



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

September XX, 2021

Joint statement on COVID-19 from Steuben County business and health leaders

A message to the community on the state of the pandemic in Steuben County

ANGOLA, Ind. – As leaders in business and health in Steuben County, our organizations seek to promote the holistic well-being of our community. The health of our family, friends and neighbors remains at the forefront as we continue to monitor and adapt to the recent rise in COVID-19 cases and deaths in northeast Indiana.

The pandemic is far from over. The rise of the highly contagious Delta variant has contributed to a sharp increase in COVID-19 transmission within our communities. Our hospitals across the state have been pushed to capacity with the numbers they have seen with this surge. Of those COVID-19 patients admitted with high severity of illness, more than 90% are unvaccinated. Our healthcare workers – who have worked tirelessly at the front lines of this pandemic for nearly 20 months – are overwhelmed – they need your help to slow the spread.

At this time, Steuben County is not reinstating mask mandates or closures in response to the current surge. We are instead relying on you, the members of our community, to support our healthcare workers and local health department. In doing so, we will keep each other safe by following guidelines from trusted health experts and certified authorities. The Steuben County Health Department urges our community to follow the measures listed below to slow the spread of COVID-19.

- Wear a mask in high-transmissible areas, such as grocery stores, offices and hospitals.
- Practice social distancing.
- Stay home when you feel sick.
- Monitor yourself and your loved ones for the symptoms of COVID-19, as outlined [here](#) by the CDC.
- Avoid close contact with sick people.
- Wash your hands frequently for at least 20 seconds using soap and water or an alcohol-based hand sanitizer with at least 60% alcohol.
- Avoid touching your mouth, nose or eyes with unwashed hands.
- Practice respiratory etiquette, including covering coughs and sneezes with a tissue or upper sleeve.
- Routinely clean and disinfect frequently touched surfaces using a cleaning or disinfecting product according to the label.

The most effective way to protect yourself and others from severe illness is to get vaccinated and we encourage all Steuben County residents to consider inoculation. The Pfizer vaccine recently received full FDA approval for children and adults over the age of 16 and the Moderna



and Johnson and Johnson vaccinations have both received emergency use approval. All three vaccinations are safe and effective options for Steuben County residents. If you remain hesitant, we suggest visiting the [CDC's website](#) to find detailed information and answers to frequently asked questions about the available COVID-19 vaccines.

There are several locations in Steuben County that are administering COVID-19 vaccines; you may contact any of the below businesses or visit ourshot.in.gov, to schedule an appointment:

- Steuben County Health Department – (260) 668-100 x 1500
- Cameron Memorial Community Hospital – (260) 667-5622
- CVS – 700 N. Wayne St. – (260) 665-2106
- Meijer – 2990 N. Wayne St. – (260) 668-1110
- Walmart – 2016 N. Wayne St. – (260) 665-7033
- Walgreens – 2012 N. Wayne St. – (260) 665-5560
- A map of additional vaccination locations can be found [here](#).

If you are moderately immunocompromised and have completed a two-dose series of the Pfizer or Moderna vaccination more than 28 days ago, you are now eligible for a third dose. This additional dose will help supplement your original Pfizer or Moderna vaccination, the effectiveness of which may wane over time. To schedule an appointment for a third dose, view the list of locations and contact information above. Starting September 20, 2021, all adults who received the second dose of the Pfizer or Moderna vaccination eight or more months ago will also be eligible for the COVID-19 booster shot.

If you are exhibiting the [symptoms of COVID-19](#), please get tested as soon as possible. Several institutions in Steuben County and the surrounding area are offering COVID-19 testing:

- Cameron Respiratory Clinic – 1381 N. Wayne St. – (260) 667-5633
 - Swab-only tests are **not** performed at this location.
- CVS – 700 N. Wayne St. – (260) 665-2106
- [Steuben County Community Testing](#) – 501 S. John St.
- For testing prior to travel, visit Physicians Urgent Care in Fort Wayne – 920 E. Coliseum Blvd., Fort Wayne, IN 46805
 - At this location, there may be an out-of-pocket expense or the ability to bill insurance for testing. Please call (260) 498-8077 to make an appointment.

The burden of slowing the spread of COVID-19 in our communities falls on each and every one of us. Help keep yourself, your loved ones and your neighbors safe by following COVID-19 safety guidelines and getting vaccinated. We're in this together, Steuben County.

Sincerely,

[insert signatures and/or logos]