

## Houston County Emergency Management Agency

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RE: COVID-19 Guidance

All,

I fully understand that this is a difficult and confusing time for everyone and there has been an abundance of information shared which adds to the confusion. With that in mind I have spoken to our Health Department officials and would ask that you review and share the information below with all of your departments and staff that may be involved with answering calls related to COVID-19. My goal is to have a unified response to this pandemic with appropriate guidance from all agencies and governments in Houston County.

- In the event you receive a call from anyone asking about COVID-19 procedures refer them to these sites.
  - o www.northcentralhealthdistrict.org
  - o https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-nCoV/index.html
- For information on cases that have been confirmed refer them to this site.
  - https://dph.georgia.gov/covid-19-daily-status-report
- GA Department of Public Health also has a hotline that can be called with concerns not addressed on these sites or if they do not have internet access.
  - o (844) 442-2681
- For anyone with concerns they may have or have been exposed to COVID-19 they need to call their primary care physician. Their physician will determine if a test is warranted. If they do not have a physician, they should contact an urgent care center for guidance. The most important thing to push out is for them to remain at home and call these locations first.
- Do not encourage anyone to go directly to the Emergency Departments unless they are experiencing symptoms that require emergency care.

It is important, especially with the current panic, that we remain united in what information is going out from our offices. This is a public health emergency and public health is doing a great job. We must forward questions to the resources above to allow public health to manage this pandemic. Thank you for all you are doing to see our community through this unprecedented time.

Christopher Stoner Director