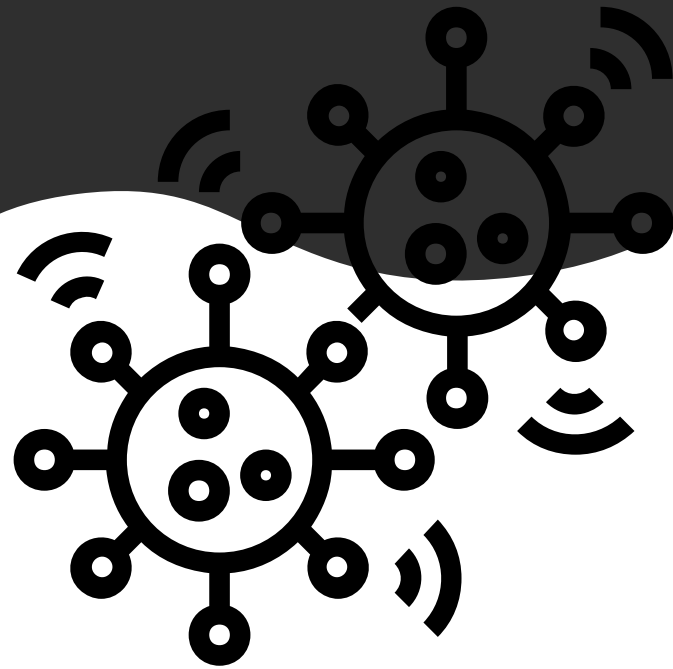
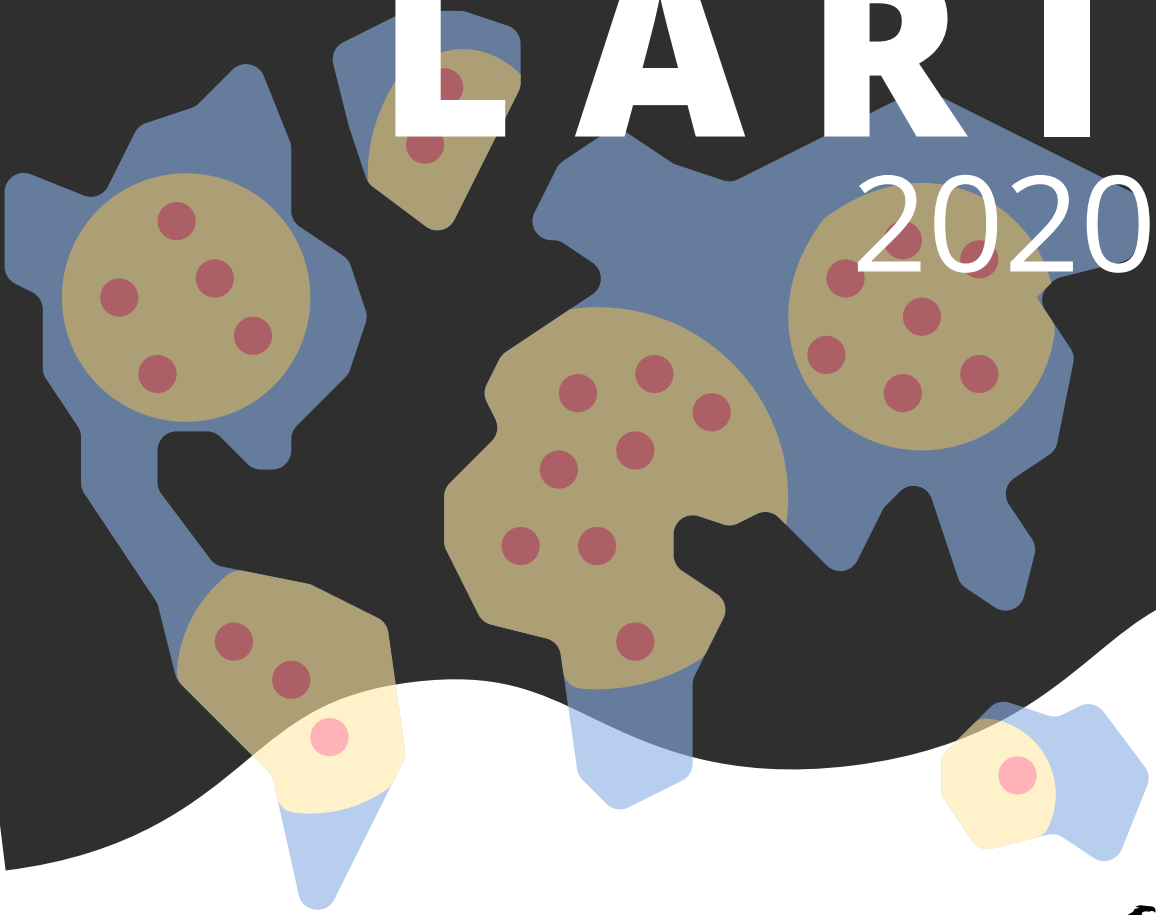


# LARIMER COUNTY

## 2020 COVID-19 PANDEMIC RESPONSE



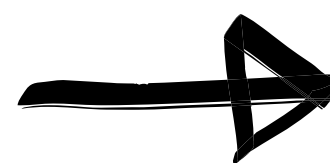
### HOW TO SUPPRESS A VIRUS IN 80 DAYS

ON MARCH 9, 2020 AT APPROXIMATELY 1100 HOURS, LARIMER COUNTY DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH & ENVIRONMENT (LCDHE) WAS ALERTED TO THE FIRST PRESUMPTIVE CASE OF COVID-19 IN LARIMER COUNTY. THIS DOCUMENT CAPTURES THE LESSONS LEARNED AND TRANSITION POINTS FOLLOWING THE FIRST 40 DAYS (APRIL 17TH - MAY 26TH) OF THE COVID-19 PANDEMIC RESPONSE.

# TRANSITION POINTS

## Transition of Task Forces

### EPIDEMIOLOGY/ INVESTIGATIONS TF



### CASE CONTACT & MONITORING GROUP

This Task Force was transformed into in order to more effectively conduct case contact and monitoring of positive cases as well as close contacts, and to more efficiently get isolation and quarantine orders issued.

In the First 40 days, it took on average **7 days** to get orders issued, but this has been reduced to **24 hours**.

## Accomplishments to Date



**358**

Cases  
Investigated

**162**

Close Contacts  
Identified



**28**

Expanded number of  
Case Investigators &  
Contact Tracers



AS THE EVENT EVOLVED FROM INITIAL RESPONSE, OPERATIONS HAD TO ADAPT TO MEET CHANGING ORDERS, CHANGING GUIDANCE, NEEDS OF THE COMMUNITY, AND MORE.

# TRANSITION POINTS



## TESTING TASK FORCE

The Testing TF was split into two strike team areas to better address the need for testing in our community and meet the testing indicator of the Governor's Safer at Home Order



### Community Testing Strike Team Testing Nurse/Clerical Strike Team

These teams oversee the daily operations of community testing



### Research & Evaluation Strike Team

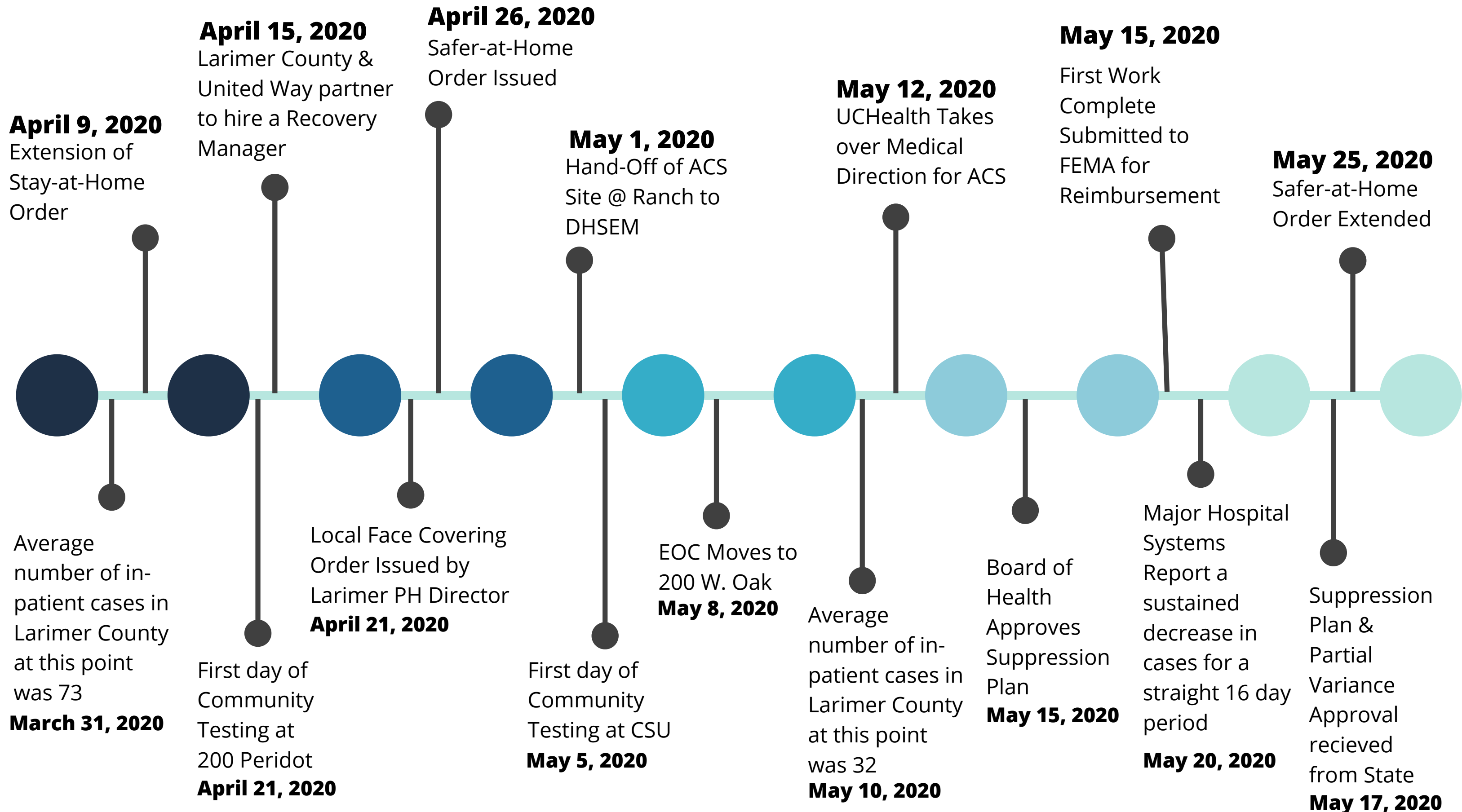
This team is focused on charting the course for future testing efforts. This includes a broader group, a Testing Advisory Group, that was established to provide input on a Strategic Testing Roadmap and other testing proposals.



Total Tests Larimer 6,718  
Total COVID positives 468  
7%

AS THE EVENT EVOLVED FROM INITIAL RESPONSE, OPERATIONS HAD TO ADAPT TO MEET CHANGING ORDERS, CHANGING GUIDANCE, NEEDS OF THE COMMUNITY, AND MORE.

# A LOOK AT THE PAST 40 DAYS



# CHALLENGES OVERCOME



Uncertainty of State Resources & the lack of supply to be able to get everyone what they need

Addressing a multitude of COVID-19 Financial questions & identifying FEMA-eligible expenses

Identifying partners to stand up a PEH Site

Continuing to get people to follow orders over concern of losing business or people

Addressing all of the needs/requirements of an ACS

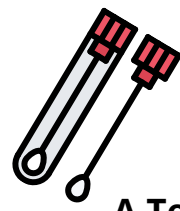
Data Management Technology was not set up

Continued need to reallocate staffing or lack of staff

Striking balance between explaining rules & policies to help with compliance & just stating the facts of PH Order

Sustaining motivation & avoiding burn out of staff

# KEY ACCOMPLISHMENTS



A Testing Location with Community Testing Available 2 days a week



Collaborated with County Code Compliance Staff to bring more capacity to Compliance TF



70 Additional Deliveries of PPE delivered to external partners with critical needs



Identification of & Agreements completed for PEH Site and Community Q/I site



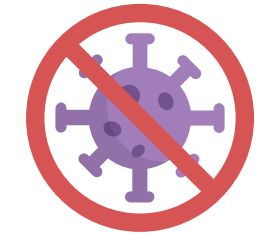
Development of a Tool for Case Management & Investigation in Partnership with IT



Fine-Tuned Coordination Between Task Forces in Operations



First Guest at PEH Site Safely Housed and Released after onset of symptoms complete

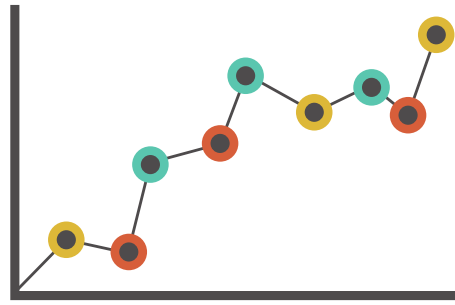


Outbreak moved from a reactive to a proactive model which allows for more quick and efficient identification of outbreak facilities



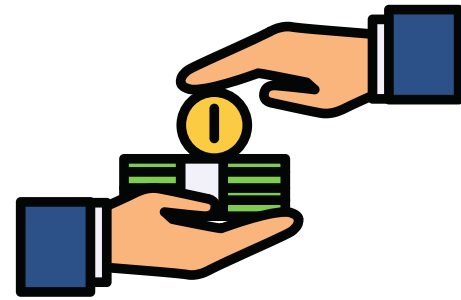
Completed a Work Complete Application to FEMA for a total sum of \$275,038.87

# LESSONS LEARNED TO DATE



## DATA MANAGEMENT TOOLS ARE CRITICAL

Proven to be one of the most important tools to effectively track progress in containing the disease & providing reporting in a timely manner to key decision-makers



## EARLY SUBMISSION OF FEMA APPLICATION

Submitting the PA Application to FEMA early and continuously helps to maintain a good relationship and to get much needed reimbursements back quickly



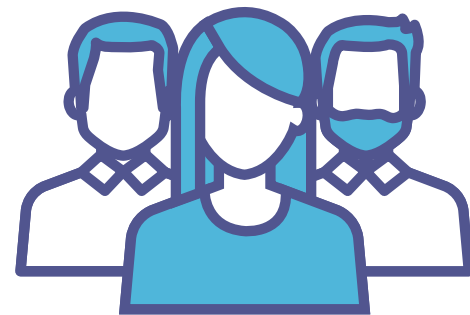
## KEEP COMMUNICATION A PRIORITY

Must be a focus and continue to be streamlined, especially when working remotely



## FOLLOW UP CONVERSATIONS

Follow up conversations with external partners contributed significantly to the ability to better assess logistical needs



## EARLY ANTICIPATION OF PERSONNEL

Early anticipation of personnel can help streamline on-boarding processes vs individual people one at a time



## BE PROACTIVE WHENEVER POSSIBLE

For example, moving from a reactive model with outbreak monitoring allowed our team to get the guidance and resources in place more quickly to facilities experiencing an outbreak and address them sooner before cases spiked



## PRIORITIZE SELF-CARE

In an extended event such as this, it is more crucial to prioritize self care to avoid burn out and maintain mental health. Additionally, it is important that planning efforts take into account redundancy of all positions as this event was so wide-spread that it did not allow us to reach out to normal mutual aid partners for all the support that was needed