

# WHAT IS CONTACT TRACING?

## New Jersey Contact Tracing



Contact tracing is the process used to **identify those who come into contact with people who have tested positive** for many contagious diseases in order to inform them, provide guidance, and offer support.

Contact tracing is a **long-standing practice in New Jersey and around the world.**

# WHY IS CONTACT TRACING IMPORTANT?



If you tested positive for **COVID-19**, you may have spread the virus to others without knowing it. Those individuals could now be infected and putting their loved ones at risk.

Contact tracing is **critical to stopping the spread of COVID-19 and keeping you, your loved ones, and your community safe and healthy.**

# HOW DOES CONTACT TRACING WORK?

## 1 CASE INTERVIEW...

...if you test positive for COVID-19, a contact tracer will reach out



The contact tracer will connect you with medical care and any help you might need to keep your loved ones safe.

They will also ask about where you have been and your “close contacts,” including how to reach them.

*Close contacts are anyone who was within 6 feet of you, for more than 10 minutes.*

## 2 CONTACT NOTIFICATION...

...to alert of potential exposure and provide support



A contact tracer will then call your contacts and provide information on how they can protect themselves and their loved ones, for example:

- *Understanding their risk*
- *How they can monitor for illness*
- *How to prevent spreading the virus (even if they do not feel ill)*
- *Where to get tested*
- *Local support services*

## 3 FOLLOW-UP...

...to support contacts with testing and quarantine



For the next 14 days, contacts will receive daily follow-ups, either through text messaging or phone calls, to monitor their health and further connect them with the support and resources they may need.

Contact tracers will **collect minimum data** (only what is needed to keep your close contacts safe), **use it for limited purposes** (stopping the spread of COVID-19), and **restrict who it is shared with**.

**We will NEVER share your name or personal information. We take your privacy seriously.**



**DO YOUR PART –  
ANSWER THE CALL**



**PROTECT THOSE IN  
YOUR HOME AND  
THE COMMUNITY**

# **PRINCIPLES** OF NEW JERSEY CONTACT TRACING

**Contact tracers will NEVER ask for:**

- Social Security number
- Financial information
- Immigration status

The information you share will:

- **NEVER** be used for immigration or law enforcement
- **NOT** negatively affect your public charge assessment
- **NOT** be used to deny access to health care or any other essential service

Your **data and privacy** is **ALWAYS** protected and your **cell phone/location** is **NEVER** tracked.

If you have any doubts about the legitimacy of your conversation with a contact tracer, you may hang up and call your local health department. You should also feel free to request the name and ID of anyone who calls.