



Office of the County Executive

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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### **MORE STATE FUNDING SOUGHT FOR PUBLIC HEALTH DEPARTMENTS**

Racine – County Executive Jonathan Delagrave today called for more state funding to be allocated to local public health departments to battle the ongoing COVID-19 outbreak.

The City of Racine and Central Racine County health departments have led efforts to prevent the spread of COVID-19 in Racine County. By state law, local health departments are charged with performing communicable disease investigations and promptly taking all measures necessary to prevent, suppress and control communicable disease, such as case investigation and contact tracing.

Given the experience in disease investigation -- as well as long-standing relationships with local health care providers, law enforcement, schools, long-term care facilities, and other partners -- officials believe the COVID-19 response is best performed and funded at the local level. Local officials, including the Central Racine County Board of Health, have asked that a greater allocation of state money geared toward battling COVID-19 be allocated to local health departments.

“Our health departments have worked tirelessly to protect our communities and mitigate the impact of the coronavirus in Racine County. Ensuring health departments are properly funded is crucially important for the safety of our residents. We look forward to continuing to work collaboratively with state officials in the battle against COVID-19,” County Executive Delagrave said.

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