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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Coronavirus Disease (COVID-19) Public Health Emergency Order for Johnson County, Missouri

Updated guidelines for restaurants and public gatherings

JOHNSON COUNTY, MO (March 19, 2020) – Johnson County Community Health Services Administrator Mary Thaut – in consultation with the Johnson County Community Health Services Board of Trustees – today issued a public health emergency order in alignment with the Centers of Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) latest COVID-19 guidance.

Effective 12:01 a.m. March 20, 2020 until 12:01 a.m. April 20, 2020:

- All restaurants, bars, taverns, clubs and movie theaters are to be closed to the public. Establishments may continue to provide curbside, drive-through, and delivery services.
- All large public gatherings of more than 10 people are prohibited. Exceptions include governmental and judicial functions, healthcare facilities, private business operations, religious and faith-based activities, weddings and funerals.

As of today Johnson County has no confirmed cases of COVID-19. We are continuously monitoring the evolving situation and working to ensure our community is prepared.

To reduce risk and prevent the spread of COVID-19, continue to follow these basic preventative measures:

- Wash hands often with soap and water for a least 20 seconds or use a hand sanitizer that contains at least 60% alcohol
- Avoid touching eyes, nose and mouth with unwashed hands
- Stay home if you are sick
- Cover coughs and sneezes using your elbow or shoulder rather than your hands
- Clean and disinfect high-touch surfaces frequently

If you suspect that you have COVID-19 or have been exposed to someone with COVID-19, call your healthcare provider to them know before seeking care. It is critical that your provider is aware you may have COVID-19 prior to your arrival at a healthcare facility, and that you follow all instructions for arriving at a healthcare facility.

For more information please visit our website at <http://johnsoncountyhealth.org/news/covid-19-information/> and on facebook at Johnson County Community Health Services or JOCOMO Emergency Operations.