



## COMMUNITY CARE NETWORK OF KANSAS

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### What We Know Now

October 13, 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 **GraceMed Health Clinic**, which welcomed healthy numbers of young students who wanted to get vaccinated against the coronavirus before they began the school year.

The health center reported being excited to “see the kids come out and get their COVID vaccine before heading to school!”

We applaud the youngsters taking steps to protect themselves and others – and GraceMed for being an official vaccine provider. That is proving to be a winning combination.



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

Latest statistics: 421,462 positive cases, 6,151 deaths, 14,330 hospitalizations and 19 MIS-C cases (Multi-system Inflammatory Syndrome in Children associated with COVID-19). Since Monday, there have been 2,121 new cases, 9 deaths and 91 hospitalizations reported.

According to the Kansas WebIZ vaccination tracker ([here](#)), 3,016,357 doses have been administered in Kansas out of the 3,732,620 doses distributed. 1,615,665 people (52.3% of the population) have had their first dose; 1,326,631 (49.3%) have had their second doses; and 74,062 have had their third dose of the vaccine series.



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The next COVID-19 Update for Local Partners webinar will be from 10:00 – 11:00 a.m. (CST) Thursday, October 14. 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 light red zone for new case rate with 182 per 100,000 population, ranked 20<sup>th</sup> in the nation;
- In the orange zone for test positivity with 9.1%, ranked 30<sup>th</sup>;
- In the orange zone for hospitalizations with 6.3 confirmed and suspected admissions per 100 beds, ranked 20<sup>th</sup>;
- In the orange zone for rate of COVID-19 deaths with 1.9 per 100,000 population, ranked 18<sup>th</sup>;
- 1,764,363 people received at least one vaccine dose (60.6% of total population);
- 1,507,919 people fully vaccinated (51.8% of total population, 31<sup>st</sup> in the nation); and
- With a “high” community transmission level.

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

FDA announced it intends to withdraw guidance documents outlining temporary policies for manufacturers that were not drug manufacturers at the time to produce alcohol-based hand sanitizer and alcohol for use in hand sanitizers during the public health emergency. Such production must cease as of December 31, 2021. Hand sanitizers produced under the temporary guidance before that date must no longer be sold to wholesalers or retailers by March 31, 2022. Read the news release [here](#).

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

HHS released a readout of the seventh COVID-19 Health Equity Task Force meeting ([here](#)). Task force Chair Dr. Marcella Nunez-Smith said the panel suggested five actions for the White House to prioritize:

- Empower and invest in community-led solutions to address health equity,
- Enforce a data ecosystem that promotes equity-driven decision making,
- Increase accountability for health equity outcomes,
- Invest in a representative healthcare workforce and increase equitable access to quality health for all, and
- Lead and coordinate implementation of the task force’s recommendations from a permanent health equity infrastructure in the White House.

### **From HRSA/Bureau of Primary Health Care (BPHC)**

Health centers and Look-alikes are reminded that quarterly progress reports are due Thursday, October 14, for fiscal year 2021 American Rescue Plan supplemental awards (H8F and L2C), and FY 2020 COVID-19 awards with an extended project period (H8C, H8D, H8E and L1C). Quarterly progress reports are key to documenting your progress, successes and lessons learned, as well as any technical assistance needs.

The We Can Do This website ([here](#)) has downloadable one-pagers, social media and other content to help you communicate to patients about COVID-19 boosters.

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

CDC issued several updates, including:

- COVID-19 Forecasts: Deaths ([here](#)),
- Previous COVID-19 Forecasts: Hospitalizations ([here](#)),
- COVID-19 Forecasts: Cases ([here](#)),
- Cases in the U.S. ([here](#)), and
- Overall U.S. COVID-19 Vaccine Distribution and Administration ([here](#)).

### **From the National Institutes of Health**

New, highly innovative NIH research awards to address health disparities and advance health equity among disadvantaged populations such as racial/ethnic minority groups, socioeconomic disadvantaged groups, underserved rural populations, and sexual and gender minorities. For example, racial and ethnic minority populations in the U.S. already facing a disproportionate burden of disease such as diabetes, heart and respiratory diseases, HIV and obesity. More recently, the differences in COVID-19 incidences and deaths illuminated health disparities and inequities that affect minority populations. Read the news release [here](#).

### **From Media Reports**

People who received a J&J vaccine may be better off with a Moderna or Pfizer booster, a study finds. Read more at The New York Times [here](#).

“Still in the middle of a hurricane:” Teacher vacancies rise, student enrollment falls in Kansas during pandemic. Read more at The Topeka Capital-Journal [here](#).

What the future may hold for the coronavirus and us. Viral evolution is a long game. Here’s where scientists think we could be headed. Read more at The New York Times [here](#).

Kansas National Guard’s COVID-19 vaccine mandate leads to legislative inquiry. Does it violate state law? Read more at The Topeka Capital-Journal [here](#).

COVID-19 cases may be going down in much of the country, but for children they are still exceptionally high. Read more at CNN Health [here](#).

Will breast cancer deaths rise? Too many women skip screening amid COVID, experts say. Read more at The Kansas City Star [here](#).



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