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82 New Cases – 5,153 Cases Total in Livingston County

Livingston County, IL – Eighty-two residents of Livingston County have tested positive for COVID-19. Livingston County Health Department (LCHD) officials were notified of the new COVID-19 cases August 17-23, 2021. To date the LCHD has received 130,763 COVID-19 test results; of that, 5,153 COVID-19 tests have been positive, 83 cases remain active and, sadly, 93 cases have resulted in death due to complications related to COVID-19.

The vaccination process continues to evolve as health officials learn more. On August 23, the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) granted full approval to Pfizer’s coronavirus vaccine for people 16 and older, making it the first to move beyond emergency use status in the United States. Additionally, CDC officials recently recommended vaccination for people who are pregnant, breastfeeding, trying to get pregnant now, or might become pregnant in the future. Pregnant and recently pregnant people are more likely to get severely ill with COVID-19 compared with non-pregnant people.

These changes come as case numbers continue to sharply rise due to the highly contagious Delta variant. Data show this variant to be more than twice as contagious as previous strains of the virus with an increased risk for serious complications, particularly among younger populations. People who are unvaccinated continue to be of greatest concern as they are at much higher risk for serious complications or death due to COVID-19.

“Vaccination continues to be the best form of protection for not only individuals, but our Livingston community as whole, as well-vaccinated population greatly reduces the spread of the virus,” said Jackie Dever, LCHD Administrator and 30+ year registered nurse. “We strongly encourage anyone who is unvaccinated to get their shot(s) as soon as possible.”

All COVID-19 vaccinations are free of charge at the LCHD. In order to accommodate the increased need for vaccinations, the LCHD has expanded their COVID-19 clinic hours, making all three vaccines available during each clinic: Monday and Thursday mornings 8:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m.; and Tuesday afternoons 1:00 to 4:00 p.m. Appointments are strongly encouraged, especially for those under age 18. In-home vaccinations are also available for homebound residents. More details can be found on the LCHD’s website: www.lchd.us. Weekend and evening vaccination opportunities are available at many local pharmacies.

COVID-19 testing is available in Livingston County at local pharmacies, including Walgreens and CVS, by appointment. Drive-thru and walk-up testing is also available at the Interstate Center (1106 Interstate Dr, Bloomington, IL) every Monday, Wednesday, Friday, and Saturday

from 9:00am to 5:00pm. For those requiring PCR testing for travel, appointments are available through CampusTown Urgent Care in Bloomington and Champaign. More information can be found on their website: <https://covidtest.center/>.

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