



Macon County
Public Health

Public Information
1830 Lakeside Drive
Franklin, NC 28734
Voice: 828-349-2437
MCPHPublicInformation@maconnc.org

Press Release

Macon County Reports Additional Death Related to COVID-19

Macon County Public Health received notification that a Macon County resident diagnosed with COVID-19 has passed away. To protect the family's privacy, no further information will be released about this individual. This death brings Macon County to thirty-eight (38) deaths related to COVID-19.

"This family is in our thoughts and prayers as they mourn the loss of their loved one," said Health Director, Kathy McGaha. McGaha continued, "Macon County residents can help protect themselves and our community by receiving the COVID-19 vaccine. Macon County's has appointments available for the lifesaving vaccine for all who are age 18 and over, and are pre-registering those between 12 and 17 for future clinics. The more individuals who get this vaccine, the more likely that we will stop seeing COVID-19 deaths."

The entire state of North Carolina requires masks to be worn when social distancing cannot be maintained. Older adults and people of any age who have serious underlying medical conditions might be at higher risk for severe illness from COVID-19; however, anyone of any age can become infected with this illness. Therefore, we ask that community members **strictly follow** the governor's orders and continue to practice **social distancing**, as well as safe hygiene measures such as hand washing and frequently cleaning touched objects and surfaces. The public can monitor the different phases of re-opening and learn more about the restrictions at <https://covid19.ncdhhs.gov/guidance>.

If you believe that you may have COVID-19, please call the Health Department at 828-349-2517. The call center is open Monday through Friday from 8:00am – 5:00pm, until further notice. To register and schedule an appointment to receive the vaccine, please call 828-524-1500. The vaccine call center is open from 8:00am – 4:00pm Monday through Friday, until further notice.

###

For Immediate Release: May 13, 2021