

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Defiance County Health Department Announces Changes in Services in Response to COVID-19

Defiance, OH- With cases of coronavirus (COVID-19) confirmed in Ohio, including cases that have come from community spread; Defiance County Health Department will be making changes in services to promote social distancing.

Governor Mike DeWine and Ohio Department of Health Director Dr. Amy Acton signed an order yesterday prohibiting mass gatherings of 100 people or more in the state of Ohio in an effort to stop the spread of COVID-19. The governor also ordered schools to close for three weeks starting on Monday. These actions promote social distancing as well. The goal of these measures and the health department's measures are to slow the spread of the disease to a level in which the health care system can respond, "flattening the curve".

The following measures will be taking place effective immediately:

- All Defiance County Health Department classes, trainings, and programs will be cancelled through April 8th.
- All Defiance County Health Department immunization clinics will be cancelled through April 8th.
- All essential meetings will be conducted virtually.

Changes to come:

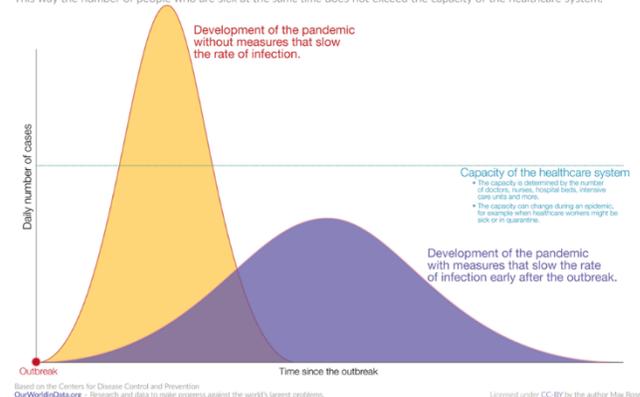
- WIC Clinic procedures will be changing Tuesday, March 17th, **WIC benefits will continue.** Further guidance will be released to participants on Monday.

We recognize this is a trying time, and the changes we are seeing in the state are difficult. Please remember to take care of yourself and your loved ones, stay healthy, and be kind. Information is changing rapidly please use the resources below to stay up to date.

For more information:

- Center for Disease Control: www.cdc.gov
- Ohio Department of Health:
www.coronavirus.ohio.gov
Call: 1-833-427-5634
- Defiance County Health Department:
www.defiancecohealth.org
Facebook: Defiance County Public Health
Twitter: @DCGHD

In the outbreak of an epidemic *early* counter measures are important. Their intention is to 'flatten the curve'; to lower the rate of infection to spread out the epidemic. This way the number of people who are sick at the same time does not exceed the capacity of the healthcare system.



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