



## **COVID-19 Still in Our Community**

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

Buchanan County is seeing new positive COVID-19 cases on the rise, growing inpatient numbers at Mosaic Life Care, and younger people being infected at a higher rate. These statistics, along with many summer activities, vacations, upcoming mass gatherings and school just around the corner, remind us that we need to be cautious and mindful about spreading the virus.

Vaccination is the best prevention in the spread of the coronavirus. Wearing a mask or face covering is an alternative if getting the vaccine is not an option or consideration. Residents are encouraged to be mindful of the following:

- Stay home if you are sick.
- Avoid close contact with others.
- Maintain a six-foot distance between you and others.
- Wash your hands often with soap and water for at least 20 seconds.

While it is still possible to become infected with the virus after receiving the vaccination, the number of positive cases remains low for those who have been completely vaccinated. Underlying medical conditions can contribute to the severity of individual cases.

The vaccine is readily available in most pharmacies. The city of St. Joseph Health Department will begin giving the vaccine at their facility located at 904 South 10<sup>th</sup> Street in July. Other clinics are being planned.

Mayor McMurray is encouraging people to vaccinate. "The vaccine is our best course of action. Please consider getting the shot or wear a mask." McMurray states, "We want to have summer concerts, the Chiefs Training Camp, and all other aspects of life without the worry of high numbers of cases, so let's all do our part."

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