FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
June 14, 2020

Crisis Communication Team Press Update
As of today’s release, the Joint Crisis Communication Team (CCT) reports the following numbers:

COVID-19 Macon County, Illinois
Updated 6/14/2020

- Confirmed Cases: 209
- Released from Isolation: 143
- Home Isolation: 43
- Hospitalized: 1
- Deaths: 22

All numbers reflect status at time of release. Demographic information reflects confirmed cases only. Deaths are included in the number of confirmed cases. All numbers displayed are provisional and are subject to change.
Since yesterday’s release, we have had one newly-confirmed case of COVID-19. Therefore, our overall number is 209 confirmed COVID-19 cases in Macon County.

We encourage all community members to implement social distancing and face covering best practices to limit the spread of COVID-19. People with COVID-19 have reported a wide range of symptoms. If you experience symptoms of COVID-19 with which you are concerned, please call your primary care physician first. Do not show up at a hospital emergency room or doctor’s office unless it is a true emergency.

Individuals without a primary care physician can call:

- DMH Medical Group: (217) 876-2856
- HSHS Medical Group Patient Advocate: 844-520-8897
- Crossing Healthcare: (217) 877-9117
- SIU: (217) 872-3800

For COVID-19 screening, please call one of the following:

- Crossing Healthcare: (217) 877-9117
- HSHS St. Mary’s Hospital 24/7 COVID-19 Hotline: (217) 464-2966

Anyone entering healthcare facilities should be prepared to be screened before entering.

**PSA: Summertime Safety**

For many people, summertime invokes visions of warm weather, sun, and much more time spent outdoors. But, in addition to all of the pleasant things that we look forward to, we must also remember to be vigilant in our quest to have a happy, healthy, and safe summer by protecting ourselves and those we love against some evident and other not-so-evident things that could alter our happy vision.

Heat kills more than 600 people each year. The best way to protect yourself from heat include staying cool, hydrated and informed: find air-conditioning during hot hours, wear cool clothing, drink plenty of liquids, and pay close attention to heat advisories.

Sunburn is a common summertime injury. Sunscreen is recommended for anyone working and playing outside in the summer, even on cloudy days. Use sunscreen as directed and don’t forget to reapply. It is also recommended to wear hats, sunglasses and long sleeves for outdoor activities.

While public swimming pools and beaches are not open at this time in Illinois, some people have pools at their home.

Pool Safety Tips:

- Making sure everyone has basic swim skills and water safety awareness.
- Use U.S. Coast Guard- approved life jackets as directed.
- Provide continuous and close supervision to swimmers.
• Know how to recognize and respond to a swimmer in distress and how to perform CPR.
• Prevent access to the water when the pool is not in use. (have a barrier such as a fence, use locks/alarms for windows and doors)
• Keep chemicals secure and away from children and pets.
• Protect yourself when using the chemicals by wearing gloves, masks, and protective eye wear.
• Use chemicals as directed.

Summer activities, such as riding a bike and playground time, are great for a child’s development. To keep kids healthy and safe all summer long, be sure children use helmets that fit well while they are riding their bikes. Check the playground for items that could harm your child and have your children play on playground equipment that is right for their age.

Now is a great time to make appointments for your children to get recommended vaccines or to catch up on vaccines they might have missed when they were younger. Some children may also need vaccines to enter into the next grade. The Macon County Health Department is offering appointments to those who are needing vaccines. To schedule an appointment, call 217-423-6988 ext. 1333.

This is also the time when we see an increased amount of mosquitoes, ticks and other bugs. To protect yourself and your family from bug bites use an EPA registered insect repellent with active ingredients such as DEET. Apply as directed on the label. Wearing long sleeves and long pants is also recommended.

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