

PR#390

PRESS RELEASE

COVID-19 Cluster Identified in Toledo District

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The Ministry of Health & Wellness, through its ongoing surveillance activities, has encountered a cluster of positive cases in the Toledo District, particularly at James Bus Line.

So far six staff members have tested positive for COVID-19. These positive cases were not all symptomatic, hence the concern for continuous monitoring and screening by the ministry.

The Toledo health team has carried out screening services for the remaining staff who have been asked to stay in quarantine and follow through with all recommendations of the Ministry of Health & Wellness as per quarantine and public health measures for containment. Some staff are awaiting results of PCR tests that have been prioritized by the ministry's COVID-19 surveillance guidelines until further notice.

The Ministry of Health & Wellness has recommended that James Bus Line review the services it is providing to the public and carries out all sanitization measures in all its locations to contain the further spread among its staff and the public.

Persons that used this bus line during the period starting July 28, 2021, until now and may be at risk and/or are presenting symptoms such as fever, cough, difficulty breathing or sore throat need to be tested at the nearest health facility. All public terminal managers and employees from the bus hubs in Mango Creek, Belmopan, and Belize City are encouraged to be tested.

The Ministry of Health & Wellness wishes the public a safe and restful holiday weekend and advises all to observe and practice the recommended public

health measures and the new regulations outlined in the most recent statutory instrument. Updates on the current cluster will be provided in collaboration with James Bus Line.

Ends

For more information, contact: Dr. Franelda Gutierrez Regional Manager Southern Health region