FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

June 2, 2020

Crisis Communication Team Press Update

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

- Confirmed Cases: 197
- Released from Isolation: 102
- Home Isolation: 73
- Hospitalized: 3
- Deaths: 19

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 197 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: Tick Awareness**

**Keep ticks away!**

- Wear repellent (containing 20% or more of the active ingredient like DEET) on your bare skin or wear clothes that have repellent built-in.
- Check for ticks at the end of each day.
- Take a shower, too! It will help wash off the ticks you can’t see.
- Change clothes. Don’t put on your old clothes that might have ticks still crawling on them.
- Avoid taking short cuts through thick brush and grass.

**How to safely remove a tick:**
The best method for removing ticks is to grasp it with tweezers as close to the skin as possible and pull up gently. Never use gasoline, kerosene, petroleum jelly, fingernail polish, or matches to kill or drive a tick out once it has been embedded.

And remember, many tickborne diseases, such as Lyme disease, babesiosis, ehrlichiosis and Rocky Mountain spotted fever can be treated effectively if caught early. Be sure to mention to your doctor any history of tick bites, or outdoor activities where you might have been exposed to ticks. Many people who become ill do not even remember seeing a tick.

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**For more information, please contact:**
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