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NEWS RELEASE #181

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ALBEMARLE REGIONAL HEALTH SERVICES PROVIDES UPDATE ON REGIONAL VACCINE CLINICS Updated COVID-19 vaccine counts, cases, and outbreaks.

Elizabeth City, NC – Albemarle Regional Health Services (ARHS) is providing updated information on COVID-19 vaccines, lab confirmed positive COVID-19 cases, and facility outbreaks as of 1 p.m. Friday, May 21, 2021 in addition to the weekly surveillance report (attached).

ARHS is accepting vaccine appointments for first and second dose Moderna and Johnson and Johnson at each of our local health departments. Appointments will be available to residents of the eight county region who are 18 and older. Individuals, who received their first dose of Moderna at any of our eight locations and are in need of their second dose, can also schedule an appointment.

In addition, ARHS is accepting appointments for youth ages 12-17 living in the eight-county region for the Pfizer vaccine. 250 doses will be available. If your child is between the ages of 12 to 17 and you would like for them to receive the Pfizer vaccine, please call your local health department to schedule an appointment.

Pasquotank County	Perquimans County	Camden County Health	Chowan County Health
Health Department	Health Department	Department	Department
252-338-4400	252-426-2100	252-338-4460	252-482-6003
Currituck County Health Department 252-232-2271	Bertie County Health	Gates County Health	Hertford County Health
	Department	Department	Department
	252-794-5322	252-357-1380	252-862-4054

"ARHS is excited to offer the Pfizer vaccine for our youth age 12-17," states R. Battle Betts, Jr., MPA, ARHS Health Director. "By getting younger teens vaccinated they are helping to protect themselves, their families, and our community from the virus. Having the vaccine available for this age range helps us get one step closer to ending this pandemic."

Total First Doses of ARHS Vaccine Administered – 43,929

County	Vaccine Administered	County	Vaccine Administered
Pasquotank	10,711	Currituck	8,125
Perquimans	4,314	Bertie	5,309
Camden	3,172	Gates	3,099
Chowan	4,527	Hertford	4,672

Total Second Doses of ARHS Vaccine Administered – 40,920

County	Vaccine Administered	County	Vaccine Administered
Pasquotank	9,469	Currituck	7,703
Perquimans	3,798	Bertie	5,043
Camden	3,080	Gates	3,233
Chowan	4,113	Hertford	4,481

ARHS COVID-19 Cases

County	# Lab Confirmed Cases	# Active Cases	# Recovered Cases	Total # of Deaths
Pasquotank	3,395	18	3,294	83
Perquimans	1,021	4	1,006	11
Camden	672	7	660	5
Chowan	1,468	6	1,432	30
Currituck	1,568	12	1,540	16
Bertie	1,777	10	1,722	45
Gates	743	10	720	13
Hertford	2,106	4	2,039	63
Totals	12,750	71	12,413	266

ARHS is continuing to monitor the facility outbreak at Chowan River Rehabilitation and Nursing. Currently there is one resident and one staff member with lab-confirmed positive results. ARHS is reporting three COVID related deaths in Pasquotank County. Two individuals were over the age 65 and the other was in the 50-64 year age range. These deaths are not associated with a facility outbreak.

Although we are in the vaccine phase of the pandemic, COVID-19 testing is still available for those meeting criteria by appointment only at the local health departments across the region. ARHS encourages residents to call their primary care provider for an assessment or information on testing availability before calling the local health department. If someone does not have a primary care home, ARHS does offer primary care services. All tests will be completed through a curbside screening clinic at the local health department. For more information on criteria for COVID-19 testing or appointments, call 252-338-WELL/9355 or your local health department directly.

ARHS is collaborating with OptumServe to provide additional, no-cost COVID-19 testing sites in Bertie, Hertford, Gates, and Chowan counties. Typically testing is available Monday, Thursday, and Saturday from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. and Tuesday and Friday from 1 - 5 p.m. You may check availability and register to make an appointment for testing by visiting https://lhi.care/covidtesting or by calling (877) - 562-4850.

ARHS is continuing to ask our community citizens to be mindful in practicing preventive and safety measures to prevent the spread of COVID-19. Please remember these precautions:

- Avoid close contact with people who are sick.
- Avoid touching your eyes, nose, and mouth.
- Stay home when you are sick.
- Cover your cough or sneeze with a tissue, then throw the tissue in the trash.
- Clean and disinfect frequently touched objects and surfaces using a regular household cleaning spray or wipe.
- Wash your hands often with soap and water for at least 20 seconds, especially after going to the bathroom; before eating; and after blowing your nose, coughing, or sneezing. If soap and water are not readily available, use an alcohol-based hand sanitizer with at least 60% alcohol. Always wash hands with soap and water if hands are visibly dirty.
- Practice social distancing; stay at least six feet away from others, avoid unnecessary travel, avoid handshakes, hugs and other close contact.
- Wear a cloth face covering in public when not fully vaccinated.

For more information about COVID-19, visit these sites:

Albemarle Regional Health Services - http://www.arhs-nc.org/ or call 252-338-WELL or 1-833-640-SHOT

North Carolina Department of Health and Human Services - https://www.ncdhhs.gov/

Center for Disease Control - https://www.cdc.gov/

For more information, please contact Amy Underhill, ARHS Public Information Officer at 252-338-4448 or aunderhill@arhs-nc.org. Albemarle Regional Health Services is dedicated to disease prevention and the promotion of a healthy environment to reduce morbidity, mortality, and disability through quality service, education, and advocacy.