COVID-19 Cases Continue to Surge
The number of COVID-19 cases continue to rise at an alarming rate in Montgomery County. Since July 2, the number of weekly COVID-19 cases have increased 1,722% from 64 to 1,166. In addition, there were 377 hospital admissions through August 27 which is 3.5 times higher than the month of July and 6 times higher than the month of June.

Vaccinations Continue
Public Health continues its efforts to increase vaccination rates in Montgomery County, as of August 30, 49.85% of Montgomery County have received at least one dose of the vaccine. For clinic dates and times visit www.phdmc.org.

Third Dose of COVID-19 Vaccine Recommended for Immunocompromised
The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) has said that people who are moderately to severely immunocompromised are particularly vulnerable to the coronavirus, and an additional dose of mRNA vaccine can
help ensure they have enough protection. The CDC recommends a third dose for those with compromised immune systems.

People who qualify for the third dose include those who have been receiving active cancer treatment for tumors or cancers of the blood; received an organ transplant and are taking medicine to suppress the immune system; received a stem cell transplant within the last 2 years or are taking medicine to suppress the immune system; moderate or severe primary immunodeficiency; have advanced or untreated HIV infection; and/or active treatment with high-dose corticosteroids or other drugs that may suppress your immune response. It is important to remember that people who are moderately to severely immunocompromised make up about 3% of the adult population.

Immunocompromised individuals may schedule an appointment at the Public Health Clinic by calling 937-225-4550.

Pregnant Women are Urged to Get a COVID-19 Vaccination

The CDC is urging all pregnant women to get the COVID-19 vaccine. Expectant women run a higher risk of severe illness and pregnancy complications from the coronavirus, including perhaps miscarriages and stillbirths. But their vaccination rates are low, with only about 23% having received at least one dose, according to CDC data. The updated guidance comes after a CDC analysis of new safety data on 2,500 women showed no increased risks of miscarriage for those who received at least one dose of the Pfizer or Moderna vaccine before 20 weeks of pregnancy.

Protect our Children

Public Health recommends that everyone who is eligible to get vaccinated, should do so immediately. In addition, all students, faculty and staff should wear masks in school and during activities while indoors and unable to maintain a safe distance from others. This masking recommendation applies regardless of vaccination status.

Public Health Receives Community Honor Award

Public Health is honored to receive the Better Business Bureau’s (BBB) “Community Honor Award” for its exemplary service during the pandemic. The Community Honor Award was established in 2011 to recognize government, nonprofit or education organizations with proven commitment to improving all aspects of life in the Miami Valley. It spotlights the honorees’ efforts to realize not only their own missions, but their roles in making the Miami Valley a thriving community, taking care of its citizens – individuals and organizations.

The honorees enhance the Miami Valley marketplace by offering their own tangible and intangible resources, making a positive impact on the evolution of the Miami Valley and the betterment of its people and industries. They
demonstrate a passion for and progress towards improving the quality of life. This honor is reserved for organizations, which have shown stamina, steadfast determination, and truly innovative ways of giving back to the community.

**September is Public Health Laboratory Appreciation Month**
The American Public Health Laboratory (APHL) is excited to celebrate all staff in public health laboratories in September during Public Health Laboratory Appreciation Month—everyone from microbiologists to maintenance teams, from informaticians to information technology specialists and beyond deserve to be recognized. **Public Health’s lab** is located in the Reibold Building in downtown Dayton. In 2020, the lab processed the following number of tests: Gonorrhea 2,043, Syphilis 2,037, Chlamydia 2,034 and HIV 1,089.

**Breastfeeding Friendly Workplace Awards Program**
In June 2021, Dayton & Montgomery County’s [EveryOne Reach One](https://everyonereachone.org) Maternal and Infant Vitality Task Force launched its inaugural Breastfeeding Friendly Workplace Awards Program. Research shows that increased breastfeeding increases infant vitality. Many birthing people choose not to breastfeed or stop breastfeeding or chestfeeding early, due to not having support in the workplace. While lactation accommodations are legally required, the goal of the program is to recognize employers that go above and beyond what is required by providing exemplary lactation support and accommodations for individuals in the workplace.

Employers were invited to submit applications and were awarded points based upon the accommodations, policies, and resources they provide. Two area employers, Reza’s and Dayton Children’s Hospital, received the platinum-level award as well as recognition on social media from Public Health and the EveryOne Reach One Maternal and Infant Vitality Task Force. In addition, they both received a window decal, a certificate, and a jpeg file that can be placed on their website celebrating their platinum award status.

**Media Opportunities:**
- WDTN - COVID-19 Vaccinations - 8/3/2021
- WHIO - COVID-19 Vaccinations - 8/3/2021
- WDTN - COVID-19 Pfizer FDA - 8/4/2021
- WDTN - COVID-19 Vaccinations - 8/6/2021
- Fox 45 - COVID-19 Vaccinations - 8/6/2021
- WDTN - COVID-19 Vaccinations - 8/9/2021
- Fox 45 - COVID-19 Vaccinations - 8/9/2021
- Fox 45 - COVID-19 Vaccinations - 8/10/2021
- DDN - COVID-19 Vaccinations - 8/10/2021
- WDTN - COVID-19 Rising Cases - 8/10/2021
- DDN - COVID-19 Vaccination Cards - 8/16/2021
For answers to your COVID-19 questions, call Public Health at 1-937-225-6217 or the Ohio Department of Health at 1-833-4-ASK-ODH (1-833-427-5634).

Submitted by:
Jeff Cooper, MS, Health Commissioner and Michael Dohn, MD MSc, Medical Director