

# Philadelphia Weekly PHP Outreach Newsletter

## Philadelphia Department of Public Health

### The Latest News

- **Public Disability Health Forum—October 11, 2022, 10:30am**
  - PDPH, in partnership with the Mayor’s Commission on People with Disabilities, will host a public Disability Health Forum to inform Philadelphia’s disability community on areas of concern in public health emergency preparedness and response, share resources/insights, and support dialogue between community members and public health administrators.
  - ASL will be provided.
  - Please contact Liam Dougherty at [liam.dougherty@phila.gov](mailto:liam.dougherty@phila.gov) for any additional accommodations by October 4, 2022.
  - To register visit: <https://bit.ly/Oct11Forum>
- **Seasonal Flu website is updated**
  - For information on the seasonal flu and how to get vaccinated, visit: <https://bit.ly/FluPHL>
- **The City’s Monkeypox site is live**
  - Find the latest updates, information on vaccine and testing and the data dashboard.
  - Includes frequently asked questions in Spanish and English.
  - Visit: <https://www.phila.gov/monkeypox>
- **Spread the word about the Violence Prevention Hotline**
  - A free and confidential hotline to connect people with over 10,000 important services and resources such as conflict intervention, peer counseling, workforce programs and behavioral health support.
  - Call 211 and press 3 to reach a Resource Navigator OR text your zip code to 989-211
  - This hotline is available 24 hours a day, seven days a week, 365 days a year.
    - Interpretation available in 150+ languages.
  - More information below in the FAQ and at: <https://bit.ly/Philly211>

### Frequently Asked Questions on the Philadelphia Violence Prevention Hotline

- **What is the Violence Prevention Hotline?**
  - For anyone concerned about gun violence or safety in their neighborhood or anyone looking for important resources, you can call this hotline to get access to over 10,000 services in the city of Philadelphia from a Resource Navigator.
  - This hotline is available 24 hours a day, seven days a week, 365 days a year.
    - Free and confidential.
    - Interpretation available in 150+ languages.
- **What services and resources are through this hotline?**
  - Conflict Intervention
  - Youth Violence Prevention
  - Peer Counseling
  - Referrals to Violence Prevention Community Organizations
  - Neighborhood Crisis Mediation Services
  - Workforce Development and Jobs Training Programs
  - Behavioral Health and Crisis Support Services

- Community Support Services (CLIP, L&I) for Vandalism, Graffiti, Litter, Vacant Lots
- After-school Programming, Mentoring, & Academic Support Services
- **Can I call this number during an emergency?**
  - Please call 911, if you or a loved one are experiencing or witnessing a crime in real time.
  - The Hotline is a resource hub and a preventive tool.
- **How does this hotline work?**
  - Dial “2-1-1” to be directed to a 2-1-1 main menu.
  - Press “3” to be put in touch with a Resource Navigator.
  - This Resource Navigator quickly gathers information from the caller to refer or connect the caller to the resources they need.
  - At the end of the conversation, the Resource Navigator will either transfer the caller directly to the community resource or they will text the caller the contact information for programs to follow up with.
- **What if I need more support after this one call?**
  - Each caller will be offered the option for the Resource Navigator to follow-up with them at a later time to ensure that a successful connection to services was made.
- **This is a meaningful resource, and I am interested in working as a Resource Navigator, how can I learn more?**
  - Philadelphians who would like to become a Resource Navigator for the hotline can view the job description at <https://bit.ly/Philly211Job> and email their resumes to [info@pa211sw.org](mailto:info@pa211sw.org).
  - Navigators receive specialized training in areas such as trauma-informed care, mental health first aid, cultural competency as well as understanding specific anti-gun violence resources within the community.
- **My organization would like to be involved; can we connect?**
  - Yes, to register your organization as a service provider visit: <https://211sepa.org/service-providers/>
- **Where can I get more information?**
  - Visit: <https://bit.ly/Philly211> or call 211 directly.

#### COVID-19: Resources and Services

- **Where to find COVID-19 vaccine, including booster doses:**
  - Call 3-1-1 or visit [phila.gov/vaccine](http://phila.gov/vaccine) or [vaccines.gov](http://vaccines.gov) to find a vaccine clinic near you.
    - For interpretation, call 3-1-1, press #5 and say your language.
    - Visit <https://bit.ly/KnowB4Ugo> for updates on transportation, access and functional needs resources, and up-to-date access descriptions of City-run clinics.
  - Options for COVID-19 vaccines for uninsured residents include:
    - Free vaccine at City health centers and pop-up clinics, for insured and uninsured residents. No ID is required at these locations.
    - Other sites, like pharmacies, may bill your insurance company or charge you a direct fee. Call these sites before you go to find out about their policies.
  - More information available at: [www.phila.gov/vaccine](http://www.phila.gov/vaccine) and [bit.ly/COVIDvaxFAQ-PDPH](https://bit.ly/COVIDvaxFAQ-PDPH)
- **Free COVID Testing Kits Available for Distribution by CBOs**
  - PDPH has procured a supply of at-home COVID-19 test kits and will be offering these tests to community-based organizations (CBOs) serving clients and patrons in areas of high COVID-19 risk.
  - Request your free test kits here: <https://bit.ly/CBOtestDistro>
- **Free at-home COVID-19 tests for blind/low-vision people**
  - If you are blind or have low vision, you can order the more accessible tests online at <https://special.usps.com/testkits/accessible> or by calling 1-800-232-0233.

- These tests will be available for order until supplies run out.
- For more information, visit: <https://bit.ly/COVIDKitAccess>
- **What to do if you lost your vaccination card?**
  - Ask your healthcare provider first, if they cannot help, call 215-685-5488 or email [covid@phila.gov](mailto:covid@phila.gov) to request a copy of your vaccine record.
  - The CDC does not provide copies of COVID-19 vaccination card.
- **Stock up on FREE N95 masks**
  - Visit <https://bit.ly/FreeN95s> for free masks from the Strategic National Stockpile
- **Stock up on home tests**
  - Health insurance companies are required to reimburse 8 at-home tests per month for each person enrolled in the plan and will reimburse up to \$12 per individual test.
    - Detailed information here: <https://go.cms.gov/3Lqo0Yk>
      - Includes information on how to get tests if you don't have insurance or if you cannot afford to pay for your test up front.

### Monkeypox Resources and Services

- People who are concerned that they've been exposed, or believe they are at high risk of being exposed to monkeypox, should call the PDPH Call Center at 215-685-5488 to see if they are eligible to be vaccinated.
- Recording of the PDPH Monkeypox information available at: <https://bit.ly/MPXinfoSept7>.
  - Info session was held on Wednesday, September 7 and covered the following topics:
    - Overview of Monkeypox, Signs and Symptoms, What to do if you're sick, Treatment, Harm Reduction, Vaccine and Resources.
- Find the latest information on cases and vaccine at: <https://bit.ly/MPXDashboard>
  - Updated every Monday.
- Find the latest guidance about monkeypox at: <https://bit.ly/PHLMonkeypoxInfo>
- Find the latest flyers and printable information at: <https://bit.ly/PHPGuidance>
- Find information on precautions to take while you wait for your Monkeypox vaccine at: <https://bit.ly/MPXvaxWait>
- If you would like to receive the weekly Monkeypox newsletter update, email: [publichealthpreparedness@phila.gov](mailto:publichealthpreparedness@phila.gov)

### Public Health Preparedness: Resources and Services

- PDPH Launches the Primary Care Finder: [www.phila.gov/primary-care](http://www.phila.gov/primary-care)
  - Find free or low-cost medical care in Philadelphia
  - Search by location, type primary care, specialty care or testing services.
  - The goal of this tool is to increase access to free or low-cost primary care services for Philadelphians, especially people who are uninsured or underinsured.
- Text-to-911 now fully operational in Philadelphia
  - Text-to-911 is a service that allows the public to send a text message to 911.
  - Individuals who are Deaf, Hard-of-Hearing, and those who face communication barriers may find this service a more accessible means of interface with 911.
  - More information available at: <https://bit.ly/PATextTo911>

### More Information

- **Latest information from PDPH:**
  - [phila.gov/COVID](https://phila.gov/COVID), [facebook.com/phillyhealth](https://facebook.com/phillyhealth) and [twitter@PHLPublicHealth](https://twitter@PHLPublicHealth)
- **PDPH Call Center:**
  - Call 215-685-5488, Press 3 for interpretation in your language, press 2 for Spanish. Dial 711 for TRS/TTY assistance.
- **Philadelphia Coronavirus Helpline**
  - Call 800-722-7112, press #9 for interpretation.
  - Open 24/7!
  - Talk to a medical professional about COVID-19 symptoms, exposure, vaccine, tests, Etc.
  - Get help making decisions about how to keep you, your loved ones and contacts safe from COVID-19.

#### How to Stay Connected

- **Join the Community Response Partner Network**
  - This newsletter is sent to the [Community Response Partner Network](#), part of the PDPH Public Health Preparedness Program.
  - Sign up at <https://bit.ly/phlcommunityresponse> to get essential public health information, then pass it on to your family, friends, and community.
- **Questions or suggestions?**
  - Email us at [publichealthpreparedness@phila.gov](mailto:publichealthpreparedness@phila.gov)
  - Leave a message with the Public Health Preparedness Program Outreach Team at 215-429-3016.

Be safe,  
Philadelphia Department of Public Health