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Vaccinating for a Safer, Healthier Summer

Livingston County, IL – The Livingston County Health Department (LCHD) is helping families move past COVID-19 and enjoy safer, healthier fun in the sun this summer. According to the Illinois Department of Public Health (IDPH), over 30% of Livingston County residents have been fully vaccinated as of May 28, 2021.

As vaccination rates begin to slow, the LCHD has moved their mass vaccination clinics back to the health department after months of travelling to community sites. Community partners that have hosted public clinics include: First Baptist Church (Pontiac), First Baptist Church (Fairbury), St. Patrick’s Catholic Church (Dwight), United Methodist Church (Dwight), Woodland Community School (Streator), and Grace Episcopal Church (Pontiac). The LCHD also coordinated private vaccination clinics with Livingston schools, long-term care facilities, large local employers, and other government agencies. “We would not have been able to distribute the vaccine as quickly or efficiently without the help of our community partners,” explained Tondra Harris, LCHD Director of Nursing. “We could not be more grateful for their support during this critical time.”

The LCHD is doing their part to help students prepare for next school year and support families in their summer plans with vaccination clinics at the health department (310 E Torrance Ave., Pontiac).

- Moderna and J&J Vaccines: Monday & Friday mornings 7:00-9:00am; Monday afternoons 3:30-5:30pm
- *Pfizer and J&J Vaccines: Tuesday afternoons 1:00-4:00pm
- *Pfizer and J&J Vaccines: Saturday, June 5 from 9:00-11:00am

Walk-ins are welcome, but appointments are preferred. Further details can be found on their website: <https://lchd.us/site/covid-19-vaccination/>. *Pfizer is available to anyone age 12 and older with parental consent required for those under age 18.

“The optimism and excitement of many people attending vaccination clinics is palpable,” said Erin Fogarty, LCHD Health Education & Marketing Director. “We’ve had countless people share their plans of long-overdue visits with loved ones and travels to new places, as well as just a sense of relief from worrying about COVID.”

There are lots of benefits to being fully vaccinated against COVID-19:

- Reduces virus transmission
- Reduces risk of serious illness and hospitalization due to COVID
- No longer required to quarantine/isolate (i.e. no more missed work, school, sports, etc.)
- No longer required to wear a mask (unless required by business/agency)
- Increases travel opportunities
- Safeguards the health & safety of family, friends, and our Livingston communities

It is essential that community members remain vigilant in the fight against COVID-19. Those individuals who are unvaccinated are asked to continue social distancing and wearing a facemask when unable to maintain distance in order to help reduce virus transmission. If you have questions or concerns about receiving the COVID-19 vaccine, please contact your healthcare provider.

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