# **Vax Matters**



**June 11, 2021** 



# News

## Mobile Command Center Vaccination Sites Set For New Brunswick

Vaccination clinics are being held at three New Brunswick sites. On Friday, NJDOH's mobile command center was at Alice Jennings Archibald Park. On Saturday, June 12, and again on June 19, the unit will be at Joyce Kilmer Park on Joyce Kilmer Avenue and Comstock Street from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. On Sunday, June 13, and again on June 20, the vaccination clinic will be held at Recreation Park on Recreation Park Lane and Reservoir Avenue from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. No appointments are needed. You do not need to show ID, documentation or proof of insurance to get vaccinated.

# **COVID Community Corps Knocking on Doors Near You**

NJDOH's COVID Community Corps was out in 22 New Jersey communities this past week, knocking on doors and sharing information on the vaccines and where to get vaccinated. Corps members canvassed in Jersey City, Bayonne, Hoboken, Union City, North Bergen, West New York, Paterson, Newark, Atlantic City, Camden, Passaic, Clifton, East Orange, Irvington, Bloomfield, New Brunswick, Howell, Middletown, Perth Amboy, Vineland, Trenton and Hamilton. They will continue to engage in additional towns in the weeks ahead.

#### **Grateful for the Shot Continues**

Additional Grateful for the Shot events are taking place over the weekend through Monday, June 14. In partnership with faith leaders, the Governor's Office, the First Lady's Office, NJDOH and the New Jersey Pandemic Relief Fund, the initiative brings vaccinations to congregations in targeted communities. This weekend's events are taking place in East Orange, Orange, Newark, Vineland, Bloomfield, Westville, Lakewood, Bound Brook, Haledon, Hillside, Sicklerville and Elizabeth.

## NJDOH Holds Second Trenton Neighborhood Vaccination Event

The New Jersey Department of Health (NJDOH) held its second neighborhood vaccination clinic in Trenton on Friday, drawing area residents, including parents and children.

The event was held outside the department's North Willow Street headquarters in downtown Trenton.

Health Commissioner Judith Persichilli stopped by the clinic and spoke with the vaccination recipients.

The vaccination clinic offered second dose shots of Pfizer for those who turned out for NJDOH's first event on May 21, and also provided the Johnson & Johnson single-dose vaccine as well as first-dose Pfizer and Moderna vaccines.

The May event vaccinated over 240 individuals, including parents

and children. More than 250 individuals received their first or second doses during Friday's event.

NJDOH also had snacks, school supplies and other giveaways during the event.

Friday's event was again held in partnership with Walgreens, Capital Health, the City of Trenton, the Trenton Health Department, Mercer County, and the Trenton Health Team.

In the days leading up to the event, Department staff and members of the COVID Community Corps had canvassed neighborhoods and businesses near the vaccination site to raise awareness.



Health Commissioner Persichilli greets newly vaccinated residents in the observation area. The event featured the Pfizer, Moderna and Johnson & Johnson vaccines.



# Vaccination Progress

- ♦ 9.1M+ vaccine doses administered in N.J.
- ♦ 4.5M+ fully vaccinated people



# NJDOH Releases Data on COVID-19 Breakthrough Cases Among Fully Vaccinated Residents

As part of its monitoring of COVID-19 cases, NJDOH's Communicable Disease Service has been reviewing data in which fully vaccinated individuals subsequently tested positive for COVID-19, which are known as breakthrough cases.

This analysis has provided reassuring results that the three COVID-19 vaccines are extremely effective. Between Dec. 15, 2020 and April 23, NJDOH identified 1,319 breakthrough cases which represents .06% of those fully vaccinated.

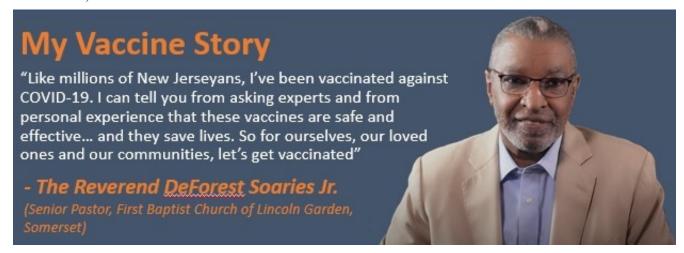
This means 99.94% of individuals vaccinated have not subsequently tested positive for COVID-19. This high percentage demonstrates that breakthrough infections are extremely rare.

"As expected, people who were fully vaccinated had less severe illness based on the small number of hospitalizations and deaths," said Health Commissioner Persichilli. The Department found that 92 individuals with COVID-19 vaccine breakthrough infections were hospitalized. However, only 30 of these hospitalizations were reported to be related to COVID-19 illness.

There were 14 deaths among individuals with COVID-19 vaccine breakthrough infections, however only seven were reported to be related to COVID-19.

In addition to NJDOH's data review, the Hackensack Meridian Health network and their Center for Discovery and Innovation have been tracking how well the COVID-19 vaccines are working among their staff. They found just 138 COVID-19 positive cases among 26,000 vaccinated healthcare workers. None were seriously ill.

"Both NJDOH's data review and this study demonstrate overwhelmingly that these vaccines work," Commissioner Persichilli said.



#### Did You Know...

#### Free transportation is available to and from your appointment

Free rides to and from your vaccination are available through Lyft or NJ TRANSIT. For NJ TRANSIT, enter the "<u>VAXRIDE</u>" promo code into your NJ TRANSIT app or call 973-275-5555. To schedule a Lyft, call 2-1-1.

#### Time-off allowance can be used for vaccination

Employees can use their NJ Earned Sick Leave to get a COVID-19 vaccine. <u>Learn more.</u>

#### No appointment needed

Most sites around New Jersey offer walk-up vaccinations at times across the day and evening. Visit <u>COVID19.nj.gov/finder</u> to find a location near you. You can also use the vaccine finder to find a location for your second dose of Pfizer or Moderna.

You can get a second dose anywhere and it's not too late even if missed your original appointment. By getting fully vaccinated, you can help protect yourself and others, enjoy more activities with families and friends, and help us control this deadly pandemic.

#### No need for ID or proof of insurance

COVID-19 vaccines are free, regardless of insurance or documentation status.

## Resources

- ◆ NJ Vaccine Call Center: 855-568-0545
- ◆ COVID-19 Vaccine Finder
- ◆ COVID-19 Vaccine: Information for You and Your Family [English] [Spanish]
- ◆ COVID-19 Vaccines: Addressing Your Top Concerns [English] [Spanish]
- ◆ NJ Transit VAXRIDE