Press Release

For Release:	Immediately	Contact:	Jason Hoppin, County Communications Officer
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COVID-19 EMPLOYER TOOLKIT AVAILABLE

Santa Cruz County, CA - As prevalence of COVID-19 in the community increases, concern over workplace transmission among staff has increased.

To help minimize impacts among employees and assist with investigation of COVID-19 cases, the County of Santa Cruz is providing local employers with tools to help manage coronavirus transmission. They include detailed guidance on prevention, preparation for exposures and management of workplace cases, as well as information on the rights and responsibilities of employers.

"Our community plays an important role in minimizing the spread of COVID-19 and protecting the health and safety of all residents," Health Officer Dr. Gail Newel said. "Employers are an important part of our community, and as such they can play a critical role in minimizing the spread of coronavirus in Santa Cruz County."

The employer toolkit is available at www.santacruzhealth.org/employers, with a link available on the main coronavirus site at www.santacruzhealth.org/coronavirus.

The toolkit includes links to detailed guidance from the California Department of Public Health, a sample employee notification letter and a contact tracing form for employers to help monitor workplace-based exposures of impacted employees.

The County also urges employers to continue following Social Distancing Protocols, and urges employees to follow basic safety practices in the workplace, including wearing a face covering, maintaining physical distancing and washing hands frequently with soap and water.

It is also critically important that employers implement daily symptom screening for the workforce, and for employees stay home if they have symptoms. Employers who have cases in the workplace are urged to are urged to notify Public Health at HSACD@santacruzcounty.us.

For local information on COVID-19, go to www.santacruzhealth.org/coronavirus, call 211 or text "COVID19" to 211211. Residents may also call (831) 454-4242 between the hours of 8 a.m. and 6 p.m., Monday through Friday.

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