



## Media Information:

**For immediate release:**

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### **Yellowstone County Reports COVID-19 Related Deaths**

**Billings, MT** – RiverStone Health, Yellowstone County’s public health department, reports two additional Yellowstone County residents have died due to COVID-19 related illness.

On Wednesday, November 18, a man in his 70s passed away in a Yellowstone County hospital.

Also on Monday, November 16, a man in his 60s passed away in a Yellowstone County hospital.

To protect the privacy of the deceased and their families, RiverStone Health will not release further information.

These most recent deaths are reflected on the Thursday, November 19 state COVID-19 tracking map.

Because there continue to be discrepancies with the total number of deaths reported for Yellowstone County on the state COVID-19 tracking map, RiverStone Health is working with the Montana Department of Public Health and Human Services to reconcile the difference.

“I offer my deepest condolences to the family and friends of the deceased. While we know that loss is a part of life, it doesn’t take away the sorrow and pain of losing a loved one,” said John Felton, Yellowstone County Health Officer, President and CEO of RiverStone Health.

“The tragedy of lives lost to COVID-19 continues to impact far too many families. Unfortunately, there are still many people who believe that COVID-19 isn’t something to be concerned about. Just yesterday, the United States surpassed 250,000 lives lost, more than twice the number of U.S. service members killed in World War II. We can and we must prevent more illness and death from COVID-19 by wearing masks, physical distancing, avoiding crowds, washing hands, and staying home when ill,” said Felton.

To date, 9,603 Yellowstone County residents have been infected with COVID-19 and 109 have died.

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