



# FISHERS HEALTH DEPARTMENT

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## Fishers Health Department City Council Update 1/18/2022

### General Update:

#### **2021 Annual Report:**

- Due to public by end of first quarter.

#### **Community Health Assessment:**

- Completed first phase assessment via series of 10 focus groups representing various community interests, and over 200 brief open-ended surveys distributed at the mass vaccination site. Mental health and social connectedness, health education, accessibility and affordability were top themes.
- Brief report of findings and short-term action plan to be distributed to public prior to ending first quarter.
- Next phase will be compiling existing data sources to analyze broad health needs of Fishers residents.

#### **Core Health Services:**

- Increased direct clinical services available to 2 half-days per week at the temporary mass vaccination site, offering vaccinations, TB testing, and blood pressure screenings.
- Increase in latent TB cases reported with 18 currently on or awaiting treatment for latent TB. Challenges with finding clinical sites and providers to offer treatment.
- Planning to expand services and partnerships to offer high-value preventative services relevant to all residents.
- Survey findings show residents requesting cholesterol screening, mental health services, wellness exams, and more.

#### **Health education:**

- Health education has full curriculum with variety of topics available to schools and community, with planned focus on mental health-related trainings and building a “culture of health.”

#### **Stigma-Free Fishers:**

- CDC associate working on mental health needs assessment as component of community health assessment.
- Planning series of support and social connection groups based on focus group and survey feedback.
- Working with Fire Department to assure follow-up and care coordination on transports.
- Working with PR to improve website development, resource navigation and access.
- Providing public education and training related to mental health. Youth Mental Health First Aid training now available. Adding QPR training soon.

#### **Inspections & Environmental Health:**

- Meeting goals for inspections and initiatives. Staffing shortages present challenges in some facilities with maintaining cleanliness standards. There have been several short-term closures this month.
- Working towards restaurant grading system by June 2022 (currently pass/fail). Have enrolled in FDA Retail Program Standards and working to align code with standards.
- Water quality program analyzing Model Aquatic Health Code against municipal code for areas of improvement.

#### **Emergency Preparedness:**

- Managing operations of COVID mass vaccination site and testing site, assuring supplies, scheduling, etc.
- Training and partnering with FFD and other agencies for alert notification system, inventory management and other event preparedness.
- Working towards completion of After-Action Review for COVID.

#### **Grants and Funding:**

- Currently managing 6 grants providing support for emergency preparedness, immunizations, COVID testing, school public health support, in addition to a CDC funded public health associate.
- Applied for grants to support FDA retail standards program and Youth and Teen Mental Health First Aid trainings for community members.



## COVID-19 Updates:

### **Vaccines:**

- Over 90.8% of eligible adult (18 and over) residents have received their first dose of vaccine. Children aged 5-17 have a first dose coverage of 58.2%.
- Over 90,000 vaccinations administered to date, with over 9,000 in the past 14 clinic days. We are currently averaging 550 people daily, although expect decline soon. Over 1,216 vaccines via our pop-up efforts, and over 1,000 vaccinations and boosters for long-term care facilities and homebound residents.
- Working on transition plans for provision of services with goal to exit Marsh building in April 2022.

### **Testing:**

- Expanded testing 1/10/22 with 450 prioritized testing appointments for area school staff and students and 600 additional appointments for the general public available daily. Demand is highest seen through pandemic.
- The state is out of rapid tests, but we are still able to offer to those under 19 and over 50 while supplies last. Labs are reporting problems in their supply chains due to increased testing demand nationwide.
- We have administered over 98,000 tests, 67,000 through our resident testing, and 31,000 through our state testing portal, including over 9,375 rapid tests.

### **COVID Cases:**

- Omicron accounts for 85% of recently sequenced samples in Indiana. Cases in Fishers are at an all-time high with over 1,800 between January 1-7, 2022. We continue to see a disproportionate concentration of new cases in unvaccinated residents (see graph). Positivity rates near 40% for both Hamilton County unique individual rate and the Fishers Testing site. Hospital ICU bed capacity remains very low. Anticipate the next several weeks to be extremely challenging for hospitals.
- Discontinuing contact tracing program to focus on supporting COVID education and web resources and connection to services via hotline.

### **Funding and Reimbursement:**

- City has submitted and been approved by FEMA for full reimbursement of testing, vaccines, hotline and other COVID-related activities, with the exception of contact tracing, which is not covered. FEMA due to end 3/31/22.
- FHD has received nearly \$600,000 as reimbursement for COVID vaccine administration fees. Expecting much more based on number of doses delivered.

