



COMMUNITY CARE NETWORK OF KANSAS

Health. Equity. Justice.



What We Know Now

April 21, 2021

A compilation of the latest news surrounding the COVID-19 pandemic from the Community Care Network of Kansas. Published on Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays. Visit our [COVID-19 Resources](#) page for complete, updated information.



Community Care Member Update

Statement from Denise Cyzman, President and CEO, and Matthew Schmidt, Board Chair of the Community Care Network of Kansas.

Accountability for the Murder of George Floyd

The brutal killing of George Floyd in Minnesota last year under the knee of a law enforcement officer woke the nation. The murder and manslaughter convictions of the officer involved announced Tuesday signaled our country might be ready to address long-standing issues of racial injustice and social inequity.

The senseless murder of a yet another unarmed Black man by an armed White man in uniform was anything but uncommon. Holding the officer accountable was unique; it had never happened before in that state's history. Ever.



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Also ground-breaking has been the size of the White population standing in solidarity with Persons of Color. There have been allies in the past, but the sustained momentum of a united nation outraged is palpable. Brothers and sisters across the color spectrum now “Say Their Name” – aloud.

It is almost difficult to proclaim that justice was served in this trial. The evidence had suggested a clear-cut and irrefutable guilty verdict, yet many questions surrounded the pending outcome. Having a jury of peers with the audacity to vote with clear conscience and without fear of retaliation does signify an inflection point in the pursuit of justice for all.

The Community Care Network of Kansas stands with an America ready to begin dismantling institutional racism. We affirm our commitment to mitigating the harm caused by arbitrary societal divisions. And we reject anything standing in the way of Health, Equity and Justice.

From KDHE/Governor’s Office/Statehouse

Latest statistics: 306,883 positive cases, 4,961 deaths, 9,997 hospitalizations and 1,357,761 individuals tested. Since Wednesday, there have been 593 new cases, 6 deaths and 36 hospitalizations reported.

According to the Kansas WebIZ vaccination tracker ([here](#)), 1,764,347 doses have been administered in Kansas out of the 2,322,080 doses distributed. 1,078,489 people (37.0% of the population) have had their first dose and 685,858 received their second dose.

The next COVID-19 Update for Local Partners webinar will be from 10:00 – 11:00 a.m. (CST) Thursday, April 22. Dial-in: (312) 626-6799; ID: 349 823 849; Password: KDHECOVID.

From the White House COVID-19 Team

The latest state profile report from Washington shows Kansas:

- In the yellow zone for new case rate with 53 per 100,000 population, ranked 6th in the nation;
- In the light green zone for test positivity with 3.8%, ranked 14th;
- In the light green zone for hospitalizations with 2 confirmed and suspected admissions per 100 beds, ranked 2nd;
- In the light yellow zone for rate of COVID-19 deaths with 0.4 per 100,000 populating, ranked 8th;
- 1,147,957 people received at least one vaccine dose (39.4% of total population);
- 731,678 people fully vaccinated (25.1% of total population); and
- With a “substantial” community transmission level.

From the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services

HHS, which had opened a Special Enrollment Period for the Federal Marketplace because of COVID-19, today announced the availability of \$80 million in grants for Navigators. Read the news release [here](#); view the Navigator Notice of Funding Opportunity (NOFO) [here](#).

From the National Institutes of Health

Large NIH clinical trial will test polyclonal antibody therapeutic for COVID-19. Read the news release [here](#).

From the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention

The CDC released several updates, including:

- Cases in the U.S. ([here](#)),
- An early MMWR, COVID-19 Outbreak Associated with a SARS-CoV-2 R.1 Lineage Variant in a Skilled Nursing Facility After Vaccination Program – Kentucky ([here](#)),
- An early MMWR, Postvaccination SARS-CoV-2 Infections Among Skilled Nursing Facility Residents and Staff Members – Chicago, Illinois ([here](#)),
- COVID-19 Vaccinations in the United States ([here](#)),
- What You Need to Know About COVID-19 Vaccines ([here](#)),
- COVID-19 Vaccines May Make You Feel Sick ([here](#)),
- What You Should Know About the Possibility of COVID-19 Illness After Vaccination ([here](#)),
- COVID-19 Forecasts: Cases ([here](#)),
- COVID-19 Forecasts: Hospitalizations ([here](#)), and
- COVID-19 Forecasts: Deaths ([here](#)).

From the U.S. Food & Drug Administration

FDA continues important steps to ensure quality, safety and effectiveness of authorized COVID-19 vaccines. Read the news release [here](#).

The FDA took steps to further facilitate the authorization of tests for pooling specimens from asymptomatic individuals in serial testing programs at schools, workplaces, communities and other entities for people without symptoms and with no known suspected exposure to COVID-19. The news release can be read [here](#).

From Media Reports

Half of Kansas counties turn down COVID vaccines even though they're far from herd immunity. Read more at the Kansas News Service [here](#).

"No one was listening": Long COVID patients struggle to get care for their symptoms. Read more at STAT News [here](#).

From rotten teeth to advanced cancer, patients feel the effects of treatment delays. Read more at Kaiser Health News [here](#).

We know a lot about COVID-19. Experts have many more questions. Read more at STAT News [here](#).

Disinfecting surfaces to prevent COVID often all for show, CDC advises. Read more at CNN [here](#).