



Jackson County Department of Public Health

154 Medical Park Loop • Sylva, NC 28779

Tel: 828-586-8994 • FAX: 828-586-3493

Shelley Carraway
DIRECTOR

For Immediate Release: March 23, 2020 at 12:23 PM

To: Jackson County Community & Stakeholders

From: Jackson County Department of Public Health

Re: Part-Time Jackson County Resident Tests Positive for COVID-19, Patient in Isolation

A part-time Jackson County resident that tested positive for novel coronavirus (COVID-19) is being monitored by health officials. The patient is in isolation and the household member of the patient is in self-quarantine in Jackson County. Since the patient is a part-time resident of Jackson County, the case will be identified in their home state, not in North Carolina. The case will not show up on the North Carolina map as a Jackson County case. To comply with State and Federal privacy requirements, no additional information about the patient will be released at this time.

The Jackson County Department of Public Health (JCDPH) is working with other health officials to identify close contacts. The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) defines a close contact as being within approximately 6 feet of a person with COVID-19 infection for 10 minutes or longer. Based on information provided by the patient, health officials will reach out to close contacts, assess their risk of exposure, and determine if they need to take any additional measures.

As this is a rapidly evolving situation, make sure to check back with JCDPH frequently for the most up-to-date information on COVID-19 in Jackson County. **Going forward, the number of positive cases in Jackson County will be updated daily by 12:00 PM on JCDPH's website at <http://health.jacksonnc.org/covid19>.** Remember to stay home as much as possible, follow common sense hygiene practices, and call JCDPH or your healthcare provider if you are experiencing signs or symptoms respiratory illness (fever, cough, or shortness of breath).

All media inquiries should go to Jackson County's Acting Public Information Officer, Quintin Ellison at 828-507-8697 or jacksonpio@jacksonnc.org.

###