

Lake County Updates

- As of yesterday afternoon, **Lake County has 6,925 COVID-19 cases and 221 deaths.**
- Illinois has reported 100,418 cases and 4,525 deaths in the state. Over 642,713 tests have been administered.
- The Health Department is investigating **49 long-term care facilities** that have at least 2 cases. These facilities have a combined total of **1,129 cases and 145 deaths.**
- The COVID-19 pandemic is highlighting existing health inequities in Lake County and across the nation. When accounting for the differences in age between populations, **for every white non-Hispanic person contracting COVID-19 in Lake County, four African American non-Hispanic and eight Hispanic residents are contracting the disease.**
 - The Health Department has co-founded a **Latino Community Partnership Group** and an **African American Community Partnership Group** alongside community leaders to develop strategies to protect our populations that are disproportionately affected by the pandemic.
- **Lake County is one of two counties to partner with the state to pilot the Contact Tracing Collaborative**, an effort to scale up contract tracing on the local level to help control and reduce the rate of spread of COVID-19. <https://www2.illinois.gov/Pages/news-item.aspx?ReleaseID=21553>
 - The Health Department will be hiring additional contact tracers with funding from IDPH through the Federal CARES Act. Those interested applying to become a contract tracer can fill out the interest form on the IDPH website. <https://redcap.dph.illinois.gov/surveys/?s=KWKJL93TM7>
- **Gov. J.B. Pritzker announced last week that the Northeast region, which includes Lake County, Chicago and the collar counties, has now met the criteria for moving on to Phase 3 of the Restore Illinois plan on May 29.**
 - **Key changes in Phase 3 include:**
 - Gatherings of 10 or fewer people are allowed (for any reason), though staying home as much as possible is still recommended, especially for at-risk groups.
 - Travel should follow IDPH and CDC approved guidance
 - All healthcare providers are open
 - Some childcare and summer programs open following IDPH guidance
 - State parks open
 - Non-essential businesses can open following IDPH safety guidance
 - (Announced on May 20) Restaurants with outdoor seating will be allowed to open for outdoor dining service.
 - **We expect to receive official guidance from the State for businesses and organizations reopening under Phase 3 in the next few days.**
 - What remains the same
 - Telework is still encouraged when possible

- Face coverings in public continue to be required
 - Social distancing and capacity limits stay in place
 - Plan: <https://coronavirus.illinois.gov/sfc/servlet.shepherd/document/download/069t000000BadS0AAJ?operationContext=S1>
 - Metrics: <https://www.dph.illinois.gov/restore>
- The virus that causes COVID-19 is easily transmitted between people, and **the Health Department warns that hosting social gatherings over the upcoming Memorial Day weekend puts lives at risk.** Recent reports published by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention highlight two family gatherings in [Chicago](#) and religious gatherings in [Arkansas](#) where the rapid transmission of the virus from just a few individuals resulted in multiple COVID-19 cases and deaths.
 - **Lake County has developed a Memorial Day** website for residents to virtually share stories and photos to honor the memories of fallen heroes. Residents can submit their own Honor Post highlighting their loved one or friend, along with a photo and written tribute on Lake County's Memorial Day website. <https://memorial-day-lakecountyil.hub.arcgis.com/>
 - List of virtual Memorial Day ceremonies: www.military.com/memorial-day.
- Yesterday, Lake County Board Chair Sandy Hart announced '**Lake County Forward: Committed, United, Resilient**' which is Lake County's collaborative, whole-of-government initiative for community health and economic recovery. As part of Lake County Forward, Chair Hart has formed a **Strategic Advisory Group on COVID-19 Relief and Recovery**. This non-partisan, public-private advisory group will share their expertise and knowledge and provide input on strategic needs, requirements, options, and recommended priorities while recovering from COVID-19. Members will be invited by Chair Hart. For more information on the Lake County Forward Initiative and recovery efforts, please visit www.lakecountyil.gov/forward
- Lake County property owners age 65 and older who have total household incomes of \$65,000 or less are encouraged to apply for the **Senior Citizen's Assessment Freeze**.
 - This program may reduce property tax bills by freezing the property's equalized assessed value, which impacts the total tax bill. Even if you have received the exemption in past years, you must apply every year. Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, the application deadline has been extended to Oct. 1, 2020.
 - To learn more about how to qualify, how to apply and how to get help applying, visit www.lakecountyil.gov/assessor.
- **The State drive-thru Community-Based Testing Site in Waukegan (2161 Northwestern Avenue, Waukegan.)** is open 7 days a week from 8 a.m. until 4 p.m. or until **750** test kits are completed for the day. Testing is free and available regardless of immigration status. Results are provided by phone in 4-7 days. **Wait times are low in the afternoons.** You can check the live cameras at the Lake County Passage website to see current traffic on Sunset Ave. in the lane leading to the test site. <https://www.lakecountypassage.com/>. For more information, visit <https://www.lakecountyil.gov/4435/COVID-19-Testing>

- **COVID-19 testing and treatment is available to Illinois residents regardless of immigration status, including those without insurance.** Testing and treatment do not count towards Public Charge. The Illinois Coalition for Immigrant and Refugee Rights has a text line – text “HC4ALL” to 52886 for the latest information.
- **Bookmark www.lakecountyiil.gov/coronavirus** for all local updates from the Lake County Health Department. Case information is updated daily on our **Coronavirus Data Hub**, www.lakecountyiil.gov/COVID19data.
- **Reminder: These conference calls are held every Thursday.**
 - The key points, chat files, and audio recordings are posted to the Health Department’s website. <https://www.lakecountyiil.gov/4428/Conference-Calls>
 - Don’t forget to submit your questions by noon on Tuesdays. Form to submit questions: <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/6XYKQHJ>
 - Please encourage others to join the calls so we can keep the community informed.

Policy

- **New CDC resources are available to help states, localities, businesses and community organizations prepare for reopening.**
 - [CDC Activities and Initiatives Supporting the COVID-19 Response and the President’s Plan for Opening America Up Again](#) summarizes CDC’s initiatives, activities, and tools in support of the whole-of-government response to COVID-19. The document includes information on general and healthcare surveillance as well as previously posted guidance on infection control, contact tracing, and testing.
 - The second resource is a set of **health considerations to be used by [summer camps](#), [schools](#), [youth sports organizations](#), [institutes of higher education](#), and [restaurants and bars](#) as they plan for safe re-opening.** Considerations documents are concrete, actionable resources that focus on four categories of safeguards:
 1. promoting behaviors to reduce spread,
 2. maintaining healthy environments,
 3. maintaining healthy operations, and
 4. preparing for when someone gets sick.
- **Unemployment insurance** is available to independent contractors, “gig workers,” and other individuals who may have initially been denied benefits in Illinois. People can access the Pandemic Unemployment insurance application from the Illinois Department of Employment Security: ides.illinois.gov.
- The **Lake County Board** passed several measures in response to the COVID-19 pandemic.
 - An ordinance giving Lake County property owners more time to pay each installment of their **property taxes** due to impacts of COVID-19. Under the ordinance, property owners must still pay the full amount of taxes due, but may spread them over four payments on a defined schedule without incurring any interest penalties for late payments.
 - A **temporary ban on open burning** in unincorporated Lake County.

- A resolution establishing a **special committee** focused on supporting residents and businesses with recovery and relief utilizing COVID-19 federal funds.
 - The special committee's first meeting will be held virtually on Friday, May 15 at 8:30 am. View the agenda:
<https://lakecounty.legistar.com/View.ashx?M=A&ID=788860&GUID=10B829AE-A232-4552-9679-0536A5C9A9C9>
- The allocation of **\$2.4 million in federal funds** received by the County to nonprofit organizations in Lake County providing housing, food and utility assistance.
 - Organizations who received the funds and how much has been awarded:
<https://lakecounty.legistar.com/View.ashx?M=F&ID=8270869&GUID=8411565E-4C89-466A-B45D-BF448A1A4BC2>
- Illinois Governor J.B. Pritzker issued **Executive Order 2020-32** effective Friday, May 1 through May 29, 2020. This new order allows Illinoisans to leave their home for essential activities but otherwise requires them to stay at home or their place of residence to prevent spread of COVID-19. Individuals are required to wear a face covering in public places when they are unable to maintain a six-foot social distance, such as in stores. For more information, please visit <https://coronavirus.illinois.gov/s/stay-at-home-faqs>.
- The **2020 Census** is happening now. You can respond online, by phone, or by mail. Citizenship information is not collected. <https://2020census.gov/en/ways-to-respond.html>
- If people are still waiting on **economic impact payments**, they can check the status of their payment on the IRS website. <https://www.irs.gov/coronavirus/get-my-payment>
- The federal CARES act suspended monthly payments, interest, and involuntary collection of **student loans** from federal borrowers. Illinois announced that it is expanding upon this by providing relief to Illinoisans with commercially-owned Federal Family Education Program loans of privately held students loans that are struggling to make payments. Students must contact their loan servicer for details.
- Illinois has been approved for the **Pandemic EBT program**, which will provide SNAP households in Illinois with roughly \$112 million in additional nutrition benefits for their children. These will be distributed automatically onto link cards. **For households that do not receive SNAP benefits, but are eligible for free or reduced-price meals, a simplified application is now available.** The DHS flyers in [English](#) and [Spanish](#) include details on how to apply.

Businesses

- **Illinois launched the “Get Hired Illinois” online portal to connect job seekers and employers.** <https://www2.illinois.gov/gethired/pages/default.aspx>. Also see the Job Center of Lake County website for opportunities - <https://www.lakecountyil.gov/167/Job-Center-of-Lake-County>.
- **Employers are encouraged to allow employees who may have been exposed to COVID-19 to get tested to help prevent additional exposures at the workplace.** Please be accommodating if work schedules make access to testing difficult. The Communicable Disease team works closely

with employers who have positive cases among employees to help identify others who may have been exposed and to provide guidance on isolation, quarantine, and cleaning procedures.

- The CDC provides **workplace guidance** for safety on its website <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/community/worker-safety-support/index.html>
- The State of Illinois Department of Human Rights released an **FAQ for Businesses Concerning Use of Face-Coverings**. It discusses when face coverings are required and exceptions, reasonable accommodations, and discrimination.
 - It is a violation of the Illinois Human Rights Act for a business to take actions or profile a person based on factors such as their race, national origin, religion, or disability.
 - Individuals who believe they have been profiled by a place of public accommodation, such as a business, can contact the Illinois Department of Human Rights to file a discrimination charge by visiting www.illinois.gov/dhr or by calling (312) 814-4320 or (866) 740-3953 (TTY).
 - https://www2.illinois.gov/dhr/Documents/IDHR_FAQ_for_Businesses_Concerning_Use_of_Face-Coverings_During_COVID-19_Ver_2020511b%20copy.pdf
- The **Illinois Liquor Control Commission** has developed a COVID-19 compliance frequently asked questions guide. https://www.lakecountypartners.com/images/uploads/ILCC_QA.pdf
- **IDPH updated its guidance for workplaces** including actions to ensure social distancing for employees and customers, handwashing and sanitizing, and facility cleaning. https://dph.illinois.gov/sites/default/files/COVID-19_WorkplaceHealth_SafetyGuidance20200505.pdf
- **If you have concerns that your employer is not allowing for safe social distancing or that it is not maintaining a safe and sanitary work environment** to minimize the risk of spread of COVID-19, please contact the Workplace Rights Bureau of the Illinois Attorney General's Office at 844-740-5076 or workplacerrights@atg.state.il.us.
- **The Paycheck Protection Program** provides forgivable loans to small businesses. Up to date program information, and copies of required forms for application are located on the [Small Business Administration website](#).
- In cooperation with Lake County Partners, the Village of Gurnee and Village of Libertyville has compiled a **Readiness for Reopening guide** with a list of suppliers of items such as masks, gloves, sanitizer, and disinfecting supplies for businesses preparing to reopen. Find this and other **COVID-19 Informational Resources** on the Lake County Partners website, <https://www.lakecountypartners.com/>.
- **The Health Department continues to update its guidance** for essential businesses in both English and Spanish. <https://www.lakecountyil.gov/4412/Information-for-Specific-Groups>

May 21, 2020

- Applications for **one-time grants for artists and art organizations** through the Arts for Illinois Relief Fund are now closed. There may be additional rounds of funding in the future. More information at [ArtsforIllinois.org](https://artsforillinois.org).
- Up to date information for the **Illinois Small Business Emergency Loan Fund** is available on the Illinois Department of Commerce and Economic Opportunity website. <https://www2.illinois.gov/dceo/SmallBizAssistance/Pages/EmergencySBAInitiatives.aspx>
- **Illinois Helps** is an emergency response system to manage volunteer healthcare providers. Governor Pritzker has urged anyone in the medical field to register. <https://illinoishelps.net/>

Municipalities

- **Applications are open for the Lake County Local Emergency Food and Shelter Program (EFSP).** EFSP meets the needs of Lake County's hungry and homeless, and those in danger of becoming homeless, by allocating federal funds for the provision of food and shelter to those people in economic crisis. The intent of this program is to supplement and expand existing efforts by nonprofits or governmental agencies to provide shelter, food and supportive services. Applications are due by 5:00pm on Tuesday May 26. For more information and to apply visit <https://www.lakecountylil.gov/1907/Applicants>.
- **Lake County dispersed \$2.4 million in county funds to nonprofits** for Shelter, Food, Rental Assistance, and Rapid Rehousing <https://lakecounty.legistar.com/View.ashx?M=F&ID=8270869&GUID=8411565E-4C89-466A-B45D-BF448A1A4BC2>
- The State of Illinois announced **Connected Illinois grant program** designed to assist local governments, schools, and community organizations with building broadband capacity. The \$150,000 grant opportunity will help communities close existing gaps and lay the groundwork for improved broadband access, adoption, and utilization. Grants will be provided on a competitive basis, with applications accepted through June 12th via <https://www2.illinois.gov/dceo/AboutDCEO/GrantOpportunities/Pages/2424-1617.aspx>.
- The **Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) has scheduled webinars this week** to provide instruction on how to use its Grants Portal and to provide a COVID-19 Application overview. The webinars will cover the same topics as the webinars held the week of May 11.
 - Organizations that are planning to participate in the Public Assistance Program are strongly encouraged to participate in both webinars if they have not done so yet.
 - Learn more about the webinars and the FEMA Public Assistance program through this link: <https://content.govdelivery.com/accounts/ILLAKE/bulletins/28bc99e>
- Lake County is **monitoring local flooding**. The Des Plaines River is cresting and will be in flood stage through Monday. The Fox River is rising and is in flood stage. The Chain O'Lakes is continuing to rise and is passing minor flood stage. The County has seen an increase in calls from groundwater flooding as sump pumps are running non-stop in some homes and businesses.

May 21, 2020

- The Lake County Emergency Management Agency is available to assist and coordinate with municipalities and townships on items such as sandbags. Call 847-377-7100 or email LCEMA@lakecountyiil.gov to get in touch with someone on the team. Residents impacted by flooding can contact their municipality, [local enforcement officer](#) or the [Stormwater Management Commission](#).
- On Tuesday, May 12 Governor Pritzker and the Illinois Department of Commerce and Economic Opportunity (DCEO) announced **Fast-Track Public Infrastructure Grants** to fund local public infrastructure projects that are ready to begin work this summer, as many local governments face lost revenues, impacting their ability to finance these projects.
 - A guidebook and FAQ are available on the State's website: <https://www2.illinois.gov/dceo/CommunityServices/CommunityInfrastructure/Pages/default.aspx>
- The Office of the Attorney General Workplace Rights Bureau is using its hotline 844-740-5076 and email workplacerrights@atg.state.il.us to receive **complaints of employers failing to abide by the social distancing or sanitation guidelines**.
- On May 13, the **Wisconsin Supreme Court** voted 4-3 to overturn the statewide order restricting businesses from opening through May 26. Several Wisconsin counties and cities will continue to follow Safer at Home orders.
 - <https://www.jsonline.com/story/news/local/wisconsin/2020/05/13/wisconsin-stay-home-order-not-over-dane-brown-counties-milwaukee-city-racine/5188700002/>
- The Department of Homeland Security, FEMA, and Grant Programs Directorate (GPD) has announced **the Assistance to Firefighter Grant (AFG)** providing \$100 Million in financial assistance directly to eligible fire departments, nonaffiliated emergency medical service (NAEMS) organizations, and State Fire Training Academies (SFTA) for critical Personal Protective Equipment and supplies needed to prevent, prepare for, and respond to the COVID-19 public health emergency. The deadline to apply is May 30. [AFG Grant Information](#)
- Residents can apply for **public benefit programs** including healthcare (Medicaid), food (SNAP), and cash assistance at ABE, the state's Application for Benefits Eligibility. The state also launched the IDHS *Help is Here* toll-free line at 1-833-2-FIND-HELP to assist with public benefit applications. <https://abe.illinois.gov/abe/access/>
- **Illinois Helps** is an emergency response system to manage volunteer healthcare providers. Governor Pritzker has urged anyone in the medical field to register. <https://illinoishelps.net/>
- The state has extended the **income tax** filing and payment deadline from April 15 to July 15.
- All **Illinois Secretary of State offices and Driver Services facilities** are closed to the public. Expiration dates for driver's licenses, identification cards, vehicle registrations and other transactions and document filings will be extended at least 90 days after Driver Services Facilities reopen. Online services are available. <https://www.cyberdriveillinois.com/home.html>
- The **Real ID** enforcement deadline has been pushed back to October 1, 2021. Residents can delay getting this new form of identification. <https://www.dhs.gov/news/2020/03/26/acting-secretary-chad-wolf-statement-real-id-enforcement-deadline>

Faith-Based Organizations

- **Lake County Community Action to Counter Hunger (CATCH) is a newly formed initiative working to secure food for people who are homebound or who do not have the social support needed to access food.** The initiative is led by the Alliance for Human Services includes partners from the Northern Illinois Food Bank, Lake County Community Foundation, trusted community organizations like Mano a Mano and local libraries, health and hospital systems, and non-profit food providers like Roberti House, Curt's Cafe, and Community Action Partnership.
 - CATCH is working with faith communities to do outreach to community members to help them get to existing Northern Illinois Food Bank and partner sites, and to identify the individuals who can't leave their homes (seniors, immunocompromised, disabled, COVID+) who need food delivered who don't have friends/neighbors helping them out. CATCH will work to get these individuals to determine if they need groceries, hot meals, or "meal kits" delivered during this time.
 - Faith communities can help with identifying those who need help and with fundraising. CATCH is entirely philanthropy-funded and donations are accepted through the Lake County Community Foundation, including grocery store gift cards.
<https://www.lakecountycf.org/>
 - To get involved, please contact Barb Karacic of the Alliance for Human Services, b.karacic1340@gmail.com.
- **The extended Stay-at-Home Order provided clarification that engaging in the free exercise of religion is considered an 'essential' activity.** Exercise of religion must comply with Social Distancing Requirements and the limit on gatherings of more than ten people in keeping with CDC guidelines for the protection of public health. Religious organizations and houses of worship are encouraged to use online or drive-in services to protect the health and safety of their congregants. <https://www2.illinois.gov/Pages/Executive-Orders/ExecutiveOrder2020-32.aspx>.
- **United Way continues to coordinate volunteer opportunities** during COVID-19. Among the opportunities is an urgent request for sewn cloth mask donations to be distributed to vulnerable populations. <https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSeHlujrAxtmB21jNJy1cZ3jbr31k-LFbkjguB7fKncQpAymA/viewform>
- We have seen an increase in the number of COVID-19 cases, specifically in the LatinX and African American communities within Lake County. **We are reaching out to faith communities** and building a database and a process for partnering with faith communities to reach the community. To provide information on your faith community, please contact Jon Ashworth JAshworth@lakecountyil.gov.

Community Resources

- **A Safe Place** is a local domestic violence resource for those in need: A Safe Place: 24-Hour Help Line (847) 249-4450 / Toll-Free Help Line 1-800-600-SAFE / TTY (847) 249-6557
<https://asafeforhelp.org/>

- Staff and trained volunteers offer immediate counseling and support to survivors of domestic abuse using dedicated crisis lines. Once a caller's immediate safety is established, they are encouraged to tell their story so that their pain and fears can be validated. The caller is then assisted in exploring options available to them, including the emergency shelter.
- During the COVID-19 pandemic, we understand that many residents are experiencing added stress in their lives and may need some extra support. The Lake County Health Department's **Crisis Care Program** has a free, confidential hotline staffed by professional counselors for those experiencing a mental health crisis or substance use issue. Services are available 24/7 to anyone. (847) 377-8088.
- Lake County's **map of active food pantries** can be found on the Coronavirus Data Hub: www.lakecountyil.gov/COVID19data.
<https://www.arcgis.com/home/webmap/viewer.html?webmap=ef0a7c562e1848ea93acb11613ce8572>
- **A printable list of food pantries** is also available in English and Spanish on the Lake County "How to Get Help" webpage. <https://www.lakecountyil.gov/4414/How-to-Get-Help>
- **211:** If anyone in your community needs assistance finding food, shelter, rent or utility assistance, or other essential services, CALL 211 or TEXT your zip code to 898211 to speak with someone who can help. 211 is available 24/7. <https://211lakecounty.org/>
- To get **general information about coronavirus via text message**, text "COVID19" to 211211.
- Illinois has launched **Call4Calm**, a free **emotional support text line** for Illinois residents experiencing stress and mental health issues related to COVID-19. To speak with a local mental health professional, text "TALK" or "HABLAR" (for Spanish) to 552020.
- Individuals co-quarantined or isolated with an abuser can contact the **National Domestic Violence Hotline** 1-800-799-7233, or the **Illinois Domestic Violence Help Line** at: 1-877-TO END DV or 877-863-6338 (Voice), 1-877-863-6339 (TTY), Chat at thehotline.org.
- Essential Workers can find **emergency childcare options** by calling (888) 228-1146 or visiting this website - <https://www2.illinois.gov/sites/OECD/Pages/For-Communities.aspx>
- United Way of Lake County, Lake County Government, Lake County Community Foundation, and the Lake County Municipal League have joined together to create the **Lake County COVID-19 Community Response Fund** which has already disbursed many grants to community organizations providing relief to residents. <https://www.liveunitedlakecounty.org/covid19/>.
- Mano a Mano has a **COVID-19 Tanda Emergency Fund** to help immigrant families directly, who are often excluded from government benefits. Learn more or donate on their website: <https://mamfrc.org/page-18194>
- **SNAP (formerly known as food stamps) benefits are expanded for April and May.** Those currently receiving this benefit should see the maximum benefit amount which will be automatically deposited onto their Link card. Apply at ABE.Illinois.gov

May 21, 2020

- If someone needs **help filling out an application**, the Northern Illinois Food Bank has a hotline: 844-600-SNAP (7627) or email snap@northernilfoodbank.org, or visit <https://solvehungertoday.org/get-help/snap-food-stamps/>.
- **If someone loses their insurance** because they lost their job, they are eligible for a special enrollment period for health insurance. They can explore their options at healthcare.gov or [GetCoveredIllinois.Gov](https://getcoveredillinois.gov).
 - Additionally, people with low income may be eligible for **Medicaid**. People who are eligible can enroll in Medicaid at any time.
- **Rental evictions** have been suspended nationwide and a 60-day moratorium for all **evictions and foreclosures** on FHA, Fannie Mae, and Freddie Mac-insured properties began on March 18.
- The Illinois Commerce Commission **suspended disconnections for all electric, natural gas, water and wastewater services**. Late fees are waived. <https://www.icc.illinois.gov/home/covid-19>.
- Many providers and programs are offering **free or low cost internet** <https://www.digitalinclusion.org/free-low-cost-internet-plans/>.

Questions from the Community

What actions will be used to protect our county while Wisconsin opens?

- We continue to urge our residents to follow social distancing guidelines, wear a mask in public places, wash hands often, and limit time outside the home to slow the spread of COVID-19. While we cannot control what is happening in our neighboring states and counties, our residents continuing to do their part is critical. Lake County businesses should follow business guidelines and remain vigilant in requiring face coverings, social distancing, and promoting proper disinfection and handwashing among other measures to protect their employees and patrons.

I'm concerned about Lake County opening up when we continue to see an increase in cases, plus we have such a high volume of cases. Why are we continuing to open up in Lake County with the increases?

- Thank you for your concern over the gravity of this pandemic. The total number of cases will continue to climb as it represents total numbers of those who tested positive (not those who are actively ill), however the rate of new cases has been plateauing. The reopening of businesses will be gradual with the State's Restore Illinois plan. If new infections increase as a result of relaxed rules, restrictions may be put back into place.

What is the total number of deaths reported for March, April, and May of 2019? How much has this number increased for the same time period of 2020?

- There is a delay in our receiving death data from the State's vital records. The state gives us the full files once a year in June for the previous year. As such, we will not have 2019 data until June and will not have official 2020 counts until June 2021.

The Islamic Foundation North (IFN) Mosque Community is over 90% South Asian (Asian Indian, Pakistani, Bengali) representing over 600 registered families. Lake County has seen a 77% increase in "Asians" (This

May 21, 2020

is not broken down by category on the Lake County site) between 2000 -2010. Are we tracking cases in the South Asian population in Lake County?

- The demographics we track align with the 1997 Office of Management and Budget standard on Race and Ethnicity which enables regional, state, and national comparisons of potential inequities in races. As part of that standard, there are 5 races that are tracked: White, Black or African American, American Indian or Alaskan Native, Asian, Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander. We do not track sub-groups within those five major races today and those reporting case information are only required to classify a case into one of those five (or refuse to report). The race classifications are constantly reviewed by OMB and, if they were to change, we would change our practices to align with them.

Does Lake County Health Department intend to stay firm with the Governor's 5-phase plan?

- Yes. We will continue to align with the Illinois Department of Public Health guidance.

If some county employees are furloughed, as was "allowed" by the county board on Tuesday, could volunteers be used to fill some gaps if CDC guidelines are maintained?

- Lake County is not seeking volunteers at this time. Due to the modifications of many government and Health Department programs, we are utilizing our own employees to cover pandemic response responsibilities.