



COVID-19 COMMUNITY RESOURCES

HAWAII DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH

WHAT IS CONTACT TRACING?

Contact tracing is one of the most important tools that public health officials use to prevent the spread of COVID-19. When new cases of COVID-19 are identified, disease investigators work quickly to make sure the case is isolated. They will then identify and quarantine their close contacts and monitor those contacts for symptoms of the disease.

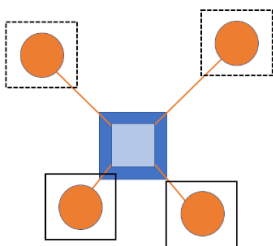
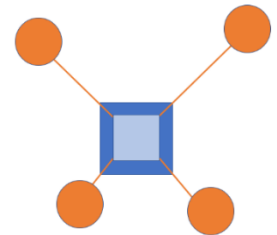
1. Identify the case



- When a person has a positive test for COVID-19 their healthcare provider informs the Department of Health
- Investigators from the Department of Health interview the person to find out how they may have been exposed to the virus and make sure the person is isolated from others

2. Find and notify close contacts of the case

- The investigator works with the case to make a list of everyone they may have had **close contact** with while they were **contagious**
- **Close contact** is defined as *face-to-face and less than 6ft for 10 to 30 minutes or longer depending on exposure*
- People can be **contagious** as early as 2 days before their symptoms begin



3. Advise close contacts to quarantine

- All close contacts of the case are required to stay at home and avoid all interactions with other people for 14 days
- During this time, close contacts could become contagious without feeling any symptoms

4. Monitor close contacts for symptoms

- The Health Department will stay in touch with the close contacts for 14 days to monitor them for fever, cough, or shortness of breath
- If the close contact develops symptoms, they will be tested for COVID-19
- If they test positive, the process begins again at Step 1

