## **PRESS RELEASE**



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## Commonwealth Healthcare Corporation

Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands 1 Lower Navy Hill Road, Navy Hill, Saipan, MP 96950



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## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

## Ninety-eight (98) new cases 572 confirmed positive cases for COVID-19

Ninety-eight (98) additional individuals have been confirmed positive for COVID-19. This brings the CNMI total to 572 cases since March 28, 2020. The individuals were identified and confirmed through surveillance testing on Nov. 22, 2021. The individuals and their high-risk contacts have been isolated and are actively monitored.

Of the 98 new cases, 82 were identified via community-based testing, 13 via contact tracing, and 3 at the CHCC. The vaccination statuses of the 98 new cases are: 74 fully vaccinated, 12 unvaccinated, 9 partially vaccinated, and 3 ineligible for vaccination.

The community is reminded to practice the 3 W's: wear a mask, wash your hands, and watch your distance.

Since Oct. 28, 2021, there have been 281 new cases, of which 132 were identified via contact tracing, 138 were identified via community testing, and 11 were identified via travel testing. A total of 622 COVID-19 tests were conducted on Nov. 22, 2021, which comprises travel testing and surveillance testing.

The CHCC Communicable Disease Investigation/Inspection team has already initiated contact tracing for the most immediate contacts of the newly confirmed cases, and this effort will continue until all probable cases are identified and tested. Our contact tracers will reach out to individuals who are deemed high risk. The associated risk of infection depends on the level of exposure, which will, in turn, determine the type of monitoring. Establishing the level of exposure can be difficult and requires investigation.

If you have concerns regarding a possible exposure to a positive case, call our contact tracers no later than 9 p.m. at (670) 285-1942, 286-1710, or 286-1729. If you are experiencing symptoms of COVID-19 (e.g., fever, cough, shortness of breath or difficulty breathing, fatigue, new loss of taste or smell, etc.), see your provider or call the CHCC Tele-Triage hotline at (670) 233-2067.

For more information about CHCC programs, follow @cnmichcc on Facebook, Instagram, and Twitter; visit <u>www.chcc.gov.mp</u>; or call (670) 234-8950. This press release may be found online at <u>http://www.chcc.gov.mp/pressrelease.html</u>.