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Innovative Idea: Lorain County Entities Partner to Get Shots in Arms

Health department, small manufacturer, and community center partner to vaccinate more than 1,000 people

COLUMBUS – Several Lorain County partners recently collaborated to vaccinate more than 1,000 people with first doses of the COVID-19 vaccine.

The initiative grew from David Covell, MPH, RS, Lorain County Health Commissioner's regular COVID-19 conference call with local community leaders. During that call, the idea of providing on-site clinics for employees at businesses was discussed. Avient, a manufacturer of thermoplastics and polymer based in Avon Lake, jumped at the opportunity to host a clinic for employees. The team determined that the Avient facility wasn't the right place to host the clinic because of safety concerns. Working together, Lorain County Public Health and Avient arranged for the local recreation center to host the clinic for Avient employees. Avon Lake Mayor Gregory Zilka helped provide free transportation to the recreation center.

Registration for the clinic was open to Avient employees for a week, and then registration was opened up to the general public. The event was a huge success. More than 1,000 people were vaccinated and illustrates exceptional outcomes when local partners come together to fight COVID-19.

Innovative Ideas is a new feature from the Ohio Department of Health highlighting ways providers and organizations are encouraging COVID-19 vaccinations. You can find more featured examples on the Ohio Department of Health's Innovative Ideas page at <https://coronavirus.ohio.gov/wps/portal/gov/covid-19/healthcare-providers-and-local-health-districts/innovative-ideas>.

If you are interested in hosting your own clinic, the Ohio Department of Health has a toolkit for businesses and organizations available at <https://coronavirus.ohio.gov/wps/portal/gov/covid-19/covid-19-vaccination-program/businesses-and-organizations>. This toolkit contains a collection of resources vaccine providers and Ohio employers and organizations can consider using to build partnerships across the state to offer convenient vaccinations to their employees and members.

All Ohioans age 16 and older are currently eligible to be vaccinated. Ohioans can find additional vaccination opportunities and schedule appointments by visiting gettheshot.coronavirus.ohio.gov or by calling 1-833-4-ASK-ODH (1-833-427-5634). Walk-in appointments are available at many providers statewide. Anyone with questions regarding COVID-19 vaccination within the state of Ohio can learn more at coronavirus.ohio.gov/vaccine.

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