For Immediate Release: June 8, 2020
To: Jackson County Community & Stakeholders
From: Jackson County Department of Public Health
Re: JCDPH & NCDHHS Launch Testing & Contact Tracing Resources to Help Slow the Spread of COVID-19 in Jackson County

The Jackson County Department of Public Health (JCDPH) and the North Carolina Department of Health and Human Services (NCDHHS) are launching new initiatives to expand COVID-19 testing and contact tracing across the state and help Jackson County families protect themselves and their neighbors. Testing and tracing are core public health measures and key components of North Carolina's strategy to responsibly ease restrictions, while continuing to slow the spread of the virus.

People in Jackson County can now access new online tools to determine if they should consider being tested for COVID-19 and as well as find a nearby testing place. These tools will also help individuals monitor their symptoms if they have tested positive for or been exposed to COVID-19. In addition, NCDHHS launched a new platform to integrate contact tracing efforts across the state. JCDPH is in the process of training our staff on the contact tracing software and intends to use it once fully trained.

New Online Tools to Increase Access to Testing
Having more than tripled the amount of testing completed just a month ago, North Carolina continues to ramp up testing. The new online tools are intended to help people know if they may need a test, how to get a test, and monitor their own symptoms if advised to do so by a contact tracer. These tools include:

- **Check My Symptoms (www.ncdhhs.gov/symptoms)**, a public website that allows people to enter their symptoms to determine if they should consider getting tested for COVID-19. If a test is recommended, they will receive a link to a list of nearby testing sites via email or text.
- **Find My Testing Place (www.ncdhhs.gov/TestingPlace)**, a public website that allows people to enter their county or ZIP code and access a list of nearby testing site locations online.
- **COVID-19 Community Team Outreach (CCTO) Tool,** a password-protected online software that helps people track their own symptoms if they have been advised to do so by the COVID-19 Community Team. It is also a platform that helps streamline and integrate contact tracing work across the state.

For more information about testing and contact tracing, please call 828-586-8994 or visit http://health.jacksonnc.org/covid19.

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