



COMMUNITY CARE NETWORK OF KANSAS

Health. Equity. Justice.

What We Know Now

September 22, 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

Today's Spotlight is on this year's winners of **Diabetes Clinical Quality Awards**, which were announced during Day 3 of our Emerging Stronger Together 2021 Annual Conference. Across our network, uncontrolled diabetes in the patient population went up slightly between 2019 and 2020, but the overall trend since 2016 is going down. Clinics monitor this clinical quality measure closely.

Three health centers were named 2020 High Performers: **Hoxie Medical Clinic**, **First Care Clinic** and **Health Ministries Clinic**. Common themes emerged when the health centers explained reasons for their year-over-year improvement such as establishing strong education components, keeping diabetes top of mind for patients, providers and clinical staff, and integrating other specialists such as from behavioral health into the care team.

We are "helping patients feel like they are in control of their diabetes, not their diabetes in control of them," was how Kaely Burgess, Program and Grants Coordinator at Health Ministries, described their approach.

Three clinics were honored with Continuous Improvement Awards for 2017-2020: **Hoxie Medical Clinic**, **Genesis Family Health**, and the **Community Health Center in Cowley County**.

Community Care is proud to recognize all these health centers for their commitment to patient care.



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The Community Care office will be closed Friday, September 24. We will return to normal hours on Monday, September 27.

From KDHE/Governor's Office/Statehouse

Latest statistics: 401,931 positive cases, 5,919 deaths, 13,547 hospitalizations and 18 MIS-C cases (Multi-system Inflammatory Syndrome in Children associated with COVID-19). Since Monday, there have been 2,562 new cases, 3 deaths and 96 hospitalizations reported.

According to the Kansas WebIZ vaccination tracker ([here](#)), 2,871,139 doses have been administered in Kansas out of the 3,558,910 doses distributed. 1,571,654 people (51.1% of the population) have had their first dose; 1,281,390 (46.0%) have had their second doses; and 18,097 have had their third dose of the vaccine series.

The next COVID-19 Update for Local Partners webinar will be from 10:00 – 11:00 a.m. (CST) Thursday, September 23. 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 red zone for new case rate with 298 per 100,000 population, ranked 28th in the nation;
- In the light red zone for test positivity with 10.5%, ranked 28th;
- In the orange zone for hospitalizations with 8.9 confirmed and suspected admissions per 100 beds, ranked 26th;
- In the light red zone for rate of COVID-19 deaths with 3.7 per 100,000 population, ranked 37th;
- 1,716,540 people received at least one vaccine dose (58.9% of total population);
- 1,456,293 people fully vaccinated (50.0% of total population, 31st in the nation); and
- With a “high” community transmission level.

From HRSA/Bureau of Primary Health Care (BPHC)

Changes to HRSA's COVID-19 FAQ page ([here](#)) include:

- HRSA encourages health centers to monitor developments as CMS and OSHA rules are issued setting forth vaccine requirements applicable under certain conditions. In addition to complying with Health Center Program requirements, health centers are responsible for complying with legal requirements for participation in Medicare and Medicaid as well as OSHA workplace requirements and other applicable federal, state and local laws when developing employee practices regarding COVID-19 vaccination.
- If you need to close a temporary service site, please contact your Project Officer to request that the site be removed from your Form 5B. There is no need to submit a change in scope request. To request that a temporary site be converted to a permanent site, you must submit a change in scope request. If HRSA approves the request, you must verify the site as operational. Only after

that should you request your Project Officer to remove the temporary site from your Form 5B. For more information, click [here](#).

From U.S. Food & Drug Administration

The acting FDA commissioner, Dr. Janet Woodcock, discusses booster and vaccines for kids in the latest In The Bubble with Andy Slavitt [here](#).

From U.S. Department of Health & Human Services

HHS announces funding for public health IT workforce development program that aims to strengthen U.S. public health information technology efforts, improve COVID-19 data collection, and increase representation of underrepresented communities within the public health IT workforce. Read the news release [here](#).

From the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention

CDC issued an early-release MMWR, Use of Pfizer-BioNTech COVID-19 Vaccine in Persons Aged 16 Years and Older: Recommendations of the Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices – United States, which found continued use is recommended based on increased certainty that its benefits (prevention of asymptomatic infection, COVID-19, and associated hospitalization and death) outweigh vaccine-associated risks. The MMWR can be accessed [here](#).

A second early-release MMWR, Outbreak of SARS-CoV-2 B.1.617.2 (Delta) Variant Infections Among Incarcerated Persons in a Federal Prison – Texas, which concluded maintaining multicomponent prevention strategies remains critical to limiting SARS-CoV-2 transmission in congregate settings where physical distancing is challenging. Read the MMWR [here](#).

CDC issued several updates, including:

- Customizable Contact Tracing Notification Letters ([here](#)),
- Toolkit for Responding to COVID-19 Cases ([here](#)),
- COVID-19 Forecasts: Deaths ([here](#)),
- Previous COVID-19 Forecasts: Hospitalizations ([here](#)),
- COVID-19 Forecasts: Cases ([here](#)),
- Talking with the Patient – A Case Investigator’s Guide to COVID-19 ([here](#)),
- Cases in the U.S. ([here](#)), and
- Overall U.S. Vaccine Distribution and Administration ([here](#)).

From Media Reports

COVID deaths surpass 1918 flu deaths. COVID’s toll not as heavy, but pandemic isn’t over yet. Read more at MedPage Today [here](#).

Here’s a glimmer of hope that the Delta surge in Kansas is slowing. Read more at KCUR [here](#).

Kansas foes of COVID-19 vaccinations push for political protection from mandates. Read more at the Kansas Reflector [here](#).

Moderna vs. Pfizer: Both knockouts, but one seems to have the edge. Read more at The New York Times [here](#).



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