



COMMUNITY CARE NETWORK OF KANSAS

Health. Equity. Justice.

What We Know Now

January 19, 2021

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

Community Care Member Update

Today's Spotlight is on **HealthCore Clinic**, which is in Phase 1 of vaccinations. The health center's messaging includes a guide to the state's phases in its newsletter [here](#).

Flint Hills Community Health Center was part of a mass vaccination effort in Lyon County. Read more in the Emporia Gazette [here](#).

Atchison Community Health Clinic is part of a collaboration, NEK Shot of Hope, to do mass vaccination events in northeast Kansas. Read more [here](#).

From KDHE/Governor's Office/Statehouse

Latest statistics (1-18): 259,822 positive cases, 3,525 deaths, 7,807 hospitalizations and 853,944 negative results. Since Friday, there were 3,688 new cases, 23 deaths and 94 hospitalizations reported.

According to the Kansas WebIZ vaccination tracker ([here](#)), 117,434 doses have been administered in Kansas.

The Statehouse, as well as other government buildings near the Capitol complex, are closed today and Wednesday as a safety precaution. For more details, read The Topeka Capital-Journal [here](#).

The next COVID-19 Update for Local Partners webinar will be from 10:00 – 11:00 a.m. (CST) Thursday, January 21. Dial-in: (312) 626-6799; Webinar ID: 349 823 849; Password: KDHECOVID.

There are no legislative committee hearings of note scheduled for Wednesday.



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- Listen live to hearings [here](#). Most committee meetings are archived on YouTube [here](#).

From the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention

The CDC released an early Morbidity and Mortality Weekly Report, Evaluation of Abbott BinaxNOW Rapid Antigen Test for SARS-CoV-2 Infection at Two Community-Based Testing Sites. Read the MMWR [here](#).

CDC also released several updates, including:

- U.S. Cases Caused by Variants ([here](#)),
- COVIDTracer and COVIDTracer Advanced ([here](#)),
- Workplaces and Businesses ([here](#)),
- Ensuring the Safety of COVID-19 Vaccines ([here](#)),
- Staffing Resources ([here](#)), and
- Data Visualization ([here](#)).

From the U.S. Food and Drug Administration

The FDA released its final episode of FDA Insight. Listen to the recording or read the transcript of its Pandemic Recovery and Preparedness Plan [here](#).

From the National Association of Community Health Centers

Highlights from the PCA/HCCN Policy and Advocacy call:

- Joe Biden and Kamala Harris will be sworn in as president and vice president at noon Wednesday. The President plans to implement a \$1.9 trillion COVID-19 economic stimulus plan and institute a national vaccination plan to complete 100 million vaccinations within 100 days.
- The relief package will launch a new partnership with federally qualified health centers (FQHCs) to ensure direct access to vaccine supplies, encourage jurisdictions to work closely with health centers on vaccination planning, calling on Congress to provide additional funds to support community health centers, and enabling HHS to launch a new program to provide guidance, technical assistance and other resources to prepare and engage these providers nationwide. More details will be shared as they are released.
- The plan will surge the public health workforce to support the vaccination effort, mobilize a public health jobs program (including 100,000 public health workers) to support COVID-19 response, and launch a federally led, locally focused public education campaign.
- Former California Attorney General Xavier Becerra has been nominated as secretary of the Department of Health and Human Services, and Andrea Palm, former head of Wisconsin's Department of Health and Human Services, as deputy secretary.
- Long-term, short-term and capital infrastructure funding for community health centers all will be part of the new President's initiative.
- COVID Vaccine State Challenges will be the topic of the next State Issues Policy Call at 1:00 p.m. (CST) Monday, January 25.

- The Biden administration will work with Congress to expand the FMAP to 100% for vaccine administration. NACHC is pressing for FQHCs to receive reimbursement at 100% of reasonable costs for the Medicare program, and require states to cover vaccine administration and specimen collection as a mandatory service for FQHCs under Medicaid state plans as a condition of the 6.2% FMAP increase. This would require states to increase the PPS rate or establish an alternative payment model. States will be encouraged to propose APMs that provide upfront payments for vaccine administration to compensate for the additional resources required to meet the demand. Health centers are encouraged to track their costs closely.
- HRSA has been asked whether health centers can reallocate H8E funding toward vaccination efforts, and the answer is no because the statute is specific regarding the funds supporting testing. Health centers can reallocate 330, H8C and H8D funding. For more information on H8E, click [here](#).
- On January 8, HHS finalized the SUNSET rule which requires the agency to review regulations that are more than 10 years old in the next five years, which would include several health center specific regulations. The rules up for consideration will be published in the Federal Register.

From the Kansas Health Institute

KHI published its Health at the Capitol for Week 1 of the Kansas Legislature [here](#).

From Media Reports

As Phase 2 of vaccine rollout nears, health officials grilled on communication with public. Read more at The Topeka Capital-Journal [here](#).

One doctor's call: COVID-19 carnage demands national vaccination strategy. Read more at the Kansas Reflector [here](#).

U.S. surpasses 400,000 COVID deaths nearly one year after nation's first confirmed case. Read more at NBC News [here](#).