MEDIA ADVISORY
For Immediate Release 3-25-20, 4:30 PM
Jennifer Hiestand, Public Information Officer (740) 819-0570, jenniferh@zmchd.org

Muskingum County COVID-19 Update
(Consists of the following agencies: Health Department, Genesis Healthcare System, City & County Elected Officials, Law Enforcement/EMS/Fire, Emergency Management, Red Cross, Food Pantries/Hot Meal Programs, Muskingum Valley Health Centers, United Way, 211 Call Center)

Please be aware this situation is being followed consistently and is ever-changing. Beginning today, to be consistent with the Ohio Department of Health, we are reporting the following:

- **0 Confirmed Cases in Muskingum County**

For Muskingum County COVID-19 Updates follow: Muskingum County EMA & LEPC on Facebook; Health Department website http://www.zmchd.org/coronavirus-disease; communications by the Muskingum County Center for Seniors. Updates are posted daily at 4:30 p.m. To sign up for Muskingum County Citizen Alerts, visit https://www.muskingumcountyoh.gov/

Public inquiries should be directed to the ODH COVID-19 hotline at 1-833-4-ASK-ODH (1-833-427-5634) or the ODH website at coronavirus.ohio.gov. The public hotline is available from 9:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m. Monday-Sunday.

Safety Messages

*Employers:*
Each office that remains open should prioritize the essential work that must to be done, evaluate the workforce necessary to get that work done, and assign work on a rotational basis so that all workers have equal time in the office and at home. If work can be done at home, that should be considered. Further, the office should make every effort to protect those working by following social distancing at all times (including the work site, travel to and from work sites, break rooms, lunch rooms, and any gathering areas), hand-washing, hand sanitizer and sanitizing frequently touched surfaces. Every effort should be made to design interactions with clients such that social distancing is maintained.

**How Long COVID-19 Lasts on Surfaces**

Cardboard for 3 hours to 24 hours*
Plastic and stainless steel for 8 hours to 3 days*
*This is at 70 degrees and 40% humidity...the warmer the surface the shorter its lifespan.
Command Center Updates

American Red Cross
There is a severe blood shortage. Healthy individuals are needed to donate now to help patients counting on lifesaving blood. If you are one of these individuals, please schedule an appointment to donate blood this week. Visit www.redcrossblood.org

Genesis HealthCare System
Matt Perry, Genesis CEO, and Scott Wegner, M.D., Genesis chief clinical officer of Genesis Medical Group, have a new message to the community. It can be found on https://www.genesishcs.org/covid-19/

If you think you are experiencing symptoms, of COVID-19:
• Call your doctor
• If you do not have a doctor or your doctor is not available, call the Genesis On-demand COVID-19 Virtual Screening Telemedicine Clinic at (740) 297-8610.
• Patient registration will be required, co-pays will be waived.
• Testing will be ordered if appropriate.

Genesis On-demand COVID-19 Virtual Screening Telemedicine Clinic Hours:
• Monday through Friday, 7 a.m. to 7 p.m.
• Saturday and Sunday, 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.
• Hours may adjust according to need.
• For questions after these hours, you may call the Genesis Nurseline at (740) 455-4949.

To protect our patients, families and employees, Genesis is not offering valet services due to COVID-19 beginning Tuesday, March 24.

Muskingum County Emergency Management Agency
There is a statewide effort asking anyone who can to donate PPE and cleaning supplies to their EMA: nitrile gloves, N95 or P100 masks, surgical or dust masks, Tivex suits or gowns, hand sanitizer, disinfecting wipes, half mask respirators with P100 or N95 filters. Donations may be dropped off at the EMA office, M-F, 8:00-4:30. Call ahead of time (740-453-1655) before going in person.

Muskingum County Government
County offices are staffed with essential personnel. Public access to most county offices is restricted. Employees are available to assist you by phone or email. Please call ahead for instructions and assistance.

United Way & 2-1-1 Crisis Hotline & Information Center
For information on human services agencies, food and shelter providers, special services for seniors, child care resources, county and city information, and non-emergency issues: dial 2-1-1, toll free 1-800-544-1601, or text your zip code to 8-9-8-2-1-1. The Muskingum Hunger
Network is looking for volunteers. Interested persons may contact 2-1-1.

**Zanesville-Muskingum County Health Department (ZMCHD)**
- Testing for COVID-19 is limited and must be ordered by a physician. If requirements are met, the test must be approved by the Ohio Department of Health.
- If you have a fever, new cough, or shortness of breath, call ahead of time before going in person to any healthcare provider.

**Community Updates**

**Behavioral Health Services**
Providers are open and available to serve clients in a variety of ways. For information: call the Mental Health & Recovery Services Board at 740-454-8557 or follow them on Facebook.

**Colony Square Mall**
Closed until further notice. The United States Post Office will remain open. JoAnn and Dunham’s are remaining open at this time.

**SouthEast Ohio Transit (SEAT)**
SEAT will no longer charge self-pay public passengers that are using fixed route and demand response services until further notice. SEAT will stop collecting fares as a step to prevent the spread of COVID-19 and to help those impacted economically. SEAT highly encourages social distancing between transit riders.

**Zanesville-Muskingum County Chamber of Commerce & Convention and Visitors Bureau**
Updated websites – www.visitzanesville.com and www.zmchamber.com include information on ways to support our local businesses including take-out, virtual tour opportunities, Facebook LIVE events and things to do while following guidelines mandated by The State of Ohio.
Muskingum County Emergency Management Agency

Jeff Jadwin
Director
Cell: 740-252-1318
jjadwin@muskingumcounty.org

Travis Roach
Deputy Director
Cell: 740-506-2507
tcroach@muskingumcounty.org