



Macon County
Public Health

Public Information

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Press Release

Macon County Reports Additional Deaths Related to COVID-19

Macon County Public Health received notification today that two Macon County residents diagnosed with COVID-19 have passed away. To protect the family's privacy, no further information will be released about these individuals. This death brings Macon County to twenty-six (26) deaths related to COVID-19.

"We continue to see additional deaths following the holiday season," said Health Director, Kathy McGaha. McGaha continued, "we are thinking about these individuals' friends and family, and hope for their comfort as they mourn their loss. Macon County is still in the beginning stages of our vaccination process while we wait for more vaccine. It is essential that people continue to practice the 3Ws: wash our hands, wait 6 feet apart, and wear a mask."

The entire state of North Carolina is under a "Safer at Home" executive order, currently under phase three with masks required 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 to receive the vaccine and to be contacted when appointments for your group are available, please call 828-524-1500. The vaccine call center is open from 8:00am – 5:00pm Monday through Friday, until further notice.

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