MEDIA RELEASE

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Media Contact: Tracey Wood
Phone: 989-343-1852

District Health Department No. 2 Creates COVID-19 Preparedness Plan Template for Businesses

On April 9, 2020, Governor Whitmer issued Executive Order 2020-42 imposing a temporary requirement to suspend activities that are not essential to sustain and protect life. As part of this Executive Order, businesses that are deemed essential and remain open are required to develop a COVID-19 Preparedness and Response Plan consistent with recommendations provided in the “Guidance on Preparing Workplaces for COVID-19” document which was developed by the Occupational Health and Safety Administration (OSHA). In an effort to aide businesses deemed essential who are remaining open to operate, District Health Department No. 2 (DHD2) created a “COVID-19 Preparedness and Response Plan for Businesses” template. Additionally, on April 13, 2020, DHD2 issued Emergency Order 2020-2, which requires employers to conduct an employee health screening.

The document is designed as a planning template intended to assist businesses with meeting the requirements of the Executive and Emergency Orders issued by state and local public health authorities. Denise Bryan, Health Officer at DHD2 states “By providing businesses with this template and information, we can assist them in implementing plan recommendations to protect workers and comply with these orders.” While the template was developed to be consistent with OSHA planning guidance, it is not intended to be all inclusive of planning and preparedness activities that a business may need to undertake to ensure the safety of its employees. Each business will need to evaluate operations to determine if additional planning or activities need to occur.

The template can be found at www.dhd2.org/COVID-19, in the General Information section. For any businesses that have questions on the template, please reach out to DHD2 at 989-343-1809.