CCHD Marks One Year since First COVID-19 Case

Plattsburgh, March 15, 2021. March 16, 2021 will mark one year since the first case of COVID-19 was identified in Clinton County. In the year since that first case, the Clinton County Health Department (CCHD) has reported more than 4,000 total cases of COVID-19 among residents. Clinton County has also recorded 29 COVID-19 related deaths.

“One loss is too many, and we share our deepest condolences with the friends and family members of those we lost due to COVID-19,” stated John Kanoza, Director of Public Health in Clinton County.

CCHD, along with other community agencies, began its COVID-19 response well before the first recorded case in Clinton County. That response team also includes: the Clinton County Office of Emergency Services, the Clinton County Sheriff Department, CVPH, Clinton County Mental Health and Addiction Services, local schools and universities, local government liaisons, and many more. Together, the response team has worked to keep the community safe, and informed, during the pandemic.

“A collaboration with other community stakeholders is important during any emergency, especially one of this size,” explained Mr. Kanoza. “Our response team has been diligent throughout the process and our community, for the most part, has been cooperative with our efforts.”

Clinton County saw a surge of cases following the holiday season and currently has 95 active cases. COVID-19 vaccinations are also in full swing. Since late December, CVPH, CCHD, local providers and pharmacies, and the NYSDOH have offered vaccine appointments. As of March 7, 2021, almost 40,000 total doses of COVID-19 vaccine has been given to Clinton County residents.

“Almost twenty-seven percent of our total Clinton County population has received their first dose of vaccine, and fifteen percent have received both doses,” added Mr. Kanoza. “Our goal is to reach the seventy-five to eighty percent mark for community vaccination.”

“Our community has been incredible throughout this entire process, and we thank them for that,” expressed Mr. Kanoza. “We are all tired, but we must remain vigilant until COVID-19 is no longer a threat in our community. Please continue to follow the safety measures that have gotten us to this point – handwashing, social distancing, staying home when you are sick, mask wearing, and please schedule your vaccine as soon as you are eligible.”

About the Clinton County Health Department:
The Health Department is an accredited full service department serving the residents of Clinton County. The Health Department’s Mission is to improve and protect the health, well-being and environment of the people of Clinton County. Visit our website at www.clintonhealth.org or connect with us on Facebook (@clintonhealth), Twitter (@ClintonCountyHD), and Instagram (clintoncountyhealth).

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