FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
March 12, 2020

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Mercer County Health District COVID-19 Situation Update – March 12, 2020

CELINA- The Mercer County Health District (MCHD) is still waiting on the test results for the person under investigation for COVID-19 in Mercer county. Once we receive notification of the results, we will inform the public.

The World Health Organization declared COVID-19 a pandemic on March 11, 2020. Currently, the CDC reports 1,215 confirmed cases, 26 deaths, and 43 states with COVID-19. There are 5 confirmed cases and 52 persons under investigation in Ohio.

Significant measures have been taken to help slow down the spread of COVID-19. By doing this, health officials hope to delay or avoid a substantial risk of harm to many people. Of particular concern are the elderly and those who have weakened immune systems or chronic health problems.

As of March 12, 2020, the Director of Ohio Department of Health, Amy Acton, MD, MPH, signed an order prohibiting mass gatherings in the State of Ohio. A mass gathering is any event that brings together one hundred (100) or more persons in a single room or single space at the same time. Examples include an auditorium, stadium, arena, large conference room, meeting hall, theater, or any other confined indoor or outdoor space. This would also include parades, fairs, and festivals. A mass gathering does not include normal operations at airports, bus and train stations, medical facilities, libraries, shopping malls and centers, and other spaces where 100 or more persons may be in transit. For further information and guidance, refer to the Order to Limit and/or Prohibit Mass Gatherings in the State of Ohio.

Governor Mike DeWine announced on March 12, 2020, that all schools will close for at least three weeks following the end of the school day on Monday, March 16, 2020.

MCHD continues to do everything we can to maintain a high level of preparedness. We are in constant communications with the Ohio Department of Health, regional, county, and community partners. MCHD urges you to get your information from credible sources rather than spreading false information. Also, we encourage citizens to treat each other with kindness.

If you have any questions, please contact the Mercer County Health District at 419-586-3251.

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