



## COMMUNITY CARE NETWORK OF KANSAS

Health. Equity. Justice.

### What We Know Now

January 25, 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 **First Care Clinic**, which is taking its COVID-19 testing on the road. Literally. All residents need to do is call the clinic – no in-person visit required.

#### From KDHE/Governor's Office/Statehouse

Governor Kelly signed Senate Bill 14, which extends until March 31, 2021, certain provisions of the governmental response to the COVID-19 pandemic in Kansas and provides certain relief related to health, welfare, property and economic security during this public health emergency. The provisions include extending all the current telehealth flexibilities in place that were set to expire this week. SB14, as enrolled, can be viewed [here](#). A story in The Topeka Capital-Journal can be viewed [here](#).

Latest statistics: 269,255 positive cases, 3,622 deaths, 8,117 hospitalizations and 878,382 negative results. There were 2,602 new cases, 24 deaths and 76 hospitalizations reported since Friday.

According to the Kansas WebIZ vaccination tracker ([here](#)), 157,520 doses have been administered in Kansas out of the 255,550 doses distributed. 132,145 people (4.5% of the population) have been vaccinated, with 132,302 receiving a first dose and 25,218 receiving a second dose.



#### WHAT IS MOBILE COVID TESTING?

First Care Clinic's mobile COVID testing makes it easier for those who do not have readily available transportation or those who are not comfortable leaving their home to be tested.



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[www.communitycareks.org](http://www.communitycareks.org) 1.25.2021

Listen live to Kansas Legislature committee hearings [here](#). Archived meetings on YouTube [here](#).

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

HHS send a letter to all state governors stating the COVID-19 public health emergency “will likely remain in place for the entirety of 2021, and when a decision is made to terminate the declaration or let it expire, HHS will provide states with 60 days’ notice.” The letter can be read [here](#).

### **From the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention**

CDC released early its latest MMWR, Implementation and Evolution of Mitigation Measures, Testing and Contact Tracing in the National Football League. Public health officials can use the lessons learned about contact tracing, risk characterization and risk assessment to protect communities before and after case identification. Read the MMWR [here](#).

Updates released by the CDC include:

- Information about the Moderna COVID-19 Vaccine ([here](#)),
- Information about the Pfizer-BioNTech COVID-19 Vaccines ([here](#)),
- FAQ about COVID-19 Vaccination ([here](#)), and
- Training for Healthcare Professionals, including COVID-29, ([here](#)).

### **From the U.S. Food and Drug Administration**

The FDA re-issued the Emergency Use Authorizations for decontamination systems that are authorized to decontaminate compatible N95 respirators for use by healthcare personnel to prevent exposure to pathogenic biological airborne particulates when there is an insufficient supply of new respirators resulting from the pandemic. Among other things, the re-issued EUAs for certain decontamination systems are now only authorized to decontaminate each compatible N95 respirator a maximum of four or fewer times. The EUAs can be accessed [here](#).

### **From the National Association of Community Health Centers**

NACHC is monitoring the federal government’s vaccine distribution closely and is attempting to get administration costs reimbursed adequately. Health centers need an interim payment for vaccine administration based on the Medicare Part B Physician Fee Schedule to ensure they receive reimbursement before 2022. NACHC also is advocating for health centers to receive reimbursement at 100% of reasonable costs for the vaccine and its administration. Actual costs are higher for COVID-19 vaccine than for influenza and pneumococcal vaccines. The rate should reflect additional PPE and supply costs as well. NACHC is encouraging CMS and state Medicaid programs to recognize the real differences between COVID and flu vaccine administration costs and provide guidance.

NACHC reports finding a lot of vaccine hesitancy not only among community members but health center staff. Videos that were developed by the Ad Council and COVID Collaborative address this issue as well as others, can be viewed [here](#).

Other vaccine resources can be found at NACHC's site [here](#).

## From Media Reports

As Virus Grows Stealthier, Vaccine Makers Reconsider Battle Plans. Read more at The New York Times [here](#).

Vaccine Ramp-Up Squeezes Covid Testing and Tracing. Read more at Kaiser Health News [here](#).

CDC director says federal government does not know how much Covid vaccine the U.S. has. Read more at CNBC.com [here](#).

CDC reviewing new data that suggest coronavirus variant discovered in U.K. could be more deadly. Read more at CNN Health [here](#).