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Tuscarawas County Health Department Partners With Local Church, Volunteer Group to Bring Vaccinations to Latino Residents
Partnerships help increase access to the COVID-19 vaccine through clinics, translators, and more

COLUMBUS – The Tuscarawas County Health Department (TCHD) has partnered with St. Joseph Catholic Church in Dover and volunteer group Latino ONE to provide COVID-19 vaccinations to residents and to help bridge the language barrier many non-English-speaking residents face in seeking vaccine access.

The partnership with St. Joseph Catholic Church offered COVID-19 vaccines for the entire congregation, with an additional emphasis on the attendees of the Spanish Mass services. The church provided volunteers and Spanish translators through the Immigrant Worker Project to assist TCHD with the clinic. Through these efforts, 94 people received COVID-19 vaccines, with the majority being Latino residents.

To reach out to the Latino residents who attend Evangelical churches, TCHD partnered with volunteer group Latino ONE to offer a drive-up vaccination clinic for the single-dose Johnson & Johnson vaccine on the morning of Saturday, June 12. Latino ONE provided volunteer translators for the clinic, where 64 people were vaccinated.

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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