

## Public Health Preparedness Outreach Newsletter

### Philadelphia Department of Public Health

#### THANK YOU!

**We want to personally thank you for your continued commitment to the health and well-being of Philadelphians.**

We value you, our partners! You inspire us with all you have accomplished within your communities this past year.

We appreciate the relationships we have fostered together, and we are excited to continue our partnerships in 2024 as we expand our community engagement efforts.

In 2023, you helped us innovate how our communities prepare for and respond to public health emergencies such as extreme heat, severe storms, and respiratory illnesses like COVID-19, seasonal flu, and RSV.

Together, we held 22 virtual and in-person training sessions and offered 48 resource tables. We also brought vital information directly to our neighbors' homes through 55 door-to-door canvasses.

Thanks to your generosity, we were able to attend town hall meetings, engage with local block captains, and further our relationships with Philadelphians as the Department of Public Health's Public Health Preparedness Program.

None of this would have been possible without your participation in the Community Response Partner Network, thank you.

#### Important Resources for 2024

##### COVID-19 Vaccine

- Free COVID vaccine for uninsured and underinsured Philadelphians
  - The Bridge Access Program covers the COVID-19 vaccine for adults who don't have insurance, or if their insurance won't cover the vaccine.
    - Find Bridge Access Program providers here: <https://bit.ly/FreeCOVIDVaccine>
      - Keep an eye on this page as new providers are added.
- Offer FREE COVID-19 vaccines to eligible adults at your community event
  - eTrueNorth can help you identify a pharmacy partner to provide vaccine services.
  - [Flyer is attached](#); please share with your networks!

##### COVID-19 Tests

- COVID-19 test kit distribution program
  - Community-based organizations, event organizers, and venues can apply to receive free at-home test kits and face masks to share with their communities and event attendees.

- For more information, go to <https://bit.ly/TestKitDistrib>
- Get free at-home COVID-19 tests
  - Every U.S. household is eligible to order 4 more free at-home COVID-19 test kits.
    - Order your free at-home tests here: [https://bit.ly/Covid19\\_test](https://bit.ly/Covid19_test)
    - For help placing your order call (800) 232-0233. For TTY, call (888) 720-7489.
- Resource Hubs (2 per household member): <https://bit.ly/ResourceHubsPHL>
  - No insurance or ID are required.
- Test2treat.com (6 total tests): <https://bit.ly/HomeT2T>
  - Those with commercial insurance are not eligible.

### Community Education

- Fall Preparedness materials available
  - Our new Fall Newsletter and flyers about RSV, COVID-19, and the flu are available.
  - To order free printed copies, visit: <https://bit.ly/PHPMaterials>
  - Translations available and updates are ongoing.
- Materials for people with disabilities
  - CDC created tailored health promotion materials for people with hearing, vision, cognitive, mobility, and/or self-care disabilities.
    - Visit: <https://bit.ly/CDCHealthPromo>
  - CDC's Respiratory Virus Resources for People with Disabilities is a web page promoting resources about how to prevent flu, COVID-19, and respiratory syncytial virus (RSV) for people with disabilities.
    - Visit: <https://bit.ly/RespVirusResources>
- PDPH COVID-19 website and social media
  - Information on the ending of the COVID-19 Public Health Emergency declarations: <https://bit.ly/PHEendPHL>
  - Information on the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic, vaccines, and testing resources: [phila.gov/COVID](https://phila.gov/COVID), [facebook.com/phillyhealth](https://facebook.com/phillyhealth) and [twitter@PHLPublicHealth](https://twitter.com/PHLPublicHealth)
- PDPH Call Center
  - Information on City public health guidance, services, resources, and more.
  - Call 215-685-5488, Press 3 for interpretation in your language, press 2 for Spanish. Dial 711 for TRS/TTY assistance.

### Community Preparedness

- **Sign up for Ready Philadelphia**
  - To receive free text alerts to your phone on emergencies or severe weather, text "ReadyPhila" to 888-7777.
  - Be the first to know, then spread the word to family and neighbors.
- **Text-to-911 in Philadelphia:** <https://bit.ly/PATextTo911>
  - 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.

**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.