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Grand Traverse County reports second COVID-19 death in less than 24 hours

The Grand Traverse County Health Department has received notice that it has lost a second community member to COVID-19. The news comes less than 24 hours after announcing the county's first COVID-19 death. The individual was a female in her 70s who was being hospitalized at Munson Medical Center.

"We are saddened to wake up to this news today. Our hearts go out to those affected by her loss, including family, friends, and the staff at Munson," said Wendy Hirschenberger, Health Officer, Grand Traverse County Health Department. "Two deaths in less than 24 hours is a stark reminder of the threat that the spread of COVID-19 poses to our community. We urge everyone to stay home, stay safe and save lives."

As this situation continues to evolve, we remind our residents that our most important tool remains social distancing - a known, effective method of reducing the spread of a communicable disease.

We know that these are difficult conditions. We know that people are scared for themselves and for their loved ones. We also know that we have a strong community that will work together – even with distance – to get through this.

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