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Health Department Transitioning Public Health Priority from Testing to Vaccination

Additional COVID-19 testing sites available in County

NICHOLASVILLE, Ky. – Health officials from the Jessamine County Health Department (JCHD) have announced plans to transition their public health priority from providing novel coronavirus (COVID-19) testing, to COVID-19 vaccination, effective Monday, January 25. The logistics involved with scheduling and administering future 1st and 2nd dose vaccines will demand an all-hands-on deck approach, which will require JCHD to utilize their resources previously allocated to their facility's testing operations.

"There are numerous testing opportunities available in the community that residents may take advantage of but the Health Department is the primary agency currently vaccinating for Jessamine County," stated Randy Gooch, JCHD Executive Director. "Therefore, we feel it's best to prioritize our available resources efficiently by transitioning away from testing and re-focusing our efforts on vaccination."

The Health Department offers the no cost COVID-19 test via their drive-thru testing site every Tuesday and Thursday afternoon from 1PM-3PM but the last testing date at their facility will be on Thursday, January 21st. To help with the transition, JCHD has provided a listing of available testing site locations in Jessamine County available on their website at <https://www.jessaminehealth.org/jessamine-county-covid-19-testing-sites/>. Each location offers different testing criteria; therefore, individuals should call ahead to learn more information before arriving on site.

"We appreciate the public's understanding of this necessary public health shift and continue to encourage everyone to visit other local testing sites if experiencing symptoms of COVID-19," added Gooch.

COVID-19 Vaccine Update: JCHD is still in the process of vaccinating Phase1a health care personnel and first responders with the limited vaccine supply provided. Individuals that live or work in Jessamine County are highly encouraged to complete the Health Department's COVID-19 vaccine request pre-registration form that is available on their website at www.jessaminehealth.org. While it may be weeks or months before the vaccine is readily available to individuals who pre-register, updates will be posted on the Health Department's website, social media platforms and other media outlets to keep the public informed of vaccine progress.