

#### COVID-19 Update - Message from the County Manager

As Mecklenburg County continues its fight against the novel coronavirus or COVID-19, there are a few signs beginning to surface that shows our efforts are paying off!

While the latest number of COVID-19 cases in Mecklenburg County as of 4:30 p.m. stands at 2342 – there have been no new deaths reported since May 10. Also – the County has not yet reached its peak in cases thanks to our resident's commitment to abiding by the Stay at Home Order. A new report by the Big City Health Coalition which ranked the effectiveness of Stay at Home Orders across the country shows that after 60 days of residents abiding by Mecklenburg County's Stay at Home Order, the County has avoided 47,400 hospitalizations and saved almost 5 000 lives!

But the crisis is not over. I want to encourage all residents to wear face coverings upon leaving their homes. This is a recommendation from the <u>Centers for Disease Control</u>. According to the CDC, wearing face coverings may help to prevent transmission of the virus and Mecklenburg County supports this recommendation.

Now as the County looks ahead to moving from phase 1 to phase 2 of Governor Roy Cooper's plan to reopen North Carolina, Mecklenburg County wants to provide guidance and resources to our local businesses as they reopen to the public.

This week, Mecklenburg County in conjunction with the Business Leaders Roundtable released its <a href="COVID-19 Business Toolkit">COVID-19 Business Toolkit</a>. The toolkit is available on MeckNC.gov and includes printable signs in both English and Spanish. The toolkit also includes information on eradication services in North and South Carolina and information on Governor Roy Cooper's phased approach to reopening North Carolina. Click <a href="here">here</a> to download the toolkit

In the coming weeks, there will be industry-specific toolkits available for hair and nail salons, tattoo parlors, houses of worship and fitness facilities. Phase 1 of the Governor's plan is scheduled to end on Friday, May 22, if indicators continue to be met across the state. Click <a href="here">here</a> for more on the Governor's three phased plan.

In addition, just as businesses are implementing new protocols to protect their customers and employees, Mecklenburg County is preparing as well. The County will take a phased approach to resuming full operations at our facilities. In addition to returning in phases, the County is also obtaining personal protective equipment for County employees who need it and creating social distancing measures within County's workspaces.

Please continue to monitor MeckNC.gov for the latest updates on COVID-19 or operations within the County and state.

Thank you for your continued support.

Sincerely,

Dena. R. Diorio, Mecklenburg County Manager

## **News Releases:**

- Outreach Toolkit for Targeted Populations
- COVID-19 Toolkit for Small Businesses Available Now

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- Mecklenburg County COVID-19 Data for May 10
- COVID-19 Data Dashboard
- Update on Novel Coronavirus (COVID-19)

Click here to view a full list of news releases.

# **Media Update:**

Mecklenburg County Manager Dena R. Diorio and Public Health Director Gibbie Harris gave an update on COVID-19 cases in Mecklenburg County, on Thursday, May 14. Click here to view the latest media availability.

#### COVID-19 Symptoms:

As the pandemic continues to impact the community, click <a href="here">here</a> to view a list of COVID-19 symptoms.

#### **COVID-19 Testing and Medical Advice:**

Residents who feel they may have been exposed to the virus can contact the County's Public Health Hotline at 980-314-9400 to speak with a medical professional or for guidance on testing.

#### What to Do If You're Feeling Sick:

Click <u>here</u> for more information on what to do if you think you may have been exposed to the virus.

### Frequently Asked Questions - Residents:

Click here to view a list of the most frequently asked questions related to COVID-19.

### Resources for County Employees:

## **Employee Rights Under Families First Coronavirus Act**

On April 1, the Families First Coronavirus Response Act was signed to help provide additional paid leave for government employees affected by COVID-19.

Click <u>here</u> to learn more about the act.

The latest MecklenburgCountyNC.gov

#### **Board Bulletin**

is **now available** online.

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