

ANNUAL REPORT
2021



CUYAHOGA COUNTY
BOARD OF HEALTH
YOUR TRUSTED SOURCE FOR PUBLIC HEALTH INFORMATION

A Message from our Health Commissioner

Terry Allan



It has been said that public health is the greatest story never told and emergencies are moments in time when the work of public health is on full display. In these moments, our collective commitment to prevention and control of infectious diseases and our resolve to protect the most vulnerable members of our society are tested. Public health stands in the breach. We are a utility, like water or electricity. In the same way that every citizen has a right to expect clean water from the tap and the lights to go on when they flip the switch, everyone has a basic right to the foundational public health services that generate prosperity and opportunity for all.

Over the last three decades, I have had the honor to work with our dedicated staff and trusted community partners in response to a range of public health emergencies that have demonstrated our collective value to society. The post-911 anthrax and smallpox threats, West Nile Virus in 1999, the H1N1 influenza pandemic in 2009-10, and Ebola in 2014 are just a few poignant examples. As it happens, these significant public health events were a precursor to the mother of all public health emergencies.

In March 2020, the first cases of COVID-19 in Ohio were detected in Cuyahoga County. Public health once again rose to the occasion. We mobilized and expanded our staffing capacity, activated longstanding and new partnerships and marshalled an incredible array of resources to meet our obligation to protect our citizens.

Since that time, the toll of COVID-19 pandemic across the world has been profound. In Cuyahoga County alone, there have been over **266,000** documented cases, **12,400** hospitalizations and **3,650** deaths. Innumerable stories of suffering and grief lie in the wake of the acute phase of this devastating pandemic. Working together, we also know that we have prevented the worst. Isolation of cases, quarantine of exposed individuals and testing worked to slow the spread.

Our community mounted an unprecedented vaccination campaign which began with a focus on those most at risk for severe outcomes. [A study by the Commonwealth Fund](#) showed that “from the start of the U.S. vaccination campaign through the end of November 2021, COVID-19 vaccines prevented about **1.1 million** deaths and **10.3 million** hospitalizations in the United States.” What an astounding achievement.

This annual report marks the end of my 33-year career at CCBH, with 18 of those years serving as the health commissioner. It has been a singular honor to serve our community, alongside our extraordinarily talented and committed staff, gifted partners and a dedicated Board of Health. I'm most proud of the selfless way in which we stood together in the breach, once again, and gave it all we had.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'T. Allan'.

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About this Report

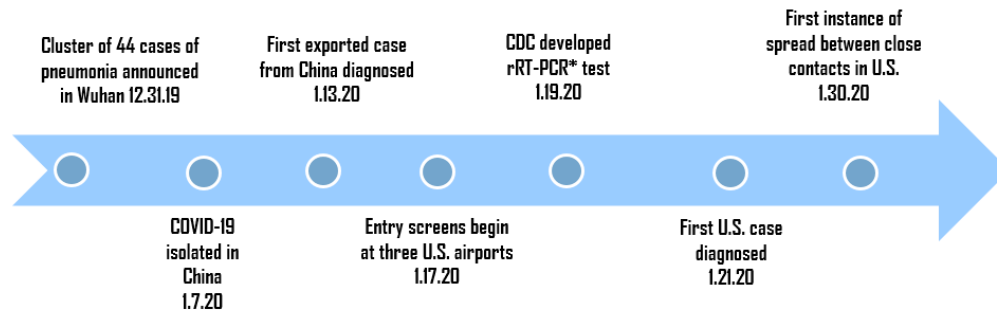
Our world was forever changed in early 2020 with the arrival of COVID-19. A novel virus, COVID-19 has gone on to infect more than **77 million** Americans while also claiming the lives of **918,000** and counting nationwide.

Along the way, public health has undergone a transformation that continues to this day. Issues such as access, communication, equity and trust have taken on new meaning as the pandemic has evolved. Community-based relationships have proven critical to the delivery of reliable information, education and care.

The advent of virtual meeting environments has provided new opportunities for collaboration in a safe setting.

With the pandemic response overshadowing all else for more than two years, capacity was stretched, sometimes painfully so, across healthcare organizations everywhere as we all did our best to meet the demands of our communities. Thankfully, we have effective vaccines that reduced the amount of potential illness that otherwise would have occurred.

When Did the Outbreak Start?



*Real-Time Reverse Transcription-Polymerase Chain Reaction.

Source: www.who.int/emergencies/diseases/novel-coronavirus-2019/situation-reports/

CCBH

While COVID-19 is now a vaccine-preventable illness, we are still faced with challenges to care. As public health professionals, we must persevere and make advances as time, people and prospects permit. Our job, as it has been for 102 years in Cuyahoga County, is to protect the residents and businesses within our jurisdiction by providing equitable and appropriate programs and services.

Never was that more critical than during the past two years. Getting services to those in need during a pandemic required a great deal of coordination and collaboration. Fortunately, ours is a community that works together. Our longtime partners did not hesitate to help, nor did the countless number of other allies whom we met along the way.

Special thanks go out to our colleagues at the Cuyahoga County Executive's Office for their ongoing support. Among many other things, they provided several of the photos featured in this report.

As an annual report, this document is not intended to be an all-inclusive collection of our covid-related activities. It is meant to provide an insightful look at how the pandemic has impacted our agency and our region. Above all, it highlights our activities during a period of time that history will never forget.



Call Center

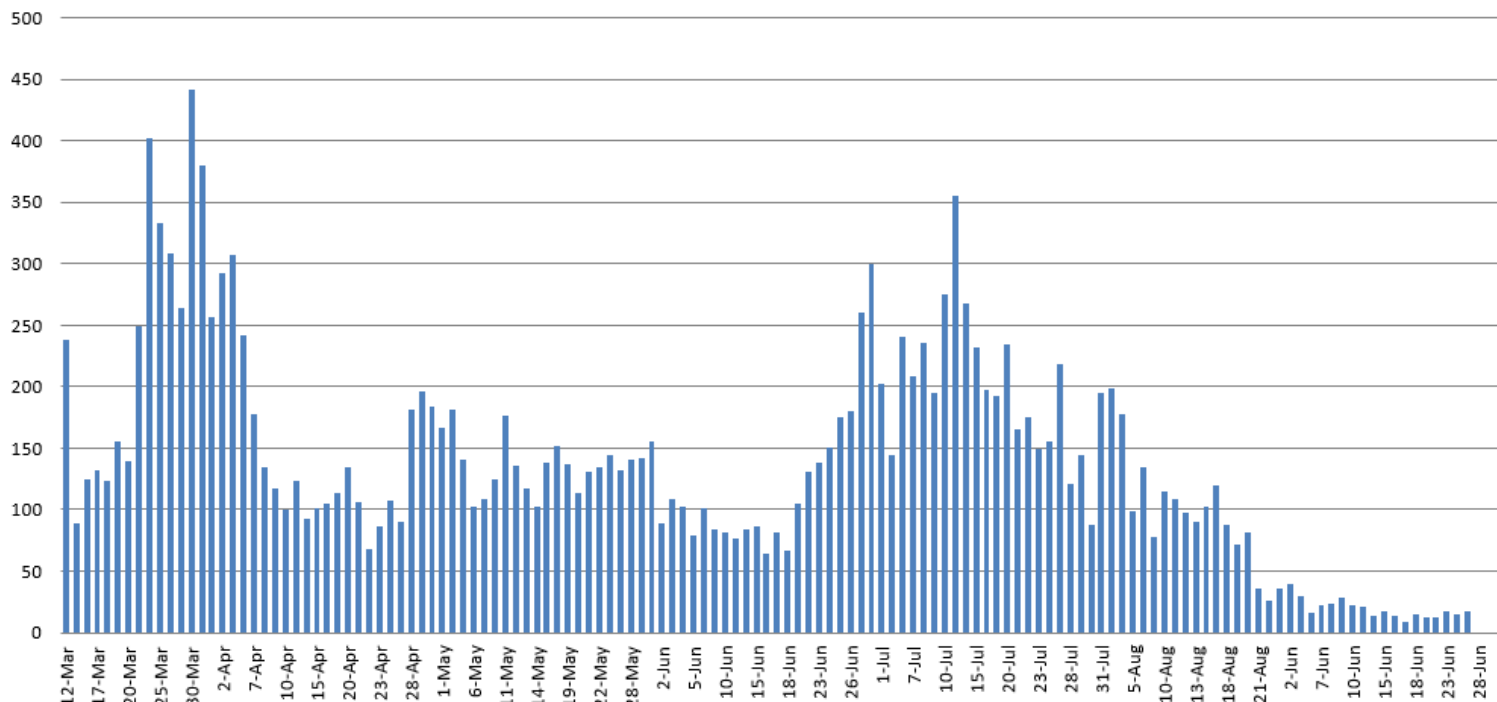
“ We continue to address complaints as they come in by the hundreds about non-essential businesses, social distancing and workplaces and public gatherings. We’re working with the Ohio Department of Health and our colleagues in other counties as we make fair and protective interpretations of the state order. ”

Health Commissioner Terry Allan
CCBH press briefing
4.10.20

This statement effectively summarizes one of the primary roles we filled as the pandemic began to expand. At the local level, we were responsible for informing businesses and residents as to what all of this meant for them at the local level.

Based on overwhelming need, we set up a live call center to handle the enormous volume of questions and complaints that were coming in. Staff from across the agency worked as phone operators with our Environmental Health team supplying primary coordination and support.

Daily Calls Received in the CCBH COVID-19 Phone Bank



COVID-19 Phone Bank Calls by Type

37%

Vaccines

14%

Quarantine
& Isolation

9%

Testing;
Complaints

8%

General
Questions

5%

COVID-19
Positive

4%

School &
Day Cares

3%

ODH
Orders;
Masks

2%

Nursing
Homes

1%

Travel; Mass Gatherings & Social Distancing;
Symptoms; PPE; Doctor/Dentist/Metro

As time went on, we connected callers with essential services from United Way 211 First Call for Help, the Western Reserve Area Agency on Aging and other social service providers. Isolation and quarantine quickly became our most frequent topics of discussion, only to be topped by vaccine as soon as it became available.

After 18 months of daily operation and nearly **52,000** calls, we were able to close our call center, permitting staff to pick up other pandemic-related activities. We appreciate the patience of everyone who called us seeking reliable public health information from the county's trusted source.



Schools

The COVID-19 pandemic was especially troublesome for school-age children and their families. With no clear-cut guidelines in place at the beginning of the pandemic, decisions were being made at the district level about whether or not to stay open, to move to remote learning, or to employ a combination of both. As nationwide data was accumulated, the [CDC became a constantly evolving resource](#), along with the [Ohio Department of Health](#).

Guidance counselors, principals and psychologists all sought ways to relieve the mental duress faced by students, who were suddenly forced to learn within the constraints of these unconventional formats. Populations lacking access to home internet and computers were at great risk of falling behind.

The communicable nature of COVID-19, particularly in the school environment, allowed it to easily and quickly infect people beyond the classroom. Sporting

events, band concerts and other large gatherings of students, faculty and staff were subject to guidance issued by the state health department.

With the help of our partners at the Cuyahoga County Emergency Management Agency (EMA), the Educational Service Center of Northeast Ohio (ESCNEO), and a collection of private schools, we offered best practices for prevention, aimed at reducing the spread of COVID-19.

Schools were required to report cases of disease and offered to assist local health departments in the appropriate quarantine and isolation of staff and students exposed to COVID-19. Gathering and tabulation of [this data](#) was cumbersome yet essential. We are grateful to the countless number of school employees who joined us in protecting public health.



Throughout the pandemic, we reviewed plans for graduations, special events, dances, school board meetings and other non-educational happenings. In order to remain current and consistent, we continually analyzed orders from the governor's office as the rules for operation and public engagement were regularly modified and amended.

Our ongoing collaboration with the ESCNEO, which serves approximately **250,000** students, **3,000** educators, and **300** substitute teachers in **47** school districts across five counties, helped all of us to more effectively navigate the impact of the pandemic upon schools.

Once vaccine was available, local pharmacies provided testing and vaccinations for faculty and staff. Later, when vaccine was readily available for children, we welcomed those of eligible age to our community clinics.



HEALTH AND
SAFETY GUIDANCE FOR

OHIO K-12 SCHOOLS



▶ Vigilantly Assess for Symptoms



▶ Wash and Sanitize Hands to Prevent Spread



▶ Thoroughly Clean and Sanitize School Environment to Limit Spread on Shared Surfaces



▶ Practice Social Distancing

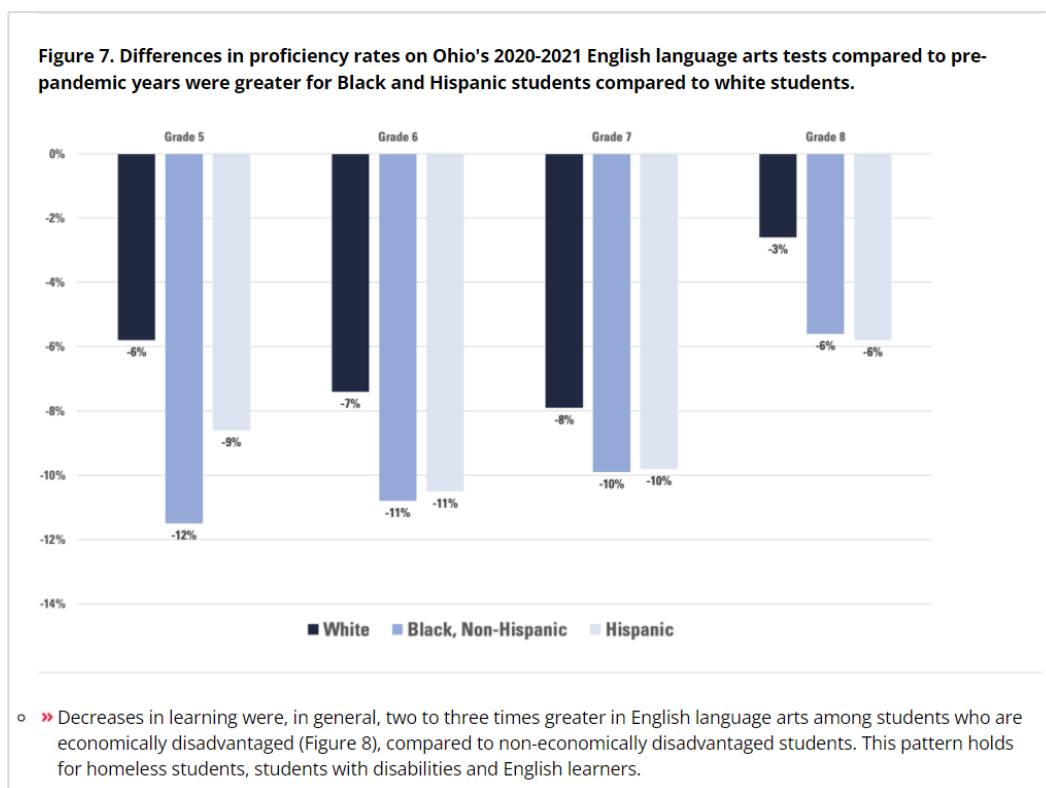


▶ Implement Face Coverings Policy



Effects of the COVID-19 Pandemic on Schools

[Ohio's Spring 2021 assessment results](#) indicate that historically underserved students experienced the greatest decreases in learning as a result of the pandemic, sometimes two to three times more than their peers. This is typical in situations where learning is disrupted. Differences among student subgroups were greater in English language arts than in math



Academic issues for K-12 students related to the COVID-19 pandemic

Test Taking

Most of Ohio's students participated in the state's Spring 2021 assessments, but many of the most vulnerable students did not.

Remote Education Models

At all grade levels, the decrease in learning was more pronounced among students in districts that primarily used a fully remote or hybrid education delivery model.

Third-Grade Scores

Based on Ohio's state assessments, third-grade students demonstrated roughly 20 percent less learning on average between November 2020 and April 2021 (between the fall and spring administration of the English language arts exam) as compared to students in prior years.



Epidemiology, Surveillance & Informatics

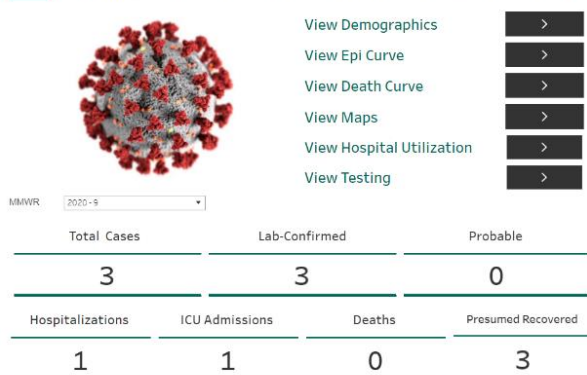
Case investigation is a fundamental component of public health's response to an illness outbreak. The purpose of investigating is to identify any potential contacts of the person who may have been exposed. Contacts are then notified of their status and interviewed about their activity. Through this process, the hope is to contain the spread of infection through isolation and quarantine, allowing sufficient recovery time for those who are ill or exposed.

Several members of our Prevention & Wellness team, including nurses and clinic staff, transitioned to working as covid case investigators or contact tracers as those functions became core elements of our daily covid response. Other agency staff pitched in throughout the days and evenings as time allowed. Public health students from Case Western Reserve University regularly filled slots and we brought in a temporary workforce in order to meet the incredible demand.



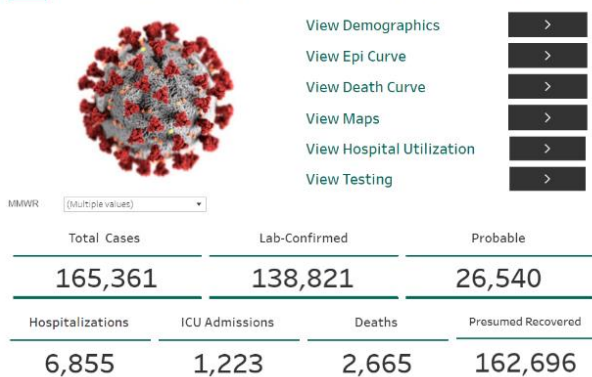
Case Data March 2020

CCBH Cuyahoga County Board of Health COVID-19 Dashboard



Case Data December 2021

CCBH Cuyahoga County Board of Health COVID-19 Dashboard



With COVID-19, the volume of investigations to be done was enormous. Technological coordination was critical to the maintenance of everyday operations. Our internal support team provided and maintained equipment, assured proper interface with state systems and created a workflow that allowed us to reach hundreds of thousands of people across the county. Over 92 weeks, we issued nearly **186,000** isolation letters and almost **92,000** quarantine letters. *

Schools remained a primary concern throughout the pandemic, particularly when vaccine was not available for children. Through the end of 2021, schools in our jurisdiction had reported **17,598** cases among students and staff as well as **602** clusters (defined as two or more confirmed cases who share an epidemiological connection) over a period of 69 weeks. We thank all those who were a part of the school reporting process for their commitment to the well-being of their communities.

Though the workload was immense, we are confident that this essential work helped to prevent illness and save lives.

*Figures do not account for every reported case, as interviews could not be completed with every reported case.



Drop Site

In collaboration with the Cuyahoga County Office of Emergency Management, we distributed over **23 million** pieces of PPE. This number includes all of the PPE that was assigned to us from the [Strategic National Stockpile \(SNS\)](#) through the [Ohio Department of Health](#), along with PPE that was purchased or donated. More than **4,000** unique orders were filled for first responders, long-term care facilities, schools and emergency purposes.





Pressers & Media

The need for reliable information was at an all-time high when the first cases of COVID-19 were realized in our county. At that point, we began a regular cycle of press updates that were initially presented three times weekly to accommodate demand. Eventually, we partnered with the county executive's office, sharing a broader perspective of health and pandemic-related issues.



Equity

Equity is defined as the quality of being fair and impartial.

As the pandemic unfolded, we saw a great deal of disparity in terms of who became ill, who had access to care and vaccine, and, tragically, who died. It was incumbent upon us as the county board of health to not only provide services as best we could, but to also find ways to connect with those most in need.

Covid vaccine had become increasingly more available during 2021, yet vaccination rates remained low in portions of our county. Honoring our long-standing commitment to incorporating equity into all phases of our daily operations, we developed a data-driven, community-based approach to providing vaccines in these areas.

Using data obtained from the Ohio Department of Health, we were able to target areas that were at higher risk based on an index of factors. Upon identifying those spaces, we reached out to our existing community partners to find locations that were best-suited to host a covid clinic. Our team of community clinic coordinators conducted site visits to assure that we were properly prepared in terms of logistics, resources and staffing.

The feedback we often received from clinic attendees is that they were grateful that we came to them instead of it usually being the other way around. That is our goal – to make it easier for people to make healthy choices. We believe that everyone deserves the opportunity to enjoy better health.

To see our monthly schedule of community clinics, [please visit our website](#).





CCBH Cuyahoga County Board of Health
Published by Ryan Towns · September 9, 2021 ·

CELEBRATE & VACCINATE!
Get A **FREE MEAL**
while supplies last

COMMUNITY · BACK-TO-SCHOOL STUDENTS · PARENTS

BLOCK PARTY

Thursday, September 9, 2021 · 3p–6p
McDonald's • Euclid Ave. & Eddy Rd. (East Cleveland)
Music | Prizes + Giveaways | Community Resources

GET YOUR Covid-19 Vaccine!
Managed Medicaid recipients receive \$100 gift card with their first shot!
(PRESENT YOUR BENEFITS CARD)

AVAILABLE VACCINE:
1st Dose Pfizer, ages 12+ yrs · 2nd Dose Appt. Scheduled On-site
1st Dose Moderna, ages 18+ yrs · 2nd Dose Appt. Scheduled On-site
(1) Dose Johnson & Johnson, 18+ yrs
**those under 18 must be accompanied by a parent or legal guardian to receive the vaccine*

Got Shots? AHMAAD DID!
Meet & Greet with Ahmaad Crump
WEAR MASKS, please, and CARRY TOOLS

WALK-UP OR PRE-REGISTER AT:
gettheshot.coronavirus.ohio.gov
or Call 2-1-1

NOAH UNIVERSITY HEALTHCARE MCDONALD'S CUYAHOGA COUNTY BOARD OF HEALTH UHC

CCBH Cuyahoga County Board of Health
Published by Erin Lark · March 1, 2021 ·

Thank you to [The Official "THE WORD" Church Page](#) for hosting Sunday's vaccine event.

R.A. Vernon, D.Min.
The Word Church, Cleveland, Ohio

The Official "THE WORD" Church Page with Fox 8 News.
Paid Partnership · February 28, 2021 ·

1,579 people vaccinated at The Word Church's Main Campus today!

We're so blessed to partner with [Cuyahoga County Board of Health](#) in getting this vaccine into t... [See more](#)

CCBH Cuyahoga County Board of Health
Published by Buffer · December 28, 2020 ·

Matty Willz talks with CCBH today at 12pm on [Z107.9 Cleveland FB LIVE!](#) Find out what's a myth, what's the real and what you can do to help stop the spread of COVID!

CUYAHOGA COUNTY BOARD OF HEALTH
WEEKLY PRESS BRIEFING WITH MATTY WILLZ
CUYAHOGA COUNTY BOARD OF HEALTH
YOUR TRUSTED SOURCE FOR PUBLIC HEALTH INFORMATION

Z107.9

MetroHealth **YOUNG LATINO NETWORK** **CUYAHOGA COUNTY BOARD OF HEALTH**
YOUR TRUSTED SOURCE FOR PUBLIC HEALTH INFORMATION

COVID-19 Community Testing

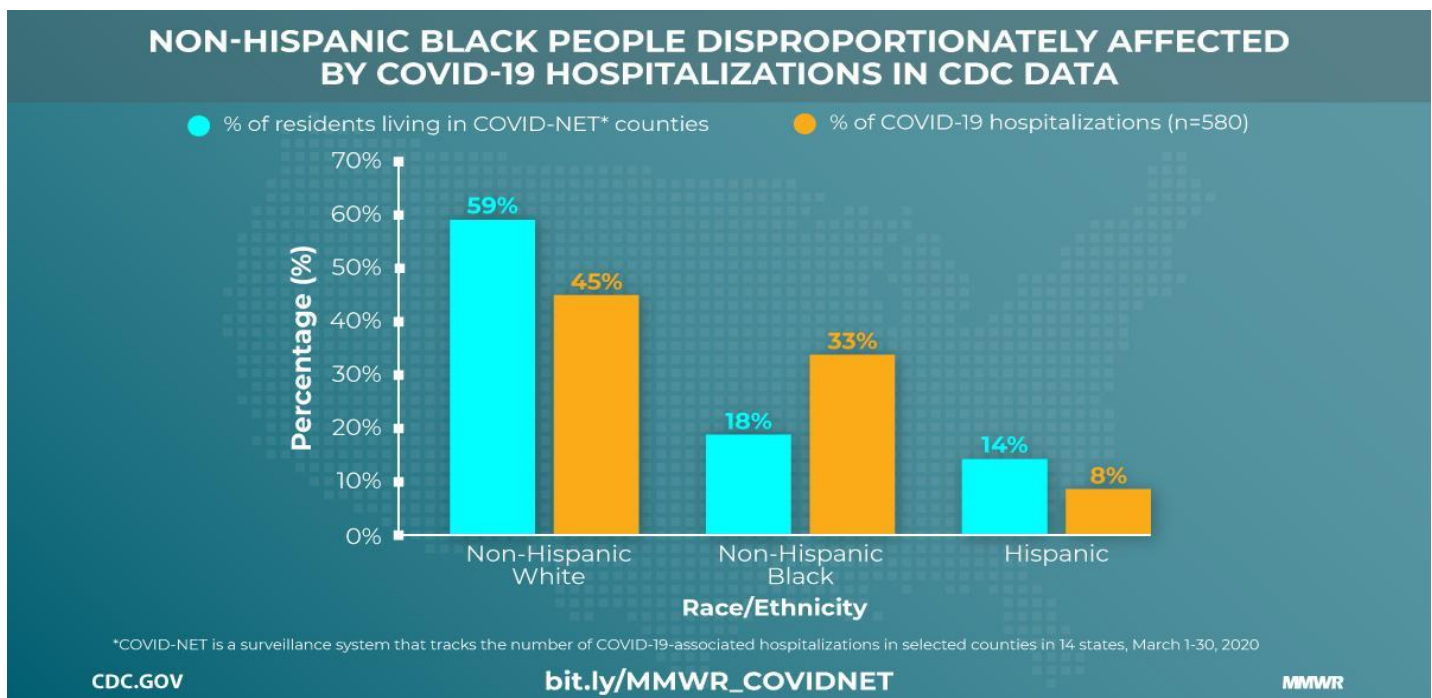
Hosted in Partnership with the **Young Latino Network**
3167 Fulton Road, Cleveland, OH 44109
You must pre-register to get tested.

Register online: <https://ccbh-poi-testing.azurewebsites.net>
or call 216-957-3939, Tuesday – Friday, 8:30 a.m. – 4 p.m.

Date	Time	Registration Code
Thursday, October 28	9:00 a.m. – 11:00 a.m.	YOUNG1

Testing will be provided by drive-thru or walk-up for individuals 2 and older. Youth must have guardian with them to receive testing. Masks are required.

Effects of the COVID-19 Pandemic on Equity



Illness Outcomes


Medical Director Dr. Heidi Gullett
CCBH press briefing
4.10.20

“We know that communities of color in our community and others across the nation have different opportunities, and those opportunities relate back to systems and structures and bias that have existed in our country for many, many, many years.”


“Contemporary injustices around differences in life expectancy and other health outcomes have occurred in our community long before COVID-19 arrived, and they also set up members of our community and communities of color here for different outcomes for an emerging infectious disease like COVID-19.”


Food Security

Supermarket access and “food deserts” deeply affect day-to-day living, particularly in lower-income neighborhoods. Our agency has worked for many years to improve access to high quality and affordable supermarkets in affected areas across Cuyahoga County. During the pandemic, we have seen food security become a greater issue both [locally](#) and [nationwide](#).



Greater Cleveland Food Bank
MEMBER OF FEEDING AMERICA

[Get Help](#)
[Give Help](#)
[DONATE](#)




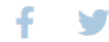
Help Fight Hunger
Your generosity makes all the difference.

2x
the pandemic has doubled the number of new clients we've seen over the past year

154,000+
households served since the start of the pandemic

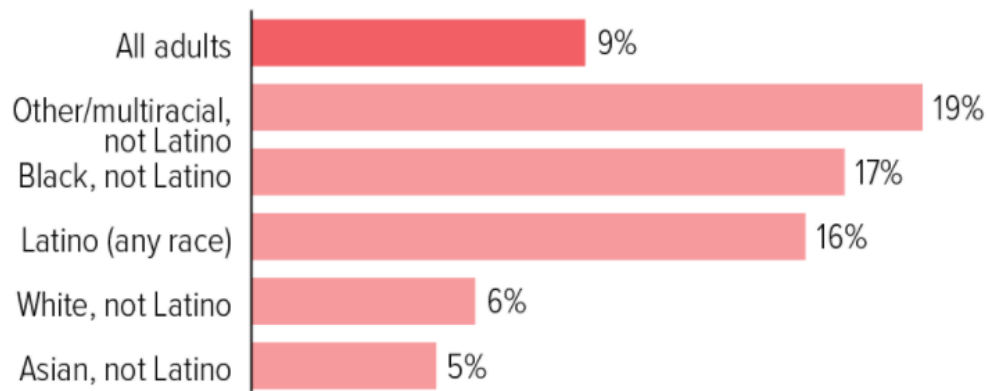
62,000+
households visited an emergency feeding program for the first time

FIGURE 4



Households of Color Likelier to Lack Sufficient Food During Pandemic

Share of adults saying that their household sometimes or often did not have enough to eat in the last 7 days, October 2021



Note: Other/multiracial, not Latino = people identifying as American Indian, Alaska Native, Native Hawaiian or Pacific Islander, or more than one race. Percentages are based on reporting distributions and do not include individuals who did not respond to the question.

Source: CBPP analysis of Census Bureau Household Pulse Survey tables for September 29 - October 11, 2021



COVID-19 Testing

Following a period early in the pandemic where testing supplies were in low supply and high demand, we were able to begin offering community testing programs. MetroHealth soon became our testing partner, providing full-scale staffing and coordination. Recruiting assistance came from several community volunteer groups, including A Vision of Change in East Cleveland and The Word Church in Warrensville Heights.

As we would eventually do with community-based vaccine clinics, our internal team connected with neighborhood partners to help us determine the best times and locations for our drive-thru testing operations. In keeping with our data-driven approach, we looked at areas where access to pharmacies and stores was limited so that we could offer opportunities appropriately within the community.

Earlier in the year, the state government had distributed thousands of rapid test kits to health departments and other high-profile community locations. They, in turn, shared them with the public and groups that were at high risk, such as group homes, shelters, and correctional facilities. Our friends at the Cuyahoga County Public Library were instrumental in providing kits to residents throughout our county.





Resource Distribution Program for Families with COVID-19

Our Resource Distribution Program delivered basic supplies to homes in Cuyahoga County, focusing on low-income families and families who had challenges accessing essential items while isolating or quarantining.

Following a case investigation interview where a family indicated need, our Resource Coordination team followed up by phone to organize a delivery to the family's door. Items delivered included food pantry bundles, grocery gift cards, household cleaning supplies, personal protective equipment (PPE), thermometers and prescription medication.

1,600 total deliveries made

80% included food from local food pantries and grocery gift cards

75% included cleaning supplies and PPE (face coverings)

24% included thermometers

Local Food Pantry Partners

Greater Cleveland Food Bank

15500 South Waterloo Road, Cleveland

Lee/Seville Hunger Center

16718 Miles Avenue, Cleveland

Parma Christian Church

7000 Ridge Road, Parma

Parma Heights Food Pantry

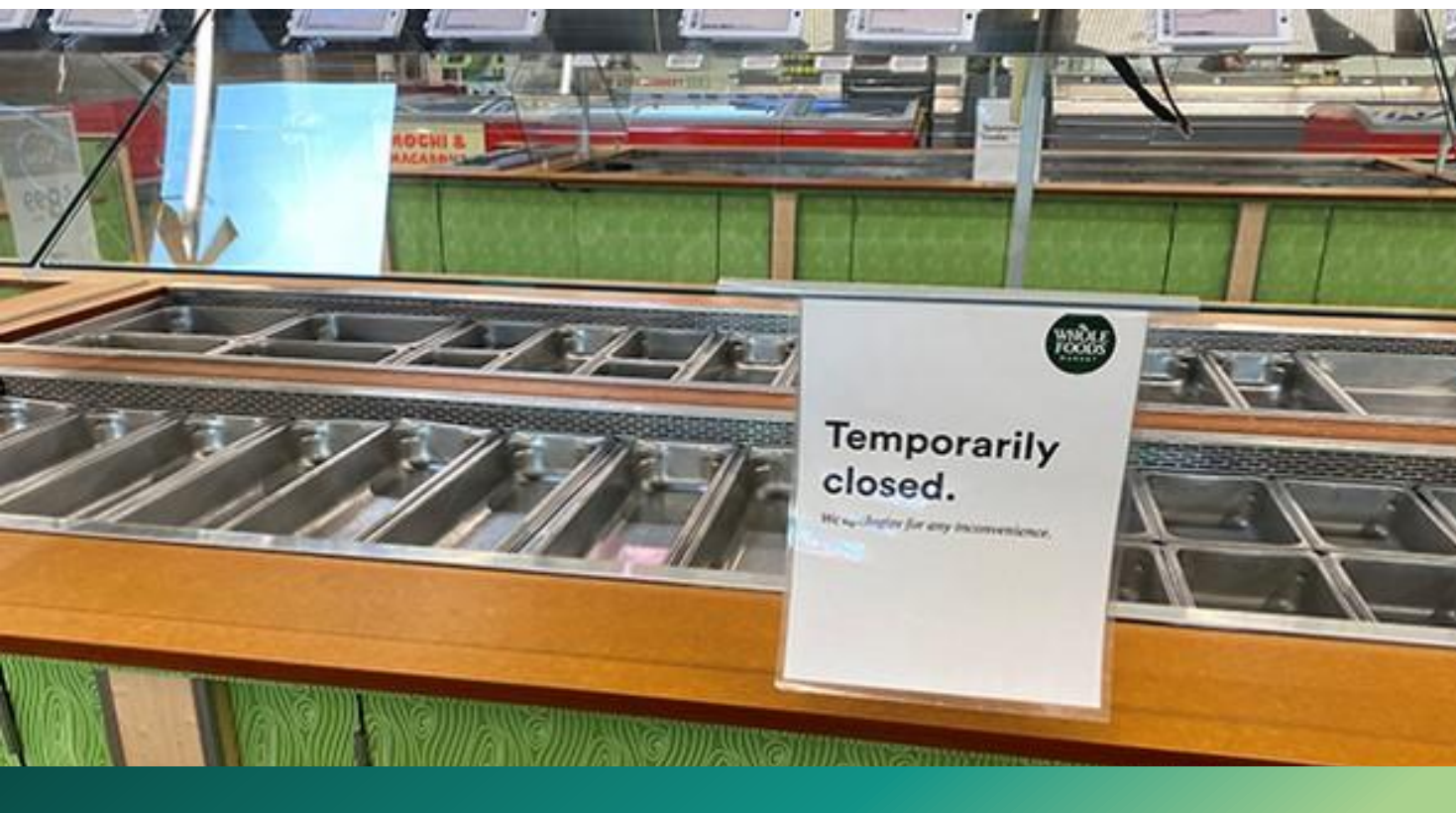
6369 Pearl Road, Parma Heights

St. Vincent de Paul Pantry

2145 Broadview Road, Cleveland

We thank the food pantry operators, local vendors, volunteers and members of our staff who provided energy and support for this impactful program. Their commitment to the community in the midst of a global pandemic was most admirable.





Food Protection

Our Environmental Public Health (EPH) inspectors were tasked with enforcement of the governor's orders for essential businesses like restaurants, grocery stores, gas stations and any other facility that sold food. Most, if not all, of their time during the first several months of the pandemic was spent either in our Covid Call Center or responding to complaints.

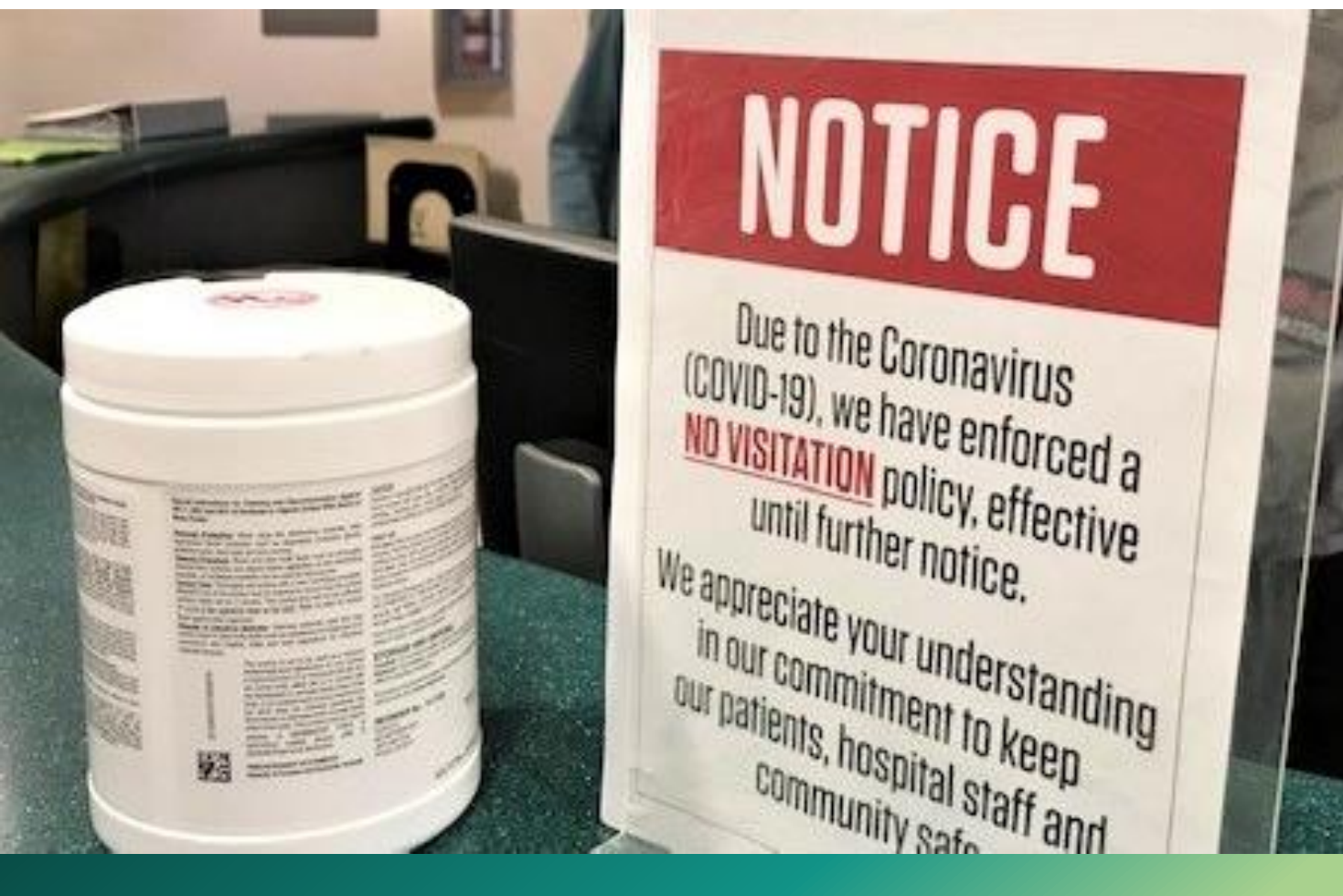
Issues ranged from improper social distancing to a lack of hand hygiene supplies to the proper exclusion of symptomatic employees and their close contacts. As part of our continuity of operations plan, general complaints, illness complaints and confirmed gastrointestinal illnesses were fully investigated.



Many essential workers were concerned about potential exposure and were anxious to receive the vaccine when it became available. EPH staff acted as public health educators by explaining complex scenarios for quarantine and isolation of exposed or ill employees.

Forced to provide equal or additional services with fewer workers, changes came to the food industry. Among them were online ordering, expanded delivery services, customer grab-n-go stations, robot delivery and curbside pickup. These advances effectively reduced the need for personal interaction and helped to [establish new operational standards](#).

The food protection unit has now resumed its regular inspection schedule and is again providing [in-person food safety education offerings](#). Visit our website to [view inspection reports from local operators](#).



Environmental Risk Assessments

Over a decade ago, we established a medical residency program in collaboration with Case Western Reserve University (CWRU) whereby we annually offer public health education and opportunities to a group of physicians in order to complement their academic experience. In exchange, they offer us their medically-based insights about everyday public health issues. Little did we know how valuable that partnership would prove to be in dealing with COVID-19.

During the early stages of the pandemic, we saw an inordinate amount of illness and fatalities within the long-term care community. In the absence of vaccines, we had to offer an alternative intervention in order to interrupt disease transmission. Our environmental team proposed the idea of ERAs, or environmental risk assessments, as the solution.

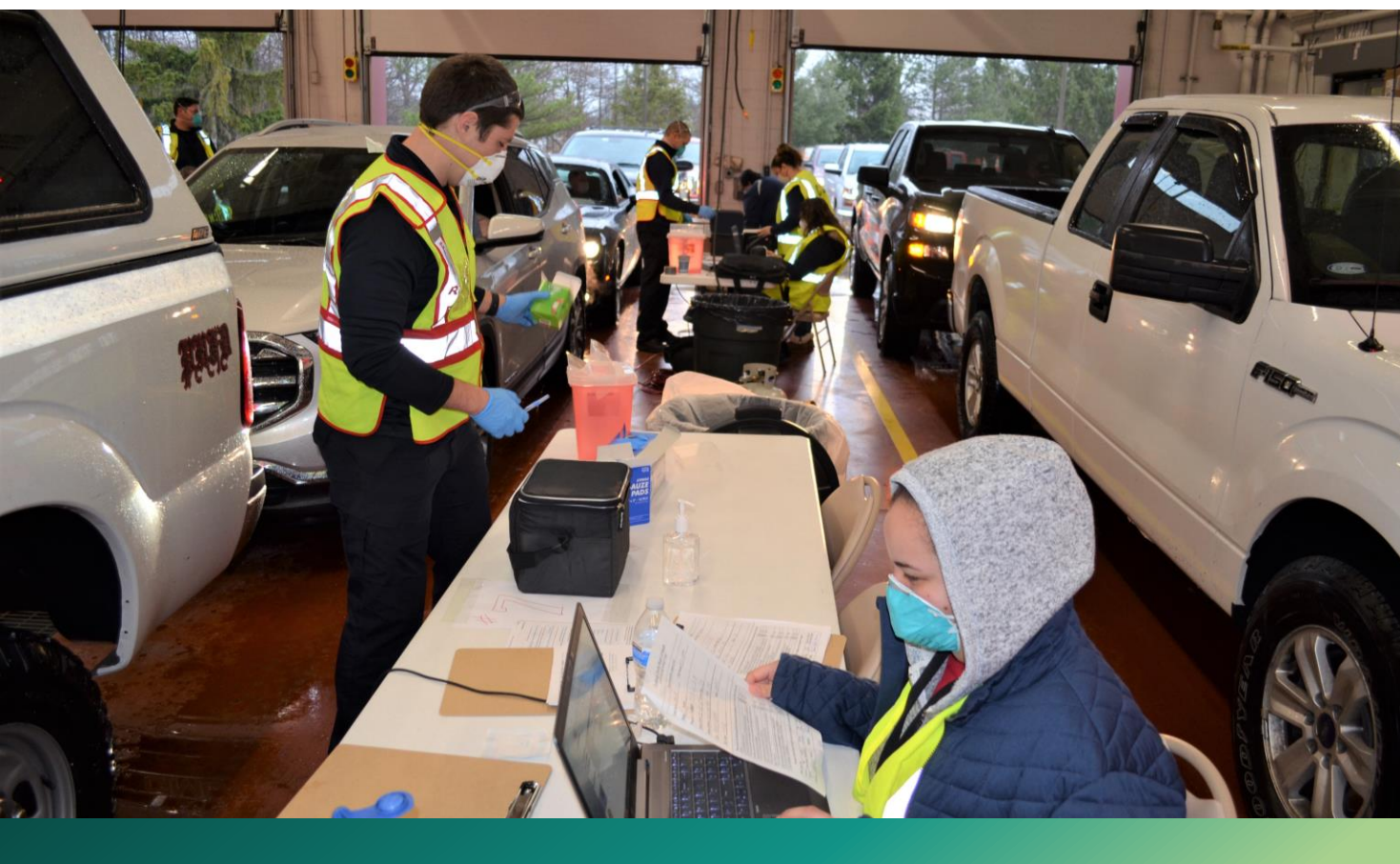


In cooperation with our agency medical director and several past and present members of the CWRU residency program, we engaged dozens of local facilities by phone to properly evaluate their challenging situations. State and local healthcare officials were also included to offer input. Following these calls, many of those places with higher-level issues arranged for in-person assessments with our team.

The CWRU doctors, who agreed to accompany our staff on site visits, advised about exposure risk and personal protective equipment while also identifying items of medical concern. Our environmental team examined potential pathways for transmission, presented mitigation strategies and reviewed proper hygienic practices. A comprehensive post-assessment report containing educational recommendations and resources was issued to each facility.

We carried out **52** ERAs within our jurisdiction, most of which occurred in the pre-vaccine or early vaccine phases of the pandemic. Based on present conditions, we can now typically offer sufficient counsel by phone or online.

As a public health agency, we are pleased to have been able to provide guidance, data and resources to those caring for our vulnerable populations. As public health professionals, we are proud to have assumed this role on behalf of those whose health was at greatest risk.



CCBH COVID-19 Clinics

Upon receiving our first batches of Moderna COVID-19 vaccine in late December 2020, we began to vaccinate emergency medical services (EMS) responders, firefighters and healthcare workers, who were among those eligible in Ohio's Phase 1A, the first of nine stages of statewide vaccine delivery.

Over the next 12 months, we went on to conduct **189** covid vaccine clinics at **48** different locations, administering more than **59,000** doses. We offered mass vaccination sites, where we served nearly **2,000** people in one day, as well as community-based clinics designed for specific neighborhoods and municipalities.

Among the areas visited were:

Beachwood	East Cleveland	Parma
Bedford Heights	Euclid	Warrensville
Berea	Garfield Heights	Heights
Brecksville	Maple Heights	Westlake
Brook Park	Mayfield Heights	Woodmere
Brooklyn	Newburgh	
Cleveland	Heights	
Cleveland	North Randall	
Heights	Oakwood	

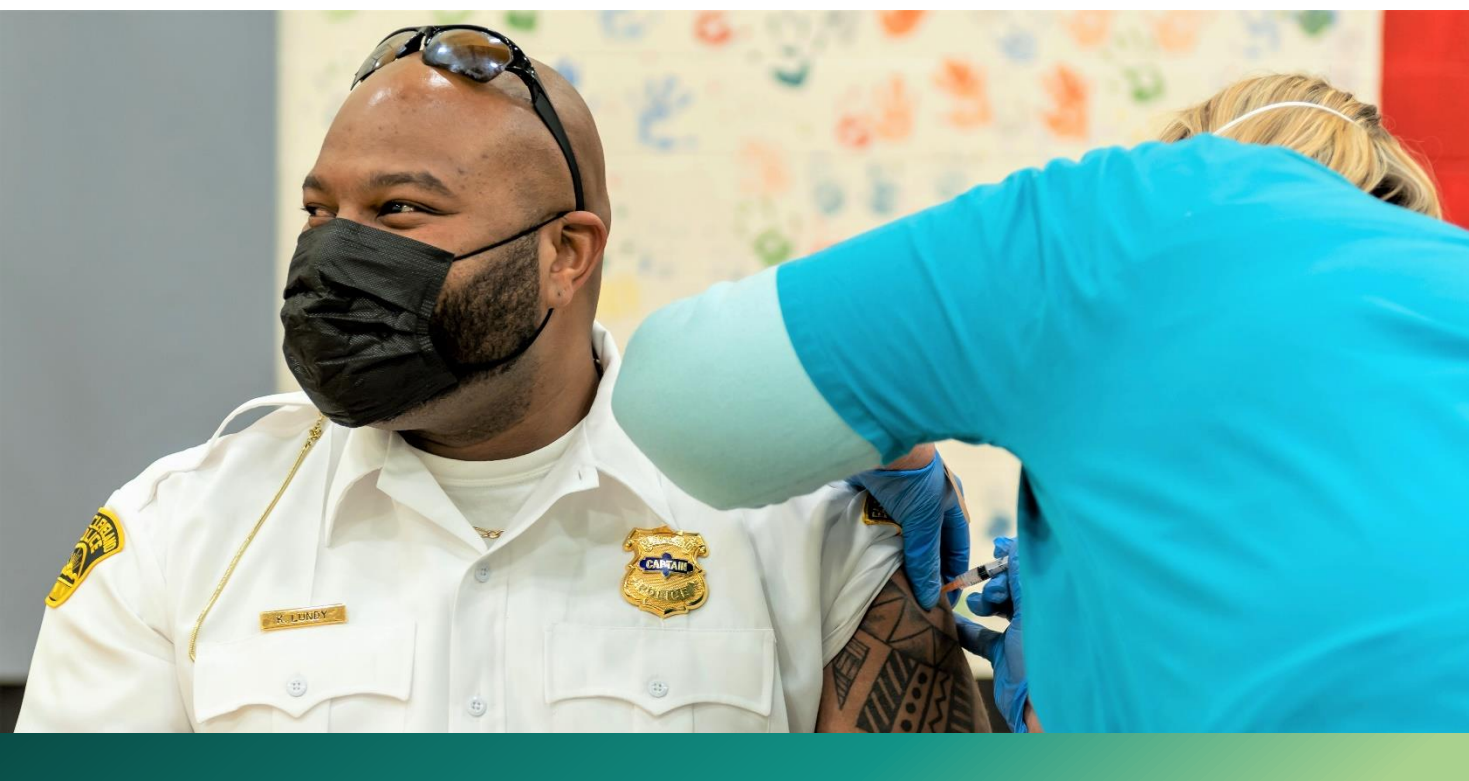


Our local safety forces, CERT (community emergency response team) members and Medical Reserve Corps volunteers were critical to the operation and success of our clinics. They worked alongside our staff in the frigid temperatures at outdoor drive-thru stations and persisted in full PPE during the summer heat, all to deliver vaccine at a time when they were needed most.

Our rotation of travel nurses also excelled in staffing and managing several of our clinic sites. They consistently showed kindness and compassion to attendees under a variety of challenging conditions.

If you were one of the thousands of people that we served, we thank you for your patience as you waited in your car or stood in line to receive your vaccination. We encourage you to keep up with your vaccines, covid and otherwise, to protect your health and the health of those around you.





Community COVID-19 Clinics

The goal of our community-based clinic approach is to physically increase access by bringing additional resources to local neighborhoods. Those include accurate information, reliable vaccines and sound guidance from trained public health professionals.

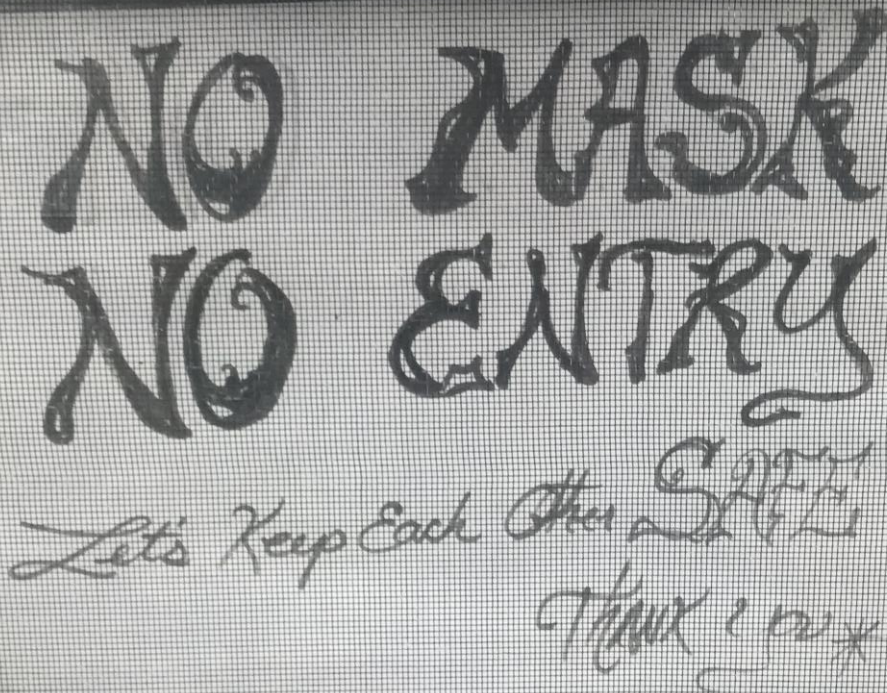
Just as critical are the relationships we have cultivated over years of working in our communities. The cooperation of city officials, social service providers, local vendors and the faith-based community are essential to any success we would hope to have. Discussing something as personal as health choices during a global pandemic can be difficult. We are truly grateful to those respected community members across the county who have supported our clinics and the need for vaccination.

We were pleased to find that community-based events, which encourage walk-in clients as opposed to pre-registration only clinics, were productive venues for dispensing covid vaccines. With libraries, radio stations, restaurants and the Cleveland Metroparks Zoo among the hosts for these events, we experienced strong turnout and uptake.

A common sentiment from attendees was their preference to come to our event and have fun instead of standing in line at a pharmacy. Many heard about the events through ads or interviews on local radio. Others noted the offer of a \$100 gift card for their first dose as a motivator to stop by. Social media was also cited as a source of information.

One of the most important aspects of the process is the dialogue we have with our clients. It is our chance to interact and learn about their fears and hesitancy. We show compassion and understanding as we inform them about healthy options. The two-way exchange has opened doors and allowed for a space to build trust. By being able to save someone from illness caused by a vaccine-preventable disease, we are making true public health connections.





NO MASK
NO ENTRY
Let's Keep Each Other SAFE
Thank you

Homebound Vaccines

In conjunction with Western Reserve Area Agency on Aging, MetroHealth, ProLink, local fire departments and other area partners, we were proud to provide covid vaccines for the homebound community. Our clinic staff assisted with coordinating appointments and administering doses in support of the larger countywide efforts.

Health Commissioner Terry Allan explains why it is so important for this audience to receive attention.

“These folks could be seniors, they could be folks who are disabled, and there may be caregivers in the home that are there and they really aren't able to get out themselves so much because they're committed to that care.”

He went on to explain our role in connecting homebound residents to service.

“We saw this as a gap-filling opportunity because the home health agencies are also going into homes and doing vaccination for their clients. We're helping to reach those who have fallen through the cracks and don't have access to those services.”

A certain amount of trust is needed for the vaccine process to take place between provider and client. It is a different level of trust when someone lets you enter their home.

“It's been an extremely rewarding experience. The clients are extremely grateful and very welcoming when we come to their homes,” said Amy Geiss, CCBH nursing supervisor.

To date, more than **1,400** doses (first, second, booster) have been given out under this initiative.

[***Thank you to Jade Jarvis and News5 Cleveland for providing the quotes used in this story.**](#)

Monthly covid clinic schedule

LATEST NEWS

HIV/STI Reporting Find a Covid Vaccine Local Covid Testing CCBH Mask Requirements Covid Data for Ohio HIV/STI Reporting

Website

One of our most important communication tools during the pandemic was our website.

Following a timely revision of our web presence in 2019, we soon found ourselves well-positioned to accommodate the extraordinary need for information created by COVID-19.

Practically overnight, we experienced tremendous increases in web traffic. Our page views tripled from 2019 through 2020 and then quintupled from 2020 through 2021.

The expanded depth and utility of our site was beneficial not only to visitors, but also our own team. It became a valuable reference tool for our field staff, call center operators and clinic workforce.

COVID-19: Vaccination Card – How to Replace It

Vaccine	Product Name/Manufacturer	Lot Number	Date	Healthcare Professional or Clinic Site
1 st Dose COVID-19			mm / dd / yy	
2 nd Dose COVID-19			mm / dd / yy	
Other			mm / dd / yy	
Other			mm / dd / yy	

Need a Copy of Your COVID-19 Vaccination Record?

If you are a Cuyahoga County resident or participated in a Cuyahoga County Board of Health vaccination event and need a replacement vaccine record, [please click here to complete the written authorization of release form.](#)

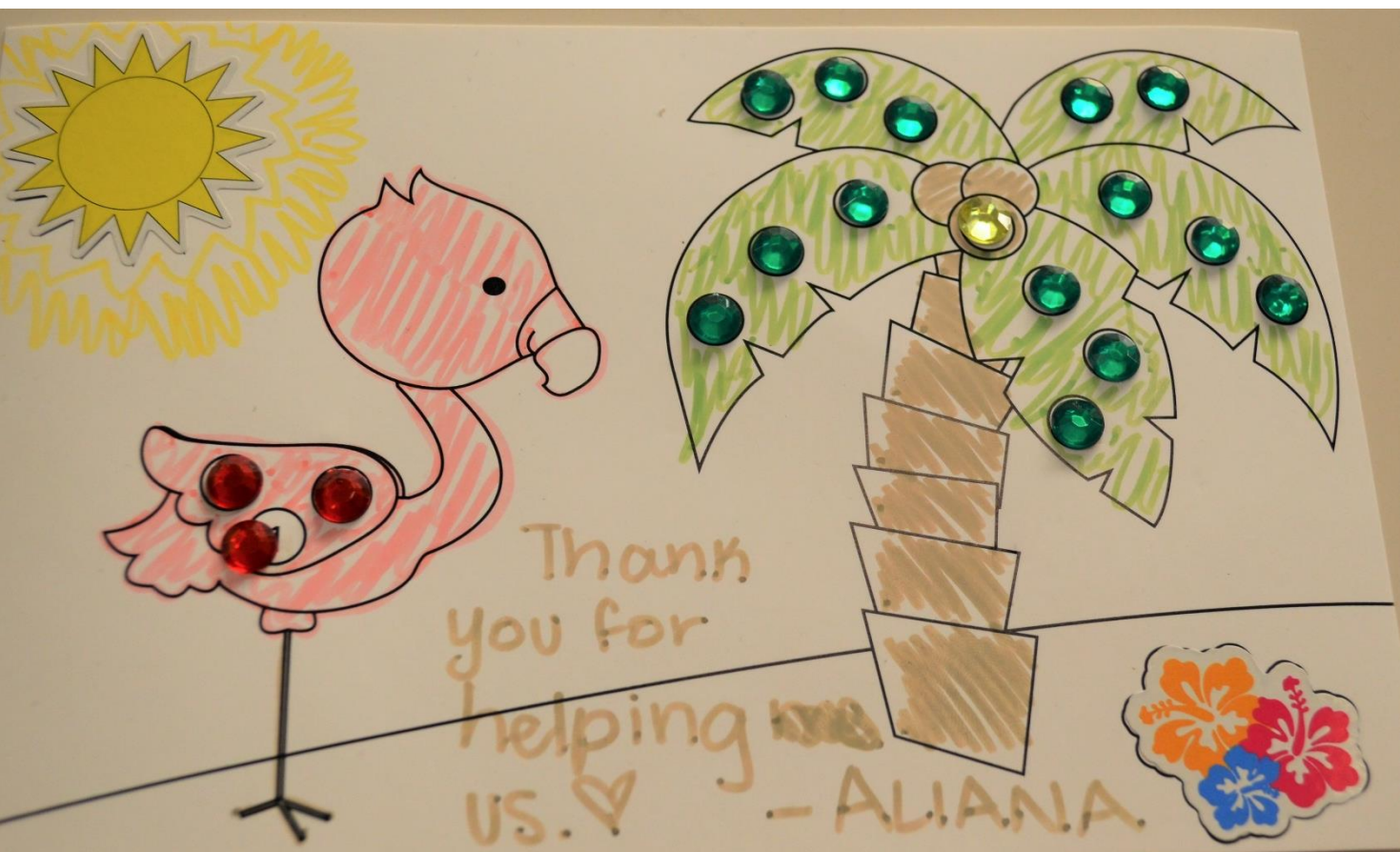
COVID-19: If You Think You Are Sick



Covid Symptoms

Fever of greater than 100.4 F° and lower respiratory tract issues such as cough and shortness of breath.

Other symptoms may include body aches, chills, diarrhea, fatigue, nausea and loss of smell and/or taste.



Gratitude

When the pandemic began, we knew that it was time for us as public health workers to step up. Much like Ebola changed the future of personal protective equipment and 9/11 forever altered the way we handle emergency preparedness, COVID-19 was a game-changer.

In keeping with our commitment to the health and well-being of everyone we serve, we approached the pandemic without hesitation and with a sense of urgency that continues to this day. Ours is a profession of service, to individuals and communities, to organizations

and industries, to today, tomorrow and the future. That is why we have persevered for over two years and have not looked back.

We would like to take this moment to thank everyone who has reached out to us to show their gratitude for our efforts. Please know that we are just as grateful for the cooperation and support you have shown, which has brought us all to a better place.

Thank You

A Vision of Change
Accenture
ADAMHS Board of Cuyahoga County
Better Health Partnership
Brecksville-Broadview Heights City Schools
Case Western Reserve University EMS
CDC Foundation
Center for Health Affairs
Centers for Disease Control and Prevention
Chagrin Valley Dispatch
Cleveland Browns
Cleveland Clergy Alliance
Cleveland Clinic
Cleveland Department of Public Health
Cleveland Hope
Cuyahoga County Board of Developmental Disabilities
Cuyahoga County Community College
Cuyahoga County Council
Cuyahoga County Department of Health and Human Services
Cuyahoga County Department of Public Safety & Justice Services
Cuyahoga County Department of Public Works
Cuyahoga County Division of Senior and Adult Services
Cuyahoga County Executive Armond Budish
Cuyahoga County Fairgrounds
Cuyahoga County Office of Emergency Management
Cuyahoga County Public Library
Educational Service Center of Northeast Ohio & School Districts
Fairhill Partners
Global Cleveland
Greater Cleveland Congregations
Greater Cleveland Regional Transit Authority
Hawken Schools
Heather Perry
Holy Spirit Catholic Church
Jimmy Malone
Marc's Stores
Maxim Healthcare Services
Mayfield City School District
Mayors & City Managers Association
Medical Reserve Corps
Medwish
MetroHealth
Mount Zion Church – Oakwood
Mount Zion Fellowship - Highland Hills
MyCom
Neighborhood Family Practice
Nick Phillips
North-Eastern Ohio Fire Chiefs' Association
Northeast Ohio Alliance for Hope
Northeast Ohio Regional Fusion Center
Northeast Ohio Regional Sewer District
Ohio Department of Health
Ohio E-Check Stations – Euclid & Warrensville Heights
Ohio Governor Mike DeWine
Ohio National Guard
Parma Islamic Center
ProLink Staffing
Public Consulting Group
Qualtrics
Radio One - Urban One
Red Cross
Salvation Army of Greater Cleveland
Solon Chamber of Commerce
St. Vincent Charity Medical Center
United Way of Greater Cleveland
University Hospitals
University Settlement
US Together
Verizon
Young Latino Network
Weekley's Mailing Service
Western Reserve Area Agency on Aging
Word Church
Zed Digital

Thank You

Case Western Reserve University Physician Team

Assim AlAbdulKader, MD, MPH
Amina Egwiekhor, MD, MPH
Adeola Fakolade, MD, MPH
Prakash Ganesh, MD, MPH
Melanie Golembiewski, MD
Heidi Gullett, MD, MPH
Jill Miracle, MD, MPH
Rachel Pope, MD, MPH
Johnie Rose, MD, PhD
Kurt Stange, MD, PhD
Andrea Szabo, MD
Pauline Terebuh, MD, MPH
Wail Yar, MD, MPH

Community Emergency Response Teams (CERT)

Berea
Brecksville-Broadview Heights
Case Western Reserve University
Garfield Heights
Middleburg Heights
North Royalton
Olmsted
Parma
Pepper Pike
Quad City
Shaker Heights
Strongsville
Tri-Community/Mayfield
West Shore

Fire Departments

Beachwood
Bedford Heights
Berea

Brecksville
Broadview Heights
Chagrin Falls
Cleveland Heights
East Cleveland
Euclid
Fairview Park
Gates Mills
Independence
Lakewood
Lyndhurst
Mayfield Heights
Mayfield Village
Middleburg Heights
Olmsted Falls
Olmsted Township
Parma
Richmond Heights
Rocky River
Shaker Heights
South Euclid
University Heights
Warrensville Heights
Westlake

Law Enforcement Agencies

Beachwood Police
Berea Police
Bratenahl Police
Cleveland Heights Police
Cuyahoga County Sheriff's Office
East Cleveland Police
Independence Police
Mayfield Village Police
Middleburg Heights Police
Ohio State Highway Patrol
Olmsted Falls Police
Solon Police
Tri-C Police
Westlake Police

Leadership



Leadership Team

Becki Burke, BA, PHR
Executive Assistant

Dr. Heidi Gullett, MD, MPH
Medical Director

Martha Halko, MS, RD, LD
Co-Director, Prevention and Wellness

Renee Raffalli, MPA
Performance and Quality Administrator

Rick Novickis, MPH, REHS
Director, Environmental Health

Najeebah Shine, MS, RD, LD
Director, Organizational Development

John Sobolewski, REHS
Deputy Director, Environmental Health

Romona Brazile, BSN, BA, RN
Co-Director, Prevention and Wellness

Wallace Chambers, MHA, REHS
Deputy Director, Environmental Health

Judy Wirsching
Chief Financial Officer

Terry Allan, MPH
Health Commissioner

Not pictured:
Jana Rush, MA, MPH
Director, Epidemiology, Surveillance and Informatics



Board Members

Terry Allan
Health Commissioner, Board Secretary

Doug Wang

Debbie Moss, Esq

Gregory Hall, MD

Sherrie Dixon Williams, MD

James T. Gatt

Communities Served

Bay Village	Gates Mills	Olmsted Township
Beachwood	Glenwillow	Orange Village
Bedford	Highland Heights	Parma
Bedford Heights	Highland Hills	Parma Heights
Bentleyville	Hunting Valley	Pepper Pike
Berea	Independence	Richmond Heights
Bratenahl	Lakewood	Rocky River
Brecksville	Linndale	Seven Hills
Broadview Heights	Lyndhurst	Shaker Heights
Brooklyn	Maple Heights	Solon
Brooklyn Heights	Mayfield Heights	South Euclid
Brook Park	Mayfield Village	Strongsville
Chagrin Falls Township	Middleburg Heights	University Heights
Chagrin Falls Village	Moreland Hills	Valley View
Cleveland Heights	Newburgh Heights	Walton Hills
Cuyahoga Heights	North Olmsted	Warrensville Heights
East Cleveland	North Randall	Westlake
Euclid	North Royalton	Woodmere
Fairview Park	Oakwood Village	
Garfield Heights	Olmsted Falls	

Thank You

From the Health Commissioner to the CCBH Staff

I want to thank each of you for your countless contributions during this most challenging time in history. The dedication, sacrifice, and selflessness you showed on behalf of our communities will remain an inspiration to me. Through all of the difficult times, and there have been many, remember that we are a force for good. The steps we take every day are saving lives. There can be no more noble a cause.

- Terry



2021 CCBH Staff

Gloria Agosto	Tom Fink	Erin Lark	Jana Rush
Lindsey Akpo-Esambe	Sheryl Fleury	Danielle LeGallee	Sarah Sarbiewski
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Wallace Chambers	Rebecca Jewell	Alison Patrick	Ken Uhlik
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Priscilla Clark	Dimitra Karavokirakis	Mary Poremba	Chris Vento
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Megan Conklin	Sarah Kevany	Lori Quirino	Somer Walker
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Ann Dunham	Melissa Kolenz	Denise Romano	Darlene Williams
Brandy Eaton	Stacey Koltas	Ashley Ruminski	Judy Wirsching
Erin Elszasz	Layla Lahoud		Scott Zele
Brittanie Evans	Paola Laracuenta		Shelley Zelinski
			Bonnie Ziganti



CCBH Cuyahoga County Board of Health
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Tell us why you decided to get vaccinated? Share your experience with us! #Vaccine2021CLE #RidTheVidCCBH #VaccineForAllCCBH

I GOT MY COVID-19 VACCINE!
Share
your experience with us!
Tell us why you decided to get vaccinated today.

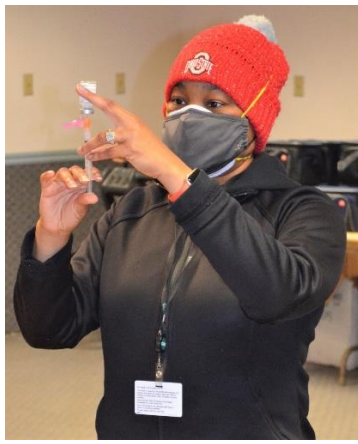
Tag CCBH on your social media posts!

f @CCBH_CTO @CCBH_HHS @CCBH_HHS @CCBH_HHS

REMEMBER...
Even after you get your COVID-19 vaccine, keep protecting yourself by wearing your hands often, socially distancing and wearing a mask!

CUYAHOGA COUNTY BOARD OF HEALTH
1000 Lakeside Blvd., Suite 1000, Cleveland, OH 44114





CUYAHOGA COUNTY
BOARD OF HEALTH
YOUR TRUSTED SOURCE FOR PUBLIC HEALTH INFORMATION

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