

Public Information 1830 Lakeside Drive Franklin, NC 28734 Voice: 828-349-2437

MCPHPublicInformation@maconnc.org

## Press Release

## Macon County Reports Additional Deaths Related to COVID-19

Macon County Public Health received notification that two (2) Macon County residents, between 50 to 64 years of age and over the age of 65, who were diagnosed with COVID-19 have passed away. To protect the privacy of the families, no additional information will be released about these individuals. These deaths bring Macon County to seventy-one (71) deaths related to COVID-19.

"We are so saddened to hear the news of these two individuals passing. Our thoughts and prayers are with the families and friends after the loss of their loved ones," said Health Director, Kathy McGaha. McGaha continued, "Macon County residents can help protect themselves and others in our community by receiving the COVID-19 vaccine. Macon County Public Health has appointments available for the lifesaving vaccine for everyone who is 12 years old and older. The more individuals who get this vaccine, the more likely that we will stop seeing COVID-19 deaths."

Older adults and people of any age who have serious underlying medical conditions may 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 recommendations and continue to practice **social distancing**, as well as safe hygiene measures such as hand washing and frequently cleaning touched objects and surfaces. Everyone who is eligible is encouraged to receive the COVID-19 vaccine, a safe and effective prevention tool.

If you believe that you may have COVID-19, please call the Health Department at 828-349-2081 to schedule an appointment for a test. To register and schedule an appointment to receive a COVID-19 vaccine, please call 828-349-2081.

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