

140 Dameron Avenue, Knoxville, TN 37917

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Contact: Joint Information Center jicmedia@knoxcounty.org

More than 100,000 COVID-19 vaccinations administered in Knox County

Knoxville, Tenn. – Knox County hit another big milestone in the fight against COVID-19. More than 100,000 vaccinations, including first and second doses, have been given across the County.

As it stands, Knox County also leads the big four metro counties in percent of population vaccinated with both doses.

"I am incredibly impressed at the speed with which we have been able to administer this many vaccinations in our community," Knox County Mayor Glenn Jacobs said. "We have a ways to go, but hopefully we are well on our way to moving beyond COVID-19."

"With each day, more people in Knox County are able to receive this much-desired protection against COVID-19," said Senior Director and Public Health Officer Dr. Martha Buchanan. "This encouraging milestone wouldn't be possible without the strong partnerships between KCHD, our regional hospital systems and many other health care providers across our community."

Additionally, hospitalizations and new, daily COVID-19 cases continue to trend down. These factors, along with increased vaccination efforts, are steps forward for Knox County.

However, it remains critically important that the community continues to follow the Five Core Actions, regardless of vaccination status. That includes wearing a mask, maintaining at least six feet of distance from those outside your household, washing hands regularly, sanitizing surfaces and staying home if you are sick.

KCHD continues to vaccinate those in the first three priority groups, including health care workers, childcare staff and K-12 teachers and staff. Additionally, KCHD continues to vaccinate those 65 years and older. A full list of those who are eligible can be found on KCHD's Vaccination Information page. Eligible individuals may sign up to be notified of vaccination opportunities through KCHD on the Health Department's waitlist.

Those who are eligible are also encouraged to look for vaccination opportunities through providers across the County. The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) launched a <u>Vaccine Finder</u> <u>webpage</u> to help people find appointments. Individuals can input their zip code to see a list of vaccine



providers in their general vicinity. From there, those who are eligible to receive vaccine can reach out to those organizations to learn what vaccination opportunities are available.

About Knox County Health Department:

The first health department in Tennessee to achieve national voluntary accreditation by the Public Health Accreditation Board, the Knox County Health Department (KCHD) is dedicated to ensuring the conditions in which every resident can be healthy. As a chief health strategist for the community and with more than 240 team members, KCHD's broad scope of work includes convening partners to improve community health, identifying community health threats, investigating disease outbreaks, conducting extensive outreach and education, preparing for public health emergencies, providing and connecting the public with medical care, enforcing food safety and air quality laws, and more. For more information, visit www.knoxcounty.org/health.

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