

April 29, 2021

Dear Community Partner,

We hit a sad milestone this week. With three new deaths added, COVID-19 has now claimed 301 lives in St. Louis County. Additionally, we've added 285 new cases in the last week, bringing our total to 17,254.

Vaccine updates: The pace of people getting their first vaccination dose has slowed considerably this past week. If you've been waiting to schedule an appointment thinking others need it more, you don't have to wait any longer. We have plenty of supply available!

- We are now at 99,479 SLC residents vaccinated with their first dose (as of Tuesday, 4/27), and 81,858 have completed their vaccination series. We continue to post open clinic slots online at stlouiscountymn.gov/vaccineregistration.
- Want to see the progress the state (or each county) is making with vaccinations? You can find it on <u>the state's vaccine dashboard</u>.
- The CDC and FDA are recommending the Johnson & Johnson vaccine be administered again, following the brief pause for review of possible links between the vaccine and rare instances of blood clots. They determined the benefits of the vaccine far outweigh the small risk. <u>Read</u> <u>MDH's statement here</u>.
- What indoor and outdoor activities are safe to do if you're vaccinated and which ones if you're not yet vaccinated? The CDC has created a new chart to highlight safer activities. You can <u>read</u> <u>more here</u> or <u>download this chart as a PDF</u>.
- Keep track of your vaccination card. A quick tip: take a picture of it with your phone so you have record of it with you, then store the actual card in a safe place. If you've lost your vaccine card, you can request record of it here.

Other resources you may find helpful:

- If you know anyone who's fallen behind on rent or utility bills, please share this. The state has
 new emergency assistance to help. People can <u>apply online here</u> or call 211 for assistance
 working through the process.
- May is Mental Health Awareness Month. Staying connected is an important way to care for yourself. Here's a <u>document you can download</u> with tips to help yourself, your staff and coworkers, and family.

Please reach out to me with any questions about COVID or the vaccine. As always, I'm available by phone/email Monday-Friday, 8am-4:30pm to help. Thanks for all you are doing!

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