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Established in 1945, DuPage County Health Department promotes physical and emotional health; prevents illness injury and disability; protects health from environmental risk factors, and strives to assure the provision of accessible, quality service.

June 30, 2021

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

80 Percent of Eligible DuPage County Residents Have Received at Least One COVID-19 Vaccine Dose

DuPage County— According to the latest Centers for Disease Control and Prevention vaccination data, 80 percent of eligible residents 12 years and older have received at least one COVID-19 vaccine dose, and 63 percent are fully vaccinated. Additionally, 98 percent of DuPage County residents ages 65 years and older have received at least one COVID-19 vaccine dose, and 81 percent are fully vaccinated. Most importantly, there has been a notable decline in COVID-19 cases, hospitalizations, and deaths throughout the county.

On April 30, DuPage County officials announced a goal to have 80 percent of eligible residents fully vaccinated by July 1 to protect the health and well-being of all residents. Since the announcement of this goal, more than 298,000 vaccine doses have been administered to residents, and another 200,000 DuPage County residents have been fully vaccinated against this deadly virus.

“DuPage County set an ambitious goal and continues to lead the state in vaccination rates with 80 percent of our eligible population having received their first dose. We aimed high and our progress is exceptional. It exemplifies what we can accomplish as a community when we work together,” said DuPage County Chairman Dan Cronin.

“Our high vaccination rates will help keep COVID-19 community transmission at historically low levels,” shared Sam Tornatore, DuPage County Board of Health President. “This means there are fewer opportunities for COVID-19 to infect our residents, fewer hospitalizations and most importantly this will prevent more loss of life from this deadly virus.”

To encourage vaccinations and expand access with equity, DuPage County Health Department (DCHD) ramped up efforts by introducing new tactics such as walk-in opportunities with evening and weekend hours at the DuPage COVID-19 Community Vaccination Clinic, partnering with EMS to vaccinate homebound individuals alongside DCHD staff, partnering with local businesses and organizations to provide mobile vaccination clinics, and distributing incentives supplied by the State of Illinois.

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"We are pleased with this high level of vaccination which will help protect our community from this virus. Reaching this milestone would not be possible without the support from our health systems and vaccine partners," said Karen Ayala, Executive Director of DuPage County Health Department. "DCHD remains committed to continuing to adapt our strategies and work with community partners to ensure vaccine is available to all residents, especially in our most impacted communities. Finally, we still have residents, neighbors, family and friends who have not yet been vaccinated and we must continue to reach out to them."

DuPage County municipalities, businesses, and community-based organizations interested in requesting an on-site mobile vaccination clinic for their community should complete [this DCHD form](#) or learn more at www.dupagehealth.org/covid19vaccinemobile.

Additionally, the DuPage COVID-19 Community Vaccination Clinic at the DuPage County Fairgrounds in Wheaton continues to welcome walk-ins during operating hours, Thursday through Saturday. Visitors are encouraged to save time by [pre-registering](#). To view the clinic hours or learn more, visit dupagehealth.org/covid19vaccineclinic. Any DuPage County residents who are homebound or who cannot safely leave their residence to visit a vaccination clinic are eligible to be vaccinated through our homebound vaccination program and should register at dupagehealth.org/covid19vaccineregistration, or call (630) 682-7400 for assistance.

This Fourth of July weekend, DCHD reminds residents to remain vigilant and celebrate the holiday safely to protect themselves and guests from COVID-19. Although COVID-19 community transmission in DuPage County remains at a "moderate" level, gatherings should be kept to smaller groups to allow for physical distancing between guests and, if possible, be held outdoors. Individuals who are not fully vaccinated or are immunocompromised should continue practicing [preventive measures](#) to stay safe as they are at greater risk of contracting the more transmissible variants, some of which are more likely to lead to severe outcomes. As the more dangerous Delta variant is rapidly spreading in the United States and Illinois, there is an increasing urgency for people to get vaccinated against COVID-19 to help protect themselves and others.

In addition, to help interrupt community spread, persons with COVID-19 infection need to self-isolate (e.g., stay home except for medical care) and their close contacts need to self-quarantine and get tested unless they have been fully vaccinated against COVID-19 or have had COVID-19 infection within three months of exposure. Updated recommendations on masking based on

vaccination status and setting are available at <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/vaccines/fully-vaccinated-guidance.html>.

Additional COVID-19 vaccine information about local efforts, frequently asked questions, vaccination data, and more is available at www.dupagehealth.org/covid19vaccine.

For general questions about COVID-19 and Illinois' response and guidance, call 1-800-889-3931 or email DPH.SICK@ILLINOIS.GOV.

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