

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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**Community Health Offers New COVID-19 Testing Options in Brownsville and Cantonment**

**Pensacola, FL** – Community Health Northwest Florida is offering two new Covid-19 testing access points in partnership with Escambia County Government and Ascension Sacred Heart.

Walk-up COVID-19 testing is now offered at the Brownsville Community Center parking lot, 3200 West De Soto St., Pensacola, Florida in addition to the existing Brownsville drive-through testing location. Walk-up testing is available for those persons who need access to testing but do not have a vehicle. Hours for walk-up testing are the same as the drive up testing center; 9 a.m. – 1 p.m. Monday through Friday. All walk-up patients are encouraged to be pre-screened before arriving at the testing center by calling the Ascension Sacred Heart COVID-19 Pre-Screening Call Center at 850-746-2684.

An additional drive-through COVID-19 testing site will open on Tuesday, March 31st outside the Community Health Northwest Florida Pediatrics site, 470 South Highway 29, in Cantonment. This new Cantonment drive through testing location will be open Tuesdays and Thursdays from 9 a.m. – 1 p.m. All patients are required to be pre-screened before arriving at the drive-through testing center by calling the Ascension Sacred Heart COVID-19 Pre-Screening Call Center at 850-746-2684. Those who have not been pre-screened over the phone will not be provided access to the drive-through test center. Ascension Sacred Heart's Pre-Screening Call Center is open 8 a.m. to 8 p.m., Monday through Friday.

COVID-19 testing is open to everyone in the community who meets the pre-screening criteria, both children and adults. Testing is provided at no cost to patients. For those persons with health insurance, it will cover the full cost of screening. For those with no health insurance, there is no charge for this test. Once the testing is completed, patients will be instructed to go home and self-isolate, or keep away from other people (even family members) until results of the COVID-19 test are known.

"As a healthcare provider who last year cared for over 54,000 patients at our seventeen clinic locations, we are committed to the health and safety of all families throughout our service area," said Chandra Smiley, CEO and Executive Director of Community Health Northwest Florida. "We are grateful for the opportunity to collaborate with Escambia County and Ascension Sacred Heart to provide these important access points for COVID-19 testing."

Since 1992, Community Health Northwest Florida has served residents of Escambia and Santa Rosa Counties and surrounding areas. Since 2007, it has been the area's only Federally Qualified Health Center (FQHC) as designated by the Department of Health and Human Services, Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA). For more information, visit [healthcarewithinreach.org](http://healthcarewithinreach.org).

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