2020, and pursuant to R.C. §3709.21, where the emergency is still in place for orders to be effective immediately without advertising, I hereby Order the following:

1. All nursing homes and residential facilities in Carroll County shall not transfer residents who are symptomatic or suspected of COVID-19 to another nursing home and residential facility in Carroll County, until the resident becomes asymptomatic or the facility has received notification from the Carroll County General Health District that isolation or quarantine has been completed for the resident.

2. All nursing homes and residential facilities in Carroll County shall not utilize and administer COVID-19 testing that is not approved by the Federal Drug Administration (FDA) on residents and healthcare workers at the facility. All COVID-19 test results administered using a COVID-19 test that is not FDA approved within these facilities will be invalid and if available a new COVID-19 test will need to be collected to determine diagnosis of COVID-19.

3. This Order shall take effect immediately and remain in full force and effect until the Carroll County Declaration of Emergency no longer exists, or the Health Commissioner rescinds or modifies this Order.

COVID-19 presents a threat to our community, as individuals in surrounding counties have been diagnosed with the disease. The danger of serious illness exists, primarily for elderly and the immunocompromised population. COVID-19 is a respiratory disease that can result in serious illness or death, is caused by the SARS-CoV-2 virus, which is a new strain of coronavirus that had not been previously identified in humans and can easily spread from person to person. The virus is spread between individuals who are in close contact with each other (within about six feet) through respiratory droplets produced when an infected person coughs or sneezes. It may be possible that individuals can get COVID-19 by touching a surface or object that has the virus on it and then touching their own mouth, nose or eyes.

Pursuant to R.C. §3707.02, the Carroll County General Health District, by and through the Health Commissioner or her designee, may refer to the County Prosecuting Attorney for prosecution any persons believed to be in violation of this order.

Wendy Gotschall, DNP, RN, NE-BC
Health Commissioner

Date 4/22/2020