

Community rallies around COVID-stricken deputy

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George County, which has now seen nearly 15-percent of its people suffering from COVID-19, is now rallying in support of one of its long-time Sheriff's Department deputies.

"The situation is a dire one," said Sheriff Keith Havard, "and the family is praying for a miracle."

Bobby Daffin, age 37, was apparently exposed to the disease two weeks ago. He has been hospitalized nearly a week and a half, Havard said. He is currently at the University of Mississippi Medical Center in Jackson on a ventilator, fighting for his life.

Havard did not believe Daffin had been vaccinated.

The Sheriff's Office has been particularly hard hit with the virus recently. Havard said he has four deputies out with the disease. He did not know how many, if any, had been vaccinated.

Daffin has a six-year-old daughter. He has worked for the citizens of George County as a deputy for the past 14 years.

The Sheriff's Office, with the help of the Biloxi Police Department is holding a fundraiser to help with expenses incurred during his illness. The Biloxi PD cooking Community rallies around COVID-stricken deputy team will begin serving red beans and rice plates at the George County Courthouse beginning at 10:30 a.m. on Friday, August 13, Havard said.

A special prayer service was held Tuesday at the Lucedale Church of God.

Monetary donations may be mailed to: GCSO Benefit Fund, 355 Cox St., Suite B, Lucedale, MS 39542, Havard said. Checks can be made out directly to the GCSO Benefit Fund with "Daffin Family" written in the check's memo line. All donations will go to help with expenses for Bobby Daffin and his daughter.

The Biloxi Police Department will be selling lunch plates at the George County Courthouse Friday, August 13 starting at 10:30 a.m. to help with expenses brought on by Daffin's time in the hospital.