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Contact: ODH Office of Communications (614) 644-8562
Hamilton County Public Health: Mike Samet (513) 946-7873

Hamilton County Public Health Explores Creative Partnerships to Bring Vaccines to Residents

Health department partnered with breweries, movie theaters, and local Board of Election to provide shots

COLUMBUS – Hamilton County Public Health (HCPH) has been working with local partners to find creative ways to reach Hamilton County residents where they are for COVID-19 vaccinations.

"At this stage of the vaccination campaign, we are working to meet people where they are," said Hamilton County Health Commissioner Greg Kesterman. "We continue to look for creative ways to deliver vaccines – we are going to summer festivals, neighborhood events, underserved communities, county parks – anywhere we can find people in need of vaccination. There is no one in Hamilton County more than 10 minutes away from a vaccination opportunity."

As one of their main clinics, HCPH partnered with the Hamilton County Board of Elections to host an ongoing mass vaccination clinic, where they were able to vaccinate several thousand residents over a period of several months. For those who were unable to make it to a clinic, HCPH also partnered with local fire departments. Fire departments and first responders administered 2,200 vaccines, including 400 vaccines to homebound residents.

HCPH also partnered with many local businesses to help reach Hamilton County residents. To help younger residents access vaccinations in a convenient way, HCPH worked with local breweries Big Ash Brewing, Fretboard Brewing Company, Fifty West Brewing Company, HighGrain Brewery & Kitchen, and Fibonacci Brewing Company. The health department’s mobile clinics set up at the breweries during the afternoon and evening hours and vaccinated any eligible customers who were interested. More than 100 vaccinations were administered at these clinics. HCPH also reached out to other residents by hosting a clinic with a local movie theater, Kenwood Theatre. Those who received vaccines received free popcorn and discounted tickets. More than 50 people were vaccinated through this effort.

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/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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