

## Media Inquiries:

(630) 221-7374  
media@dupagehealth.org

## DuPage County Board of Health

Sam Tornatore, J.D.  
President

Lanny Wilson, M.D.  
Vice President

Robert Spadoni, J.D.  
Secretary/Treasurer

Lori Bottoms

Melinda Finch

Janice Guider

Nadeem N. Hussain, M.D.

Uzma Muneer, D.O.

Lawrence J. Schouten, M.D.

James P. Weeks, D.D.S.

Karen Ayala, M.P.H.  
Executive Director

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.

August 6, 2021

## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

### **DuPage County is Now Experiencing High COVID-19 Community Transmission Vaccinations Provide Significant Protection**

**DuPage County**— As of today, DuPage County’s COVID-19 community transmission is now at High level per [Centers of Disease Control and Prevention \(CDC\)](#). The recent rise in cases and hospitalizations is likely attributed to the more contagious Delta variant which has now become the more predominant variant across the country. Vaccines continue to be the best form of protection against COVID-19, including the Delta variant and help prevent severe illness, hospitalization, and death.

Additionally, the DuPage County Health Department (DCHD) also strongly endorses the recently updated [CDC masking guidance](#) which recommends everyone, including fully vaccinated individuals, wear a mask in public indoor settings in areas with substantial and high transmission. This recommendation, includes employers, retailers, restaurants/bars, fitness/recreational centers, libraries, governmental entities, healthcare facilities, and other public venues.

“Even with this concerning news of increased virus in our community, we know, based on our data that the vaccine provides significant protection to eligible individuals. Therefore, we once again urge residents who are 12 years and older to get vaccinated against COVID-19 as soon as possible to protect themselves and others against COVID-19 and the more dangerous Delta variant,” said Karen Ayala, Executive Director of DuPage County Health Department. “COVID-19 vaccine providers are now widely available and likely within minutes of your home or workplace. Please visit [www.vaccines.gov](http://www.vaccines.gov) to find a location near you.”

Finally, DCHD encourages all residents that testing remains essential to detecting, monitoring, and curbing the spread of COVID-19 and the variants in our community. DCHD encourages individuals (regardless of vaccination status) who have taken part in activities that put them at higher risk for COVID-19 including travel, attending large social or mass gatherings (including the recent Lollapalooza Chicago music festival), or being in crowded or poorly-

ventilated indoor settings to get tested. For more information about when to get tested for COVID-19 and the types of tests available, visit [www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/symptoms\[1\]testing/testing.html](https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/symptoms-testing/testing.html). To find testing locations in DuPage County, visit [www.dupagehealth.org/covid19testing](https://www.dupagehealth.org/covid19testing).

###