



Foothills Health District (FHD)



July 16, 2021

The McDowell County Health Department has been notified that 17 additional McDowell County residents have tested positive for novel Coronavirus (COVID-19) for the week of July 10th -July 16th.

This brings the total number of positives to 5,233 in McDowell County. There have been 47,163 tests conducted, 41,929 negative results and 1 test is pending results. Presently, there are 25 individuals in quarantine, 5,131 out of quarantine and 77 deaths. McDowell County's 14-day positivity rate is 5.8%. McDowell County's COVID-19 data dashboard is updated daily (Monday-Friday) and can be found by visiting www.mcdowell.com or by clicking the following link: <http://www.mcdowell.com/covid-19-information.html>

"Outbreaks, like COVID-19, take much time to eradicate. Even with the best precautions and a very effective vaccine, the virus is still prominent and is being transmitted from person to person. We are watching the numbers begin to climb back up, with the trends in variants, and I expect this to continue. The community needs to understand and remember that the COVID-19 pandemic is not over and we must continue to be precautious and vigilant to protect ourselves. We are enjoying many more activities this summer than the last. Families are traveling, kids are going to camp, and mass gatherings of friends and families are in full swing. Yet, the COVID-19 virus is still out there and people are getting sick. If you test positive for COVID-19, please follow the quarantine measures given to you by the Health Department. It is critical that you and your household members stay home and away from others. If you are not sure what the quarantine measures are, please call the Health Department and someone will talk those through with you. The vaccine is imperative in our fight against COVID-19. The Health Department offers all three brands of vaccine. Anyone that is 12 years of age or older should consider getting the vaccine immediately. Please take care of your family, your friends, and your community." stated Public Health Director Karen Powell.

Citizens in need of a COVID-19 test are encouraged to call their primary care physician or CVS pharmacy for testing. If you are uninsured or cannot afford a COVID-19 test, you can call the McDowell County Health Department at 828-652-6811 to schedule a test.

No appointment is needed for the upcoming Public Health COVID-19 vaccination clinic to be held Wednesday, July 21st from 9:00 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. at the McDowell County Health Department. This clinic is for ages 12 years old and older. First dose vaccine appointments can be booked online by visiting <http://www.myspot.nc.gov> or by calling the Vaccine Call Center at 828-803-4552. McDowell County Health Department will offer \$25 Summer Cards at this clinic. Anyone 18 and older who gets their first dose of a COVID-19 vaccine will receive a \$25 card after vaccination while supplies last. Cards are for the first dose only for both the person being vaccinated and the driver. As part of its ongoing effort to get more North Carolinians vaccinated and safely bring summer back, the North Carolina Department of Health and Human Services is offering the \$25 Summer Cards at McDowell County Health Department to offset the time and transportation costs of getting vaccinated.

Homebound citizens who want the vaccine but are unable to reach a vaccination site are encouraged to contact the Vaccine Call Center (828-803-4552) for further assistance. In partnership with the Community Paramedic Program, homebound citizens can have the vaccine delivered and administered at their home.

McDowell County Vaccine Doses Administered:

- First Doses: 18,337
- Second Doses: 17,298
- Total Doses administered: 35,635

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