



**Commonwealth of Kentucky
Cabinet for Health and Family Services**

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Federal, local teams to assess any possible public health impacts from natural gas pipeline explosion

FRANKFORT, Ky. (Sept. 9, 2019) - As a precautionary measure, local and state health officials, along with a team from the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), are in Lincoln County, Kentucky today to assess possible public health impacts of the natural gas pipeline explosion on August 1.

Teams will be conducting interviews with first responders who were involved in the response, as well as people living in areas near the site. The purpose of the interviews is to collect information to better understand the potential health impacts resulting from the incident.

The CDC team arrived Thursday, and meetings began Friday with local response agencies and other partners. Interviews with first responders began Saturday, September 7, and will continue over the next several days. Interviewing of residents will begin Monday, September 9 at 2 p.m.

Interview teams will go to residents' homes. Team members will be wearing vests identifying themselves as part of the "Public Health Response Team." Three separate attempts for the interview will be made at each home, and the team will leave a call back number if residents are not home.

These preventive actions will continue through September 20, 2019 during the day and evening hours and may be extended an additional week if needed.

Additional information is available at <http://chfs.ky.gov/>.

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The Cabinet for Health and Family Services is home to most of the state's human services and healthcare programs, including the Department for Medicaid Services, the Department for Community Based Services the Department for Public Health, the Department for Aging and Independent Living and the Department for Behavioral Health, Developmental and Intellectual Disabilities. CHFS is one of the largest agencies in state government, with nearly 8,000 full- and part-time employees located across the Commonwealth focused on improving the lives and health of Kentuckians.