FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
June 20, 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 6/20/2020

- Confirmed Cases: 218
- Released from Isolation: 150
- Home Isolation: 44
- Hospitalized: 2
- Deaths: 22

**Gender**
- Male: 36.2%
- Female: 63.8%

**Age Range**

**Race**
- Black: 40.4%
- White: 52.3%
- Other: 4.1%
- Asian: 3.2%

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 three newly-confirmed cases of COVID-19. Therefore, our overall number is 218 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: Outdoor Safety Tips When It’s Lightning**

The best defense is to avoid lightning. Here are some outdoor safety tips that can help you avoid being struck:

- **Do**
  - Be aware
    Check the weather forecast before participating in outdoor activities. If the forecast calls for thunderstorms, postpone your trip or activity, or make sure adequate safe shelter is readily available.
  - Go indoors
    Remember the phrase, “When thunder roars, go indoors.” Find a safe, enclosed shelter when you hear thunder. Safe shelters include homes, offices, shopping centers, and hard-top vehicles with the windows rolled up.
  - Crouch close to the ground and separate
    If you are caught in an open area, crouch down in a ball-like position (feet and knees together) with your head tucked and hands over your ears so that you are down low with minimal contact with the ground. Do NOT lie down. Lightning causes electric currents along the top of the ground that can be deadly over 100 feet away. Crouching down is the best combination of being low and touching the ground as little as possible.
  - Separate
    If you are in a group during a thunderstorm, separate from each other. This will reduce the number of injuries if lightning strikes the ground.

- **Don’t**
Stay in open vehicles, structures, and spaces:
During a thunderstorm, avoid open vehicles such as convertibles, motorcycles, and golf carts. Be sure to avoid open structures such as porches, gazebos, baseball dugouts, and sports arenas. And stay away from open spaces such as golf courses, parks, playgrounds, ponds, lakes, swimming pools, and beaches.

Stay near tall structures:
Do NOT lie on concrete floors during a thunderstorm. Also, avoid leaning on concrete walls. Lightning can travel through any metal wires or bars in concrete walls or flooring.

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