



Jackson County Health Department

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Creating Healthy Communities



To: News Editor

From: Rashmi Travis, MPH, CHES
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Re: Upcoming Easter Holiday Celebrations

Date: April 3, 2020

For Immediate Release

(Jackson, MI) Governor Gretchen Whitmer released the [“Stay Home, Stay Safe,”](#) order on March 24, 2020, requiring all *Michigan businesses and operations to temporarily suspend in-person operations that are not necessary to sustain or protect life. In addition, all Michiganders must stay in their homes unless they’re a part of the critical infrastructure workforce, engaged in an outdoor activity where you can maintain social distancing of 6 feet or more, or performing tasks necessary to the health and safety of themselves or their family, like going to the hospital or grocery store.*

In spite of this measure, Michigan is now one of the states with the highest number of cases of COVID-19. We know COVID-19 is present in the Jackson community. We are battling an unseen enemy. When we follow social distancing guidelines and stay at home, we protect ourselves and our loved ones. By doing this, we also protect those around us (co-workers, friends, neighbors).

The Easter season is a popular time for family traditions and gatherings. Knowing that COVID-19 can spread even before there are any symptoms of illness, it is so important to avoid any traditions that include family and friends or other people who do not live with you. These events include gathering for special services, Easter egg hunts, parades, boat rides, sporting events, etc. Connect with loved ones virtually. Set up an internet connection and plan to be online together as you each eat your Easter dinner in your own home. Start a contest with your family or friends over the most creative ideas to connect virtually. We are including some ideas that our staff have come up with.

Please remember, it is up to each of us to do our part in this fight against a new virus. In protecting ourselves and our families, we protect each other. This year show you care by avoiding drive-up gatherings and avoid any gathering of people who do not live in your home. Have visits to loved ones in hospitals, nursing homes, or other residential care facilities virtually. If your loved one needs help, ask their caregivers to assist you to set that up ahead of time.

If you have any questions, please visit www.mijackson.org/hd or call (517)788-4420.