Highlights

- There is a new Order to limit the sale of spirituous liquor to only Ohio residents in Ashtabula, Trumbull, Mahoning, Columbiana, Jefferson, and Belmont Counties (this is because Pennsylvania shut down their liquor stores on March 16)—you will have to show a valid Ohio ID, military photo, or other valid non-Ohio ID with additional information that has a bill with the person’s name and an Ohio address on it, or a letter from an employer placing the person in Ohio as an essential employee.
- Dr. Acton signed an Order at the request of the Governor that will require long-term care facilities within 24 hours of a resident or staff member becoming infected. The state will also be providing a list of long-term care facilities where an associated individual has tested positive on the state’s website.
- $5 million in emergency funding from TANF block grants will be used to support 12 Feeding America food banks and the statewide hunger relief network to purchase canned fruits and vegetables, canned meats, cereals, pastas and rice, boxed dinners, and locally grown produce, and locally produced milk, butter, cheese and other dairy products through a partnership with the Ohio Dairy Producers Association, Dairy Farmers of America Mideast and the National Farmers Organization for fresh meat and eggs and personal hygiene and household cleaning items.
- $1 million is earmarked for the Agricultural Clearance Program, where the Ohio Association of Foodbanks will purchase Ohio made commodious, such as milk, to distribute to food banks, and $1 million will be granted to the Coalition for Homelessness and Housing to help homeless shelters purchases needed cleaning supplies and other prevention tools.
- On Friday, the BWC board endorsed the Governor’s plan of sending back $1.6 billion back to employers, which equal 100% of the premiums paid in 2018 ($1.4 million will go to private employers and $200 million to local governments).
- Ohio has 6,975 confirmed cases and 274 fatalities.

Governor Mike DeWine

- Showed a photo of some easter eggs that were decorated as the Governor, Dr. Acton, the virus, and eggs with faces wearing masks.
- Governor cautioned companies that are using rapid anti-body testing to test their staff and in some cases their customers—be careful that they are FDA approved.
- Prison update—testing started on Saturday at Marion Correctional Institution and an inmate died at the Pickaway Correctional Institution—this was the first state prisoner to die who had tested positive for COVID-19.
- A number of prison medical staff are out sick and the National Guard is going to step in and help.
- Governor addressed the Order that he asked Dr. Acton to sign that will require long-term care facilities within 24 hours of a resident or staff member becoming infected. The state will also be providing a list of long-term care facilities where an associated individual has tested positive on the state’s website.
- Strive By Five program: Governor said that Dr. Action is encouraging people to reach out to five people every day to check in.
In response to a reporter’s question on when people can expect the stay-at-home order to be lifted—the Governor said that he is talking to a lot of people but we would have an Ohio plan. Said that he spoke about a call today with VP Pence and he said that he has these calls a few days a week.

In response to a reporter question about legislators in the western part of the state asking if areas that are not seeing the virus, if they can be treated differently, the Governor said that the LG did a call with Senator Huffman and a number of his constituents to listen to their concerns, and then said “western Ohio is not spared, no part of Ohio is spared”—Governor spoke to the need to be able to do widespread testing to better understand where the virus may be.

Governor closed out press event with a video from Brian Postewhite, a state wildlife officer who sang a song about coronavirus “we are all in this together…we gotta rise”

Lt. Governor Jon Husted

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- $1 million is earmarked for the Agricultural Clearance Program, where the Ohio Association of Foodbanks will purchase Ohio made commodious, such as milk, to distribute to food banks
- $1 million will be granted to the Coalition for Homelessness and Housing to help homeless shelters purchases needed cleaning supplies and other prevention tools
- Mentioned unemployment for 1099 and independent contractors and said that he has challenged his staff to be creative to get these resources to people
- There are now 40,000 jobs posted from 642 employers who do not have sufficient number of employees. Jobs posted on www.coronavirus.ohio.gov/jobsearch
- LG had the ODJFS Director Kim Hall join via phone who said they would be “issuing payments by the end of next week. Those who are currently receiving unemployment benefits, they will get the $600 from the federal government starting at the end of next week”
- Two weeks from today you have to have your absentee ballots postmarked for April 27—the day before election day, April 28th. You can track your ballot online once you request it.
- Thanked the businesses who have been providing feedback on COVID-19
- In response to a reporter, the LG said that he will have a report soon on how the state is processing unemployment claims

Dr. Amy Acton

Ohio Specific Numbers

- 6,975 confirmed cases (<1-101 years in age and 54 is the median age)
- 2,033 hospitalizations (29%)
- 613 admissions to the ICU
- 1,449 healthcare workers (21%)
- 86 out of 88 counties reporting cases (fatalities in 46 counties)
- 274 fatalities
- 65,112 tests in Ohio

Other Information from Dr. Acton
- Trends show our cases are steady
- Talked about the Order today and talked about how high risk nursing homes are really doing the best they can right now
- Dr. Acton have a shout out to Ohio Medicaid Director Maureen Corcoran and Ohio Department of Aging Director Ursel McElroy—and spoke to the strike forces they have at their agencies
- Dr. Acton gave a shout out to the people that are working in long-term care facilities