

HEALTH MATTERS



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Fourth Quarter 2020

PrimaryOne Health's newsworthy information

COVID-19: The Impact and the Light at the End of a Dark Year

By Charleta B. Tavares, CEO

This year has seen many ups and downs, challenges and opportunities, losses and advancements. Through it all, PrimaryOne Health has weathered the storm and the virus known as severe acute respiratory syndrome coronavirus 2 (SARS-CoV-2). The disease it causes is Coronavirus 2019 or COVID-19. Although the virus and disease was believed to be first presented in China in 2019, the first case in the United States is said to have appeared in January 2020.

The first case of coronavirus in Columbus/Franklin County was on March 6, 2020. According to the Mayor's office and Columbus Public Health, "a 49-year-old man had been tested and found to have COVID-19. The man had recently traveled on the Carnival cruise ship The Valor. He departed from New Orleans on February 29, traveled to Cozumel and the Yucatan in Mexico and then returned to New Orleans on March 5. He started displaying symptoms of the disease on March 6, 2020."

PrimaryOne Health, along with healthcare organizations across the city and county, started preparing for what was then unknown virus that would lead to a pandemic, quickly spreading throughout our city, county and state. By the end of 2020, Franklin County would see 108,266 cases, 3,423 hospitalizations and 783 deaths. This would place us



first in the number of cases and third in both hospitalizations (Cuyahoga and Montgomery Counties respectively) and deaths (behind Cuyahoga and Summit Counties respectively).

Although the coronavirus was spreading quickly and there was no known vaccine or cure yet, Columbus and Franklin County Public Health worked quickly and collaboratively with the four hospital systems, PrimaryOne Health and sister Community Health Centers, clinics and private healthcare clinicians. They worked together to develop a plan to coordinate testing, contact tracing and the treatment of those suspected of contracting COVID-19 or being exposed to someone who had contracted it.

Since June 2, 2020, PrimaryOne Health's (PIH) amazing COVID-19 Testing Project Team and staff have tested over 32,000

patients, staff and community residents at four sites, 1905 Parsons Ave., 2300 W. Broad Street, 1500 E. 17th Ave., and 3433 Agler Road on three days per week. In addition, more than 15 drive/walk-thru pop-ups have been held through December 2020 with churches, schools, the Governor's Office, Ohio Department of Health, Ohio National Guard, state and local legislators, Franklin County, Pickaway County, the cities of Bexley, Circleville, Dublin, Grove City, Hilliard, and Reynoldsburg. New partnerships have been forged with these communities and senior apartment complex management/owners such as, Corban Commons, to help test their residents.

PrimaryOne Health has shown their flexibility and their commitment to plan, set up unique testing models, and execute for a mass support

of our community and partners. On December 11, 2020, the U.S. Food and Drug Administration issued the first emergency use authorization (EUA) for the Pfizer-BioNTech vaccine for the prevention of the coronavirus disease 2019 (COVID-19). The Moderna vaccine was authorized for EUA a week later on December 18th.

PrimaryOne Health started administering the vaccine to its patient-facing clinicians and staff on December 31, 2020 seeing the first signs of a light at the end of a dark and devastating year. 2021, looks promising with more vaccines in the pipeline and PrimaryOne Health's ability to pivot and to initiate the COVID-19 Vaccine Project Team along with staff

and partners to vaccinate and help to save the lives of patients, staff and residents of Franklin and Pickaway Counties.

NBC 4 Honored with Healthcare Justice Award



Charleta B. Tavares, PrimaryOne Health Chief Executive Officer, presents the 2020 Healthcare Justice Awards Community Partner award to Ken Freedman, Vice President and General Manager, WCMH/NBC 4.

NBC4 (WCMH-TV) is the recipient of the 2020 Healthcare Justice Community Partner Award from PrimaryOne Health. NBC4 was presented the Healthcare Justice Award for community partnerships for its work with Stuff-The-Backpack. NBC4 and PrimaryOne Health raised necessary funds for tens of thousands of local students to receive backpacks and supplies at the beginning of the school year.

Charleta B. Tavares, CEO of PrimaryOne Health, presented the award to NBC4 Vice President and General Manager, Ken Freedman.

"With COVID-19, Stuff The Backpack was certainly harder but even more important to support the young minds of local students this year," Freedman said. "On behalf of the men and women of NBC4, we thank PrimaryOne Health for this tremendous honor."

Dr. Amy Acton was also honored with a Healthcare Justice Award for her instrumental work during the beginning of the pandemic, as well as PrimaryOne Health's Senior Clinical Program Manager, Cherry Mack for her inspirational work in the medical field.

Healthcare for the Homeless

The COVID-19 pandemic has increased the number of people suffering from homelessness and housing insecurity in the state of Ohio and Franklin County. Ohio's continuing pandemic guidance provides little protection to people who have no home. More than 10,000 Ohioans living in 300 emergency homeless shelters around the state urgently need resources to limit their exposure to the COVID-19 outbreak and prevent the spread among residents, staff and the broader community.

The Healthcare for the Homeless program's goal at PrimaryOne Health is to provide access and support services for those without housing in Franklin



County. The team primarily works with clients assigned to shelters and transitional facilities such as Alvis180, Star House, Maryhaven Outreach and Engagement, Salvation Army and the Friends of the Homeless, as well as

several hospitals in the immediate area.

While the pandemic rages, we are happy to report that in the previous five months, the Healthcare for the Homeless team has assisted more than 50 clients obtain housing.

In addition to receiving treatment for addiction, we will assist in updating their information for their Medicaid health insurance. We are extremely proud of our patients and how they continue to improve their well-being.

PrimaryOne Health's 2020 recipients of the "Healthcare Justice Award."

In October, Dr. Amy Acton and Cherry Mack, MS, RN-BC, PrimaryOne Health Senior Clinical Program Manager, were selected as PrimaryOne Health's 2020 recipients of the "Healthcare Justice Award." This award is presented annually to individuals that exemplify the highest level of commitment and dedication to healthcare within the community that we serve.

PrimaryOne Health's annual Healthcare Justice Awards honor individuals who have gone above and beyond in the care, education and prevention towards improving the health of the community.

Dr. Acton received the award in recognition of her outstanding work

during the COVID-19 pandemic. She worked tirelessly to educate our community about the coronavirus facts and sought to prepare our healthcare systems for the increase in patient care. Dr. Acton advocated that no Ohioan be left behind as a result of the pandemic. Dr. Acton understood the pandemic could have an inequitable impact on underserved populations.

Cherry Mack was selected in recognition of her outstanding work and dedication to our patients. Cherry exhibited unwavering commitment to both patients and the community throughout the COVID-19 testing efforts while maintaining a positive attitude toward everyone she served and which she worked.

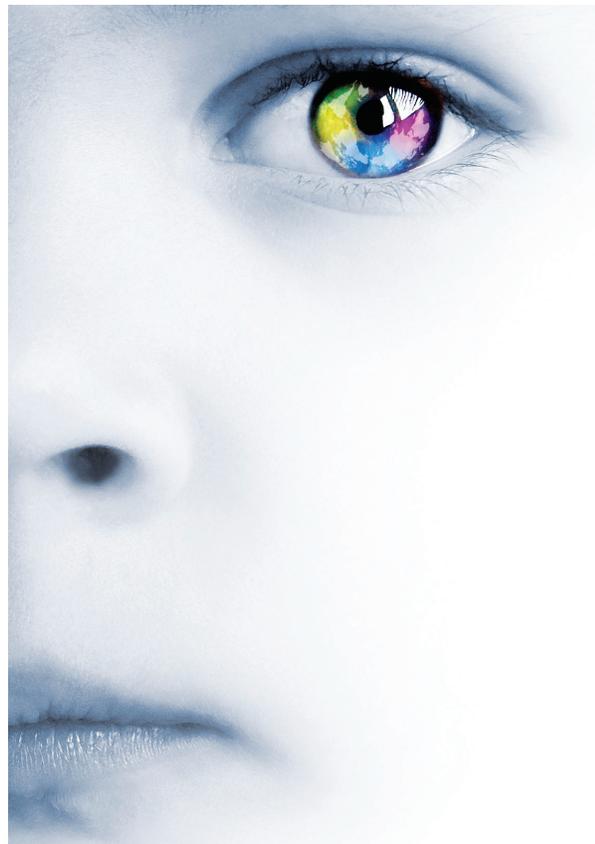


Importance of Eye Health

Taking care of your health is critical, even during a global pandemic. You may have concerns related to eye health but have been reluctant to make an appointment with your provider. PrimaryOne Health has resumed the delivery of comprehensive eye health vision care and has implemented new protocols for a safe and healthy environment for you and your family.

Many eye and vision problems have no obvious signs or symptoms, and early diagnosis and treatment of eye and vision problems can help prevent vision loss.

Comprehensive eye exams by a doctor of optometry are an important part of caring for your eyes, vision and overall health. Eye and vision examinations are an important part of preventative health care – schedule yours today by calling us at 614-645-5500.



Did You Know?

The human eye can differentiate more than 10 million colors.

PrimaryOne Health is doing its part to SAVE LIVES & SLOW THE SPREAD OF COVID-19

PrimaryOne Health is proud to collaborate with the Ohio Department of Health and Columbus Public Health in providing the MODERNA COVID-19 vaccine. The PrimaryOne Health team, our patients and community will be able to receive the COVID-19 vaccine at selected PrimaryOne Health sites according to a phased-in approach.

During Phase 1A, PrimaryOne Health received 200 doses on December 31, 2020 to vaccinate our practitioners and staff. The Ohio Department of Health (ODH) has created a very robust Vaccination Administration Plan. ODH has given vaccination partners specific guidelines to vaccinate our communities. PrimaryOne Health is here to support ODH's goal to "save lives and slow the spread of the virus."

In alignment with ODH, and the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), PrimaryOne Health has stepped up to the task of providing COVID-19 vaccinations. In Phase 1A, PrimaryOne Health began to offer the vaccine to staff, as well as our patients and those in the community considered high-risk. This phase was from Dec 31, 2020 to Jan 15, 2021 offered at our Parsons Avenue health center. We will move into Phase 1B, focusing on our patients 65+, and adults/employees in K-12 schools who want to return to school.

How will vaccines be allocated?

Allocations of vaccine will be provided based on population density.

Efforts will be made to ensure equitable distribution, based on the "Social Vulnerability Index." ODH will be monitoring the vaccine provider sites for access and throughout.

Are the vaccines safe, and do they work?

Safety was the top priority during the development and release of the vaccines. They were tested in large clinical trials to a diverse (age, race, ethnicities, and medical conditions) population of volunteers to ensure the safety and efficacy of the vaccine. Both the FDA and the CDC reviewed all the safety data, and upon rigorous scientific review – released the vaccines under the "Emergency Use Authorization."

What are the possible side effects?

These are normal, and can happen after receiving other vaccines as well. These are signs that your immune system is building up protection against COVID-19.

- Sore Arm
- Headache

- Fever

Where are the vaccines available?

The Ohio Department of Health sets priority groups. There is a phased rollout plan that is based on vaccine availability. In order to save the most lives, the COVID-19 vaccine will be offered to those Ohioans most at risk. As more vaccines become available, more groups will be added. When your priority group is opened up, you will be able to receive a vaccine at a designated PrimaryOne Health location.

What is NOT in the COVID-19 Vaccine?

- Pork, Fetal or Human tissue
- Tracking devices
- Live virus (you cannot get COVID-19 from the vaccine)

Where can I get additional information?

www.CDC.GOV/CORONAVIRUS.gov

www.CORONAVIRUS.OHIO.gov



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Mission: To provide access to services that improve the health status of families, including people experiencing financial, social, or cultural barriers to health care.



This health center is a Health Center Program grantee under 42 U.S.C. 254b, and a deemed Public Health Service employee under 42 U.S.C. 233(g)-(n).

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