



**Public Health**  
Prevent. Promote. Protect.

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Contact: Taylor County Public Health  
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## **Taylor County Board of Health Position Statement Regarding Large Events and Gatherings During COVID-19 Pandemic**

The Taylor County Board of Health has a responsibility to address the health concerns of Taylor County citizens. Based on known evidence of how COVID-19 spreads among mass gatherings of people, the Board believes that the harmful health impact on our residents attending large events and gatherings could be substantial.

### **BOARD OF HEALTH POSITION /RESPONSE**

The Taylor County Board of Health recommends the following:

- Large events and mass gatherings in Taylor County are discouraged until the threat of Covid-19 spread has diminished.
- Events where a large portion of attendees travel from outside the local area are also discouraged.
- Large events and mass gatherings with primary attendance being largely from the local area, should adequately provide protective measures to reduce the Covid-19 spread.

The Board of Health and Taylor County Public Health are willing to work with any entity to plan a safe event. Following CDC guidance, the following is a minimum list of protective measures recommended to promote healthy behaviors and prevent spread:

- Encouraging ill persons to stay home;
- Adequate space for social distancing/ modified layouts;
- Hygienic practices recommended by the CDC for large events;
- Encourage face mask use when social distancing is not possible;
- Adequate cleaning and sanitizing of frequently touched surfaces; and
- Increased messages/signage/announcements reminding people to utilize healthy practices to prevent spread

CDC Guidance on Gatherings & Large Events: <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/community/large-events/index.html>

The Taylor County Board of Health is greatly concerned about how mass gatherings will affect the citizens, businesses, and schools of Taylor County should an outbreak occur related to an event. The Taylor County Board of Health understands the importance these events and are aware that there may be financial implications of not having these events, but they recommend decreasing the size of mass gatherings and events to decrease the health impact on the community.

Signed,

Dr. Stephen Gruba, Taylor County Board of Health Medical Director  
Michael Schweitzer, RPh, Taylor County Board of Health Chair  
Diane Ware, Taylor County Board of Health Member

Jenn Miller, RN, Taylor County Board of Health Member  
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