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# Press Release

**Macon County Economic Development Commission Ready to Assist Businesses in Need**

All of North Carolina is still under a Stay At Home Order from Governor Roy Cooper as an effort to reduce the spread of COVID-19 to residents. While we know it is frustrating to stay at home, especially for the many businesses in Macon County that would begin to see many tourists visit the area, it is our best means to "flatten the curve" of COVID-19. Macon County Economic Development Commission (EDC) and Macon County Public Health (MCPH) are committed to helping the citizens of Macon County.

Through the Macon County EDC, businesses can locate resources and news related to economic relief for hardships caused by COVID-19, including information regarding the Paycheck Protection Program (PPP), Golden LEAF's Rapid Recovery Loan Program, Unemployment, as well as many other programs meant to help business owners and their employees during this hardship.

For those who need assistance, or would like to find out more information regarding relief programs, you are encouraged to contact EDC directly at EDC@maconnc.org or by phone at (828) 369-2306. You can also stay up-to-date by following them on Facebook as Macon County Economic Development Commission.

Even though Macon County has been fortunate to currently only have two confirmed cases of COVID-19, it does not mean we are able to become complacent.  Our efforts still need to focus on social distancing and making informed decisions about when to loosen restrictions.

It is important to make sure the information you are getting about COVID-19 is coming directly from reliable sources like Macon County Public Health, CDC, and NCDHHS. For more information, please visit the CDC's website at www.cdc.gov/coronavirus and NCDHHS' website at www.ncdhhs.gov/coronavirus, which will also include future positive COVID-19 test results in North Carolina.

Macon County Public Health regularly updates our Facebook page with accurate and current information regarding COVID-19; we encourage the public to check our Facebook page, www.facebook.com/MaconPublicHealth for up-to-date information.

Symptoms for COVID-19 are fever, cough, and other lower respiratory illness (shortness of breath). If you believe that you may have COVID-19, please call the Health Department at 828-349-2517.

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