Media Advisory

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Lorain County Public Health Partners with Grocery Stores Offering Store Gift Cards as COVID-19 Vaccination Incentive
Health department selects grocery stores in areas with lowest vaccination rates

COLUMBUS – Lorain County Public Health recently partnered with two local grocery stores to host clinics in zip codes with the lowest COVID-19 vaccination rates in the county. Grocery store staff and public health coordinated clinic planning and in-store promotions. Anyone who chose to get a vaccine on-site received a store gift card as incentive for vaccination.

These COVID-19 vaccination clinics were held on June 12 at Fligner's Market in Lorain and Apples Market in Sheffield Township. The health department vaccinated 85 people at Fligner's Market and 58 people at Apples Market.

Each person vaccinated received a $20 grocery store gift card. The Community Foundation of Lorain County provided this incentive for vaccination.

"We appreciate that the Community Foundation provided $20 grocery store gift cards to each person that got vaccinated during the clinics," said David Covell, MPH, RS, health commissioner at Lorain County Public Health. We also want to thank the staff at Apples and Fligner's for helping us make COVID-19 vaccines easier to get."

Innovative Ideas is a 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 a vaccination 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 12 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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