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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**  
**April 2, 2020**

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## **Disaster Response Crisis Counselors Are Available**

### **By Calling the Sussex County COVID-19 Hotline**

(Hardyston, NJ) The Sussex County Division of Health (SCDOH) is pleased to announce that certified Disaster Response Crisis Counselors (DRCCs) are now available to speak to Sussex County residents who may be experiencing emotional or mental difficulties related to COVID-19. DRCCs are trained to provide disaster mental health services, including psychological first aid and crisis counseling. DRCCs are certified through the New Jersey Division of Mental Health and Addiction Services Disaster and Terrorism Branch, along with the Mental Health Association of New Jersey and the Certification Board of New Jersey, Inc.

As part of the County's emergency response to COVID-19, the SCDOH has called upon Sussex County's active DRCC members to aid residents who may be experiencing mental or emotional difficulties during this stressful and challenging time. The SCDOH is grateful to those DRCC members who are giving their time and talents to address our residents' mental health and well-being.

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A Disaster Response Crisis Counselor can be reached through the Sussex County Division of Health COVID-19 Hotline at 973-579-9488. SCDOH staff and Sussex County Medical Reserve Corps volunteers are also available to answer other questions related to COVID-19. The Hotline's hours of operation are Monday through Friday from 9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.

Residents are also encouraged to visit the Sussex County website at <https://sussex.nj.us/covid19> for the latest information on COVID-19 from the New Jersey Department of Health (NJDOH) and the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC). The New Jersey Poison Control Center and 2-1-1 have also partnered with the State to provide information to the public on COVID-19. Residents may call 2-1-1 or 1-800-962-1253 or text NJCOVID to 898-211.

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