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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

**April 13, 2020**

**Update: Death of Macon County Residents with COVID-19**

The Joint Crisis Communication Team is saddened to announce two additional deaths of Macon County residents with COVID-19. These people, a male in his 80s and a female in her 70s, were both residents of Fair Havens Senior Living long-term care facility. Our team would like to extend our heartfelt condolences to the families and friends, and we ask that they are given respect and privacy as they mourn the loss of their loved ones.

It is imperative that we all consider ourselves at risk for exposure to and contraction of COVID-19. There have been 42 confirmed cases of COVID-19 in Macon County. As a community, we must all take ownership of this situation and act as though we, too, are on the frontline...because we are. We all have the power to turn our everyday actions into a first line of defense against the contraction and further spread of this virus. This means that we must take social distancing seriously, stay home as often as possible, and self-monitor for symptoms. Maintain distance from everyone who is not a member of your immediate household. Follow the precautionary measures – thorough and frequent hand washing; using a mask to cover your face in public and congregate settings; self-monitoring your own health condition – at every opportunity. If you are experiencing symptoms with which you are concerned, please call your primary care physician. Use technology and social media for the good and to your advantage – circulate credible information, stay in touch with friends and loved ones, and find creative activities and new meals for your household to try. We must make sacrifices, however difficult they may be, in the short-term for the benefit of the long-term. Everyone has a role to play.

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**For more information, please contact:**

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