

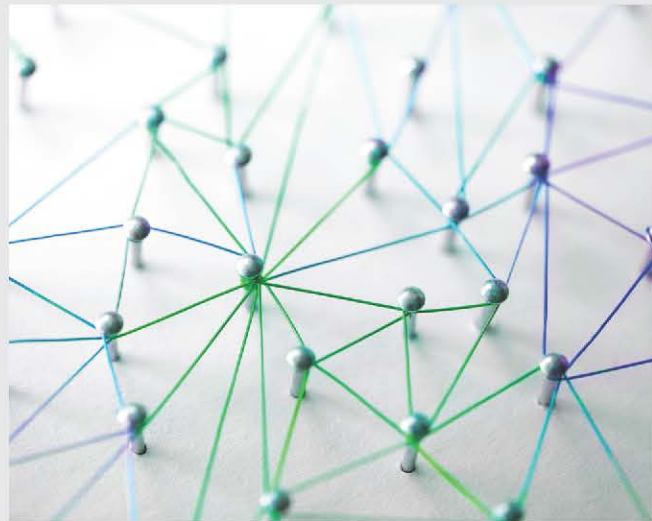
# Contact Tracing:

## A Key to Stopping the Spread of COVID-19

Contact tracing is the technique public health workers use to track the spread of disease. Tracing staff interview people who have an infectious disease, including asking questions to find out who else they may have exposed. Then, the contact tracers notify those at risk and ask them to self-isolate to help stop the illness's spread.

### Contact Tracing and COVID-19

Contact tracing is a key element of Wisconsin's plan to fight the spread of COVID-19. Wisconsin continues to add contact tracing staff across the state to identify people with COVID-19 and stop it from spreading further.



### Contact Tracing Support

When a local or tribal health agency finds the number of cases or contacts surpasses their capacity, the Department of Health Services contact tracing team is ready to assist.

How the process works:

- The local health department reaches out for assistance from the contact tracing team at [DHSContaktTracing@dhs.wisconsin.gov](mailto:DHSContaktTracing@dhs.wisconsin.gov).
- Cases and contacts assigned to the team are addressed in the order they are received.
- Cases and contacts that have a preferred language other than English will be assigned to a bilingual team member or interviewed through our language line.
- The team will make every effort to connect with each contact within 48 hours. If they have not reached somebody after three attempts, they will flag the record and return it to the local health department.

### Contact Tracing Confidentiality

All contact tracing team members have received training in and demonstrated understanding of the Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act (HIPAA) and the Wisconsin Electronic Disease Surveillance System (WEDSS).

For more on Wisconsin's efforts to prevent the spread of COVID-19, visit <https://www.dhs.wisconsin.gov/covid-19/>.



### Need Contact Tracing Help? Contact Us.

Send an email to [DHSContaktTracing@dhs.wisconsin.gov](mailto:DHSContaktTracing@dhs.wisconsin.gov) with any questions or to request assistance in your community from the contact tracing team.



**WISCONSIN DEPARTMENT**  
*of* **HEALTH SERVICES**

# How Public Health is Preventing the Spread of COVID-19 in Wisconsin

## Contact Tracing

### How It Works



### Why are public health agencies calling me?

Wisconsin public health professionals are working hard to identify and talk to everyone who has been in close contact with someone with a COVID-19 diagnosis.

### What to Expect

- ◆ Your information will only be used for public health purposes.
- ◆ Do not volunteer information. You will be asked to confirm certain information we have on file.
- ◆ Your answers will help prevent further spread of COVID-19.
- ◆ The caller will provide you with helpful information about COVID-19 and your risks.

Yes, it's us!



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KEEP YOUR FAMILY AND FRIENDS SAFE

# ANSWER THE CALL

If you receive a call from our contact tracers, break the chain of infection by answering the call.

Contact tracing is a confidential technique public health workers use to track the spread of a disease.



Contact tracers will never ask for your social security number or financial information. Contact your public health agency if you have questions.

