



News Release

For immediate release

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RiverStone Health Offers Review of Events but Not Endorsements

BILLINGS, MT – Since Governor Steve Bullock’s reopening plan for Montana launched in April, some organizers of events in Yellowstone County have sought guidance from RiverStone Health. RiverStone Health can review and provide feedback on events when asked, but the organization does not approve or endorse events.

RiverStone Health has been mentioned in recent event promotions. This does not mean that RiverStone Health has approved the event. It also does not mean the event will use all the precautions RiverStone Health has recommended.

The event organizer is responsible for complying with all requirements of the governor’s directives, including maintaining physical distancing during all aspects of the event, limiting the group size to 50 if appropriate physical distancing cannot be maintained throughout the entire event, and enhanced sanitation protocols.

If an organizer decides to go forward with an event, they assume all the risk associated with the event. They are asked to make every effort to be as diligent as possible with each aspect of their plan. Even with that diligence, there is a risk of disease transmission due to the very large number of attendees, the difficulty of enforcement, and the resulting potential liability to the organization.

“Individual actions will have a collective impact on our community,” says John Felton, Yellowstone County Health Officer and President/CEO of RiverStone Health. “It is up to individual organizations to decide if they should go forward with the event or not.”

You can find guidance and recommendations about holding an event on the RiverStone Health website at:

https://riverstonehealth.org/wp-content/uploads/2020/06/Events-checklist_reopening-6-1-20.pdf

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