

May 27, 2021

Dear Community Partner,

Growth in new cases continues to slow for a second consecutive week – just 105 new confirmed COVID cases in the last week. Still, it was enough to push our total now to 18,002. Two new deaths were reported today, bringing this sad total to 307.

Vaccine updates:

As of May 25, a total of 108,466 people in St. Louis County have received their first dose of a vaccine; and 97,949 people have completed their series. With the continued goal of vaccinating 70% of the population age 16+, we are now at 64% in St. Louis County, and for the state as a whole. <u>State vaccine dashboard</u>

Vaccine incentives announced:

Beginning today, the first 100,000 people (must be a Minnesota resident) age 12+ to get their first COVID vaccine dose will be eligible for their choice of various tickets/passes (state parks, Valleyfair, the MN State Fair, and more) or even a fishing license or VISA gift card. Here's where you can see the list of incentive rewards and details on how to redeem "<u>Your Shot to Summer Vaccine Rewards</u>"

Other updates/resources you may find helpful:

- <u>More turning of the dials</u>. Reminder: remaining distancing and capacity limits end tomorrow, May 28.
- Are you/your organization interested in hosting a vaccination event in your community? <u>Here</u> <u>are details</u> on what would be expected, and a link to an online form you can submit to MDH for consideration.
- Likewise, are you willing to be a vaccine advocate? <u>Here is a toolkit created by MDH</u> with ideas of what you can say, share on social media and other ideas to encourage people to get vaccinated, and to educate them with accurate information about the vaccines. The toolkit includes tips for individuals, school leaders, businesses, faith leaders and more.

The Memorial Day Weekend means I'm off on Monday. And if you haven't heard – all St. Louis County offices will fully re-open to the public beginning Tuesday, June. 1.

Thank you for your continued partnership. It really does feel like the end of long chapter is finally at hand. But until we're all comfortably there, remember I am still just a phone call or email away to assist with any COVID/vaccination questions you may have.

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