Situations like the coronavirus pandemic can quickly become a catalyst for social conflict due to misinformation, rumours and fake news, as we’ve seen in the past. Every day we continue to see more false information shared throughout our communities, confusing citizens and leaving them unsure where to ask their questions.

The Liberia Coronavirus CivicActs Campaign (CCC) captures rumours and perceptions among communities to eliminate information gaps and debunk rumours before they can do more harm.
Questions

Which age group is at high risk of severe illness from COVID-19, and how can they keep healthy?

The Center for Disease Control and Prevention says older people, in particular, those who have underlying medical conditions, are more at risk of severe illness from COVID-19. Risk increases with age but is particularly an issue for people 50 years or older. 8 out of 10 COVID-19 deaths reported in the US have been in adults 65 years and older. Limiting interaction with people as much as possible is one of the best ways older adults can protect themselves from COVID-19.

What is a COVID-19 significant cluster and which communities in Liberia have the highest clusters?

According to WHO, a COVID-19 cluster is when there are ten or more cases connected through transmission who are not all part of the same household. The cluster includes both confirmed and probable cases. The National Public Health Institute of Liberia has recorded King Kray, ELWA, Duport Road, and Thinkers Village to have the highest rates of COVID-19 clusters. Following up confirmed cases quickly and isolating close contacts works to contain clusters and prevent the disease from spreading any further.

Some people say the virus dies when the patient dies.

The Center for Disease Control & Prevention (CDC) warns people to not touch the body of someone who has died of COVID-19. There may be less of a chance of the virus spreading from certain types of touching, such as holding the hand or hugging after the body has been prepared for viewing. Other activities, such as kissing, washing, and shrouding should be avoided before, during, and after the body has been prepared, if possible. If washing the body or shrouding are important religious or cultural practices, families are encouraged to work with their community’s cultural and religious leaders and funeral home staff on how to reduce their exposure as much as possible.
COVID-19 Security Response
Liberia National Police Hotlines

Montserrado

- Zone 1 Bushrod Island: 0770800501, 0770800990, 0770800911
- Zone 2 Central Monrovia: 0770800502, 0770800990, 0770800911
- Zone 3 Congo Town: 0770800503, 0770800990, 0770800911
- Zone 4 Garnesville/Barnesville: 0770800504, 0770800911, 0770800990
- Zone 5 Paynesville: 0770800505, 0770800911, 0770800990
- Zone 6 Brewerville: 0770800506, 0770800911, 0770800990
- Zone 7 Corwell: 0770800507, 0770800990, 0770800911
- Zone 8 Paynesville ELWA/Rehab/RIA Highway: 0770800508, 0770800990, 0770800911
- Zone 9 Somalia Drive/Jacob Town: 0770800509, 07708009111
- Zone 10 Vai Town, up to Freeport.: 0770800510, 0770800990, 0770800911
- Zone 11 Mont Barclay - Kakata Highway up to 15 Gate: 0770800511, 0770800990, 0770800911

- Other Senior Police supervisors numbers:
  0770800117 - Chief of Patrol and head of Zone and depots
  0770800142 - Head of Monrovia Region
  0770800125 - ERU Chief
  0770800121 - PSU Chief
  0770800190 - Chief of Small Arms
  0770800109 - Senior Inspector

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Follow these steps to help prevent the spread of coronavirus

- Stay at home unless you provide an essential service.
- Keep washing your hands frequently with soap for a minimum of 20 seconds. Use hand sanitizer (with at least 60% alcohol) if soap and water are not available.
- Cover your nose and mouth (with your elbow or a tissue) when sneezing.
- Avoid crowded places and practice physical distancing. If you think you have been exposed to someone with coronavirus, quarantine yourself for a minimum of 14 days and monitor any symptoms.
- The Center for Disease Control (CDC) has confirmed six new possible coronavirus symptoms. They are chills, repeated shaking with chills, muscle pain, headaches, a sore throat, new loss of taste and smell. The original reported symptoms remain fever, tiredness and a dry cough.

Do you have any questions about coronavirus? Have you heard any rumors? Send us your questions at ccc@accountabilitylab.org so we can address them!