FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE CONTACT: Roger Follebout, Jr.

MARCH 20, 2020 Gwenn Garland

 Laren Hughes

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**Editors: Dr. Fiddler and Ms. Brewster will be available Friday, March 20 at Noon in the Call Center, which is located in the Wor-Wic Room of the Avery W. Hall Educational Center on the PRMC campus. Those agencies seeking an interview are asked to contact the Community Relations Department at the above phone number by 10AM on March 20. Thank you.**

**PRMC AND WICOMICO COUNTY HEALTH DEPARTMENT PARTNER ON COVID-19 CALL CENTER**

Peninsula Regional Medical Center (PRMC) and the Wicomico County Health Department opened a COVID-19 Information and Triage Line at 8AM on Friday, March 20. The call center is based at PRMC and collaboratively staff by registered nurses and other clinicians from both Peninsula Regional and the Health Department. The number is **410-912-6889**.

“There’s a tremendous amount of community anxiety right now, and understandably so, about COVID-19,” said Dr. Kathryn Fiddler, Vice President of Population Health at PRMC. “There’s also a tremendous amount of accurate information, available from our healthcare teams at both agencies.”

Callers to the PRMC/Wicomico County COVID-19 Information and Triage Line can bring their questions to local registered nurses and the healthcare team. If concerned about contracting COVID-19, callers will learn what they can do to take precautions. In addition, if callers are concerned about possibly having COVID-19, the team will do an initial screening and assessment to understand the callers potential risk to COVID-19 and next steps in care.

“One of the most important things we will do is alleviate fears, eliminate all the white noise and provide accurate and timely best-practice advice,” added Lori Brewster, Wicomico County Health Officer. “With COVID-19, knowledge is not only power, it’s also protection.”

The COVID-19 Information and Triage Line call center is staffed and answered live seven days a week from 8:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m.

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