



SANTA FE COVID-19 UPDATE

May 20, 2021

Safe. Open. Together

#AllTogetherSantaFe #SantaFePromise

BIKES, BOOKS, AND FREE WALK-IN VACCINATIONS: The DOH, Christus, the City of Santa Fe, and the Santa Fe Public Library, along with Chainbreaker Collective, Sirius Cycles, and Safe Routes to School will host a vaccination event from 11-3 on Saturday, May 22, at the Southside Library. Pre-registration is not required in order to be vaccinated. In celebration of Bike Month, 20 children's bicycles will be raffled off, and Chainbreaker will offer a free bike repair clinic. Kids can join the library's annual Summer Reading program, receive free bookbags and a take-home clay kit, and an ice cream vendor will be onsite to add treats to the activities. Learn more here.

PROGRESS REPORT: Yesterday New Mexico Department of Health leadership updated New Mexicans about COVID-19 and provided more guidance as New Mexico works to achieve 60 percent immunity by June 30. Close to 1 million people have registered thus far for vaccination, and with 52.9% of 16+ people fully vaccinated, getting to 60 percent is in sight.

KIDS ARE ALRIGHT: School-aged kids are getting vaccinated at a quick rate and Human Services Department Secretary David R. Scrase, M.D., reported that transmission due to close contact at schools is very rare. Over 5,500 students were vaccinated during student week held May 3-8, and there are currently 23,890 12-15-year-olds and 32,017 in the 16-18 group registered to be vaccinated.

"THE PANDEMIC IS NOT OVER": Secretary Scrase repeated that message throughout yesterday's press conference, noting the particular threat posed by the U.K. variant, which is about twice as transmissible as the earlier strain. He went on to advise New Mexicans that we *all* need to stay committed to fighting the virus for several more months, and to continue COVID-safe practices:

- Get registered, get vaccinated;
- Get tested if you have COVID-19 symptoms or have been exposed to someone who is infected;

- If you have COVID-19, learn if you are eligible for monoclonal antibody treatment;
- Case counts remain too high;
- Wash hands, clean surfaces, and cough into tissue/elbow;
- Unvaccinated people need to wear face coverings in public.

REGISTRATION: To register to get vaccinated please visit [Vaccinerm.org](https://vaccinerm.org) or call 1-855-600-3453, press option 0 for vaccine questions, and then option 3 for tech support. The call center is open every day from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m..

MASKING STILL A GOOD CHOICE: Dr. Wendy Johnson, Chief Medical Officer at La Familia Medical Center joined Mayor Webber on the weekly Friday WebberCast soon after the new masking guidelines were announced. She said she was concerned about those who remain vulnerable to the COVID-19 virus -- essential workers in enclosed spaces, people who cannot get the vaccine for one reason or another, and children under 12. She encouraged Santa Fe residents to remain conscientious and make the respectful choice to wear a mask regardless of vaccination status inside crowded spaces such as stores and restaurants. Watch the May 14 WebberCast [here](#), and tune in to the Mayor Alan Webber Facebook page tomorrow afternoon at 2 for this week's update, or catch it later on the [City of Santa Fe YouTube channel](#)

HOST YOUR OWN VACCINE EVENT: The DOH invites businesses, churches, and other organizations to hold onsite COVID-19 vaccination events. Groups that are able to bring 20+ people to an event will be eligible. Events can be scheduled on the new DOH website [GetVaxNM.com](https://getvaxnm.com). Read the full announcement [here](#) and in Spanish: [El Estado Anuncia Eventos de Vacunación COVID-19 para Organizaciones \(nmhealth.org\)](#).

MAKE MENTAL HEALTH A PRIORITY: May is Mental Health Awareness Month -- and there are resources and support available for those who need it. New Mexico state agencies have come together to plan a wide array of resources, events, and trainings to promote behavioral health for the entire state.

- New Mexicans are invited to pledge to reach out, listen, and offer hope to children, youth, elders, mothers, and end the stigma around mental health. Take the pledge here: doseofwellness.com.
- PNM announced that grant funds are available to nonprofits creating programs and services for mental health at pnm.com/grants.
- The New Mexico Crisis and Access Line is available 24 hours a day, 7 days a week, 365 days a year: 1-855-NMCRISIS (662-7474).
- The NMCAL also created an app, [NMConnect](#), to engage people with immediate access to mental health professionals and resources.
- Santa Fe County Veterans can also seek help by calling (505) 988-6562.

EASY-ACCESS VACCINE LOCATIONS: With the creation of the the DOH Public vaccination calendar the community has access to search and find a host of vaccine events, based on vaccination type, location, and date and type of vaccine (primary or booster) at the [public calendar](#) on the DOH registration portal. Walgreens, and CVS pharmacies are listed on the calendar, as as are grocery store and Walmart pharmacies.

NEED TO KNOW:

- Vaccinations for New Mexicans under age 18 require parental consent, and Pfizer is the only vaccine available for anyone under 18.
- 12-15-year-old children are now eligible to register for and receive their vaccinations
- Vaccinations are free -- there is no cost to you or your family.
- No identification is required to be vaccinated.
- Vaccines are available to New Mexico residents regardless of immigration status, which does not need to be declared at any point in the process.

NEED HELP? GET HELP:

- Anyone who needs help with up to 15 months worth of rent or utilities because of the pandemic can tap the state's Emergency Rental Assistance Program (ERAP). Apply at [RentHelpNM.org](https://renthelpnm.org).
- Anyone in need of resources, whether it's food, or help due to unemployment, or dealing with a housing crisis, contact CONNECT for direction to resources that help during these tough economic times. Call (505) 995-9525 or go to [Santafenm.gov/CONNECT](https://santafenm.gov/CONNECT).

BEFORE YOU GO: Here are helpful resources and reminders:

- SYMPTOMS? EXPOSURE?: Get a [free test](#) delivered to your door
- [Santafenm.gov/NOTIFICATIONS](https://santafenm.gov/NOTIFICATIONS): Make sure you're signed up for notifications and alerts, and encourage your community to do so, too.