



For Immediate Release:
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Surry County Health and Nutrition Center: COVID-19 Contact Tracing and Case Investigation

Surry County Health and Nutrition Center will be following suit with the NC Department of Health and Human Services (NCDHHS) in shifting priority to vaccination efforts while limiting COVID-19 contact tracing and case investigation to only the highest priority groups.

Effective immediately, Surry County Health and Nutrition Center will be investigating and interviewing COVID-19 patients only if it is in response to a reported cluster/outbreak, within a k-12 school setting, a case known to be living in a congregate or healthcare setting, or is known to be working or potentially exposed in a high-density setting as directed by NC DHHS.

Surry County residents who become infected with COVID-19 may not receive a call from Surry County Health and Nutrition Center. This means that citizens should follow NC DHHS and Centers for Disease Control and Prevention guidance, strategies include:

- Stay home when you are sick, except to get medical care
- Use a separate room and bathroom for sick household members
- Wash your hands often with soap and water for at least 20 seconds
- Clean and disinfect as needed.
- Remain home for 10 days after your first symptom appeared, or if asymptomatic, remain home for 10 days after your positive test result.
- Notify any person whom you came in close contact with to follow quarantine guidelines.

This new strategy will allow our agency to effectively allocate resources during this period of critical community transmission in addition to supporting our vaccination efforts. We would like to direct Surry County citizens to the NC DHHS COVID-19 dashboard to remain current on our County's COVID-19 metrics regarding case counts, testing data, and demographic trends. <https://covid19.ncdhhs.gov/dashboard>

As we transition, Surry County Health and Nutrition Center staff will still be available to assist with any questions or concerns regarding COVID-19. Please call us at (336) 401-8400, choose option 8.