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## *Promoting an Optimal State of Wellness in Lake County*

### **PRESS RELEASE FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

#### **COVID-19 Update: Lake County Remaining in the Red Tier; 12<sup>th</sup> Death Reported**

**Lake County, CA (October 5, 2020)** — This afternoon, we learned Lake County will not move to the Purple Tier tomorrow, as had been expected. The formula used to determine tier placement for counties with populations less than 100,000 is being altered, and the new calculation will allow us to stay in the Red Tier, so no changes are required for local businesses or activities.

#### **New State Framework Coming Tomorrow – Here’s What We Know**

In the State’s new framework, if we have less than an average of 6 new cases per day (42 in a week), we can stay in the Red Tier. For the week of 9/20-9/26, we had 39 new cases. The State is expected to release more details on their new framework tomorrow.

Our new case rate peaked a few weeks ago, due in part to a nursing home outbreak, and also due to some community spread. The number of new cases has been decreasing since then, but precautions remain essential.

#### **Together, We Can Avoid the Purple Tier and Keep Businesses Open**

We have been consistently near the line dividing the Red and Purple Tiers for a few months now. COVID-19 is present in our communities, and Lake County residents must be careful. It is wildfire season, and evacuations requiring sheltering with other families increase the risk of spread.

People working in high risk settings, first responders, staff in nursing homes, in-home care providers, teachers and childcare workers, need to be especially careful when out in the community, and definitely wear masks while at work.

Small outbreaks can have big consequences. Keeping businesses open, and maintaining local control, requires that we all continue to do our part.

#### **12<sup>th</sup> COVID-Related Death in Lake County**

Over the weekend, a 12<sup>th</sup> Lake County resident died with a COVID-related illness. The person was over 65, and had been ill and hospitalized for a while. This most recent tragic death was not connected to the Senior Residential Facility outbreak. Our thoughts and deepest condolences are with all who knew this individual. No further information will be released at this time.