

## A MESSAGE FROM THE HEALTH COMMISSIONER

Dear Community Members:

Last week, Governor DeWine announced a new Ohio Public Advisory Alert System to help paint a more data-driven picture of what is happening across the state of Ohio. There is quite a bit of diversity from county to county, and the new alert system was developed as a tool for individuals, businesses, and local governments to more easily evaluate coronavirus spread in these differing areas to help aid in their response to the virus.



Medina County is sitting in orange which is Level 2, but we border Cuyahoga County which is in the red zone right now. We have many residents who work and travel across county lines on a daily basis. Medina can easily slip into the red, and quite frankly it will take the efforts of all of us to prevent that.

In my coronavirus update last week, I talked about Medina's increase in community spread of COVID-19. We received some questions from residents wondering the source. And unfortunately, community spread means the virus is circulating everywhere. It's being carried to family gatherings, summer activities, and in some cases even the workplace. Travelers returning from states with hotspots of infection is a growing concern. From June 22 – July 6 our age range of positive cases in Medina County was 2-84 years, but individuals ages 16-35 made up 40% of our cases and 36-55 years olds another 30% of those 119 cases. We had no cases reported among nursing home residents during that period.



Today the Governor signed an order that now makes wearing a mask in public mandatory for counties in the red zone, including our neighboring Cuyahoga. The only way to avoid increasing spread is for people to make decisions based on protecting one another. I continue to ask everyone to wear your mask, practice social distancing, and stay home if you are sick or waiting for COVID test results.

Ohio COVID-19 Risk Level Guidelines for the Public			
LEVEL 1	LEVEL 2	LEVEL 3	LEVEL 4
<b>Public Emergency</b> Active exposure and spread. Follow all current health orders.	<b>Public Emergency</b> Increased exposure and spread. Exercise high degree of caution. Follow all current health orders.	<b>Public Emergency</b> Very high exposure and spread. Limit activities as much as possible. Follow all current health orders.	<b>Public Emergency</b> Severe exposure and spread. Only leave home for supplies and services. Follow all current health orders.

### COVID-19 Testing Information

If you're sick or think you have been exposed to someone who is sick, call our health center at 330-723-9688, option 1 or follow us on Facebook and Twitter for future pop-up testing dates throughout the summer.

### Where can I find the latest information?

Medinahealth.org or Coronavirus.ohio.gov have the latest real-time information. You can find health and safety messages and information you can use to help make decisions that are best for you and your family. Every Friday, we update the data dashboard on our website to provide the most up-to-date insights on COVID-19. You can find that information here:

[www.medinahealth.org/community/current-outbreaks/data/](http://www.medinahealth.org/community/current-outbreaks/data/)