



HO-CHUNK NATION

DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH



MEDIA RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

December 20, 2021

CONTACT: Kiana Beaudin, Ho-Chunk Nation Health Department Health Officer, 715-284-9851

RE: Public Health Advisory: Surge in COVID Cases; Community Please ACT NOW

Today's 7 day rolling average of COVID-19 cases in Wisconsin is 3,294 new coronavirus cases, according to the Wisconsin Department of Health Services (DHS), statistics not seen in nearly 11 months. DHS has reported; "the highly contagious Omicron variant of COVID-19 has been detected in Wisconsin and is anticipated to cause a rapid increase in disease activity in the coming weeks. There is a serious risk that continued, increased numbers of COVID-19 cases will overwhelm an already strained health care system, leading to dangerous situations where patients experiencing medical emergencies may not be able to receive immediate, adequate, life-saving attention and care due to lack of hospital capacity."

The Department of Health has a **call to action for our community, please immediately take the following actions to protect our community:**

- **Get vaccinated against COVID-19, including a booster dose** as soon as you are eligible.
- **Wear a well-fitting mask in indoor spaces** when others are present who do not live with you.
- Celebrate safely over the holidays by **keeping gatherings small, getting tested before visiting others, and staying home if you have any symptoms.**

The Ho-Chunk Nation Department of Health does have vaccine available at the Ho-Chunk Health Care Center and the House of Wellness Clinic for those individuals age 5 years and up. Booster doses of Moderna and Pfizer are also available daily at each location. The COVID Strike Team is also available for both booster doses of Moderna, as well as, initial doses. The Strike Team will be at HCG Nekoosa on Tuesday December 22nd and at HCG Wittenberg Wednesday December 23rd. If you need to find a location near you for vaccine call 211 or visit <https://www.vaccines.gov/>.

Ho-Chunk Health Care Center
N6520 Lumberjack Guy Road
Black River Falls, WI 54615

Ph. 715-284-9851 FAX 715-284-5150

House of Wellness
S2845 White Eagle Rd
Baraboo, WI 53913

Ph. 888-552-7889 FAX 608-355-9643

Along with vaccine, we still need community members to take masking, social distancing, and hand washing very seriously. Now is not the time to let our guard down. Please, anytime you go out of your home wear a mask, stay 6 feet away from others outside of your home, and wash your hands frequently. #Woxeteki