

## Lake County Updates

- As of yesterday afternoon, **Lake County has 8,562 COVID-19 cases and 295 deaths**. Over 48,210 tests have been administered.
- Illinois has reported 123,830 cases and 5,621 deaths in the state. Over 959,175 tests have been administered.
- The Health Department is investigating **56 long-term care facilities** that have at least 2 cases. These facilities have a combined total of **1,563 cases and 199 deaths**.
- **The State is now in Phase 3 of the Restore Illinois Plan.**
  - Plan: <https://coronavirus.illinois.gov/sfc/servlet.shepherd/document/download/069t000000BadSOAAJ?operationContext=S1>
  - Metrics: <https://www.dph.illinois.gov/restore>
  - Toolkit: <https://www2.illinois.gov/dceo/pages/restoreLP3.aspx>
- **The Community-Based Testing Site has moved. It re-opened this morning at a new location, 102 W. Water St., Waukegan. Today the State also announced that testing at the state-run sites is now open to everyone with or without symptoms.** The site is open 7 days a week from 8 a.m. until 4 p.m., or until 750 test kits are completed for the day. The Illinois National Guard administers the tests, and results are provided by phone in 4-7 days. Testing is free and available regardless of immigration status. A phone number and name are required in order to receive testing results. For more details, visit our website: <https://www.lakecountyl.gov/4435/COVID-19-Testing>
- **Racism is a public health issue, and the Lake County Health Department stands against the violence, oppression, and injustice faced by our communities of color.** Throughout our country's history, systemic racism has inflicted trauma on generations of black Americans, impacting access to quality healthcare, housing, education, healthy foods, and jobs that pay a living wage. We are committed to addressing the root causes of health inequity and continue to work closely with our community leaders to dismantle racism in Lake County.
  - Those who plan to protest injustices toward the black community are urged to wear a face covering, stay 6 feet apart from others as much as possible, and as always, stay home if ill, wash your hands, and cover your coughs and sneezes.
  - **The Illinois Department of Public Health (IDPH) is recommending anyone who has recently been part of a mass gathering, including rallies and protests over the past week, get tested for COVID-19. IDPH recommends getting tested 5-7 days after attending, or immediately if symptoms develop.**
- **During the pandemic, it is still important to take care of your health.** The Health Department is promoting messaging about the importance of routine health care. Many health care providers are offering telehealth services and have special precautions in place to prevent infections of COVID-19 in healthcare settings.

- **The virus that causes COVID-19 is still circulating in Lake County communities**, and with no vaccine available, the risks to public health remain, especially for our vulnerable populations. We must continue to take personal responsibility to protect ourselves and others. As restrictions ease, please continue these simple ways to reduce your risk:
  - Wearing masks;
  - Keeping your distance from others;
  - Avoiding gatherings;
  - and practicing good hand washing.
- **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>
  - Prior to the COVID-19 pandemic, we had 5 staff in our Communicable Disease program to investigate cases and perform contact tracing.
  - With the rapid increase in cases in Lake County needing investigation, we have scaled up our operations to have approximately 70 staff in this area, comprised of Health Department staff reassigned to these roles, medical students, and Medical Reserve Corps volunteers.
  - With our state grant funding and local partnerships, we are looking to add approximately 150 staff for case investigation, contact tracing, and resource coordinators.
  - 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>
- **The Health Department is no longer issuing daily news releases regarding COVID-19**, except in the case of breaking news.
  - Please make sure you are signed up to receive the weekly email newsletter (<http://bit.ly/lccovid-19> or Spanish: <https://bit.ly/lccovid-19-es>)
  - **Continue to check the Coronavirus Data Hub, [www.lakecountyl.gov/COVID19data](http://www.lakecountyl.gov/COVID19data) which is updated Monday through Friday. Please note, effective this week the Health Department is no longer updating the hub on weekends.**
- **These conference calls will now be held every other week instead of weekly.** The next call is scheduled for June 18, 2020, followed by July 2, 2020.
  - The key points, chat files, and audio recordings are posted to the Health Department's website. <https://www.lakecountyl.gov/4428/Conference-Calls>
  - Don't forget to submit your questions by noon on Tuesdays before the call. 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

- **Illinois Governor J.B. Pritzker extended the [Disaster Proclamation](#) and issued [Executive Order 2020-38](#)** titled "Restoring Illinois - Protecting Our Communities" effective Friday, May 29 through June 27, 2020. Under this new order, [Phase 3 guidelines](#) are in place, gatherings of 10 people or less are permitted for any reason, face coverings are still required in public, and many businesses are able to open with specific precautions to keep residents safe from COVID-19.
- Lake county was added to the existing state disaster proclamation. These counties represent 1) a threat for looting or destruction through planned protests, 2) home to critical infrastructure, or 3) where the state has received requests for state assistance or resources. To date, 15 counties are included in the current disaster proclamation.  
<https://www2.illinois.gov/Pages/news-item.aspx?ReleaseID=21634>
- **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](https://ides.illinois.gov).
- 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

- The Illinois Department of Commerce and Economic Opportunity released the **Phase 3 toolkit for businesses** with guidelines for operation, now available in several languages. There are toolkits designed for different industry categories including manufacturing, health and fitness centers, retail, offices, restaurants and bars, outdoor recreation, recreational youth programs, personal care, among others <https://www2.illinois.gov/dceo/pages/restoreLP3.aspx>.
- **Workplace outbreaks of COVID-19 continue to be a concern.** Please make sure to thoroughly review industry-appropriate guidance from the State, implement the recommended safety measures, and communicate expectations clearly to employees and customers, also making sure to reach all staff and contractors who enter your facilities, i.e., cleaning crews, security guards, catering company staff, etc. with information.
- **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](mailto:workplacerrights@atg.state.il.us).
- **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](http://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](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](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](https://dph.illinois.gov/sites/default/files/COVID-19_WorkplaceHealth_SafetyGuidance20200505.pdf)
- **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>
- 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

- The Illinois Emergency Management Agency is hosting **COVID-19 Public Assistance Program applicant briefings** this week. Registration is required. Space is limited, so it's highly recommended that you register for one of the sessions as soon as you can.
  - The agenda includes a public assistance program overview, information on the public assistance process for COVID-19, summary worksheets, and a question and answer session as time allows.
  - View info on the applicant briefings and register: <https://bit.ly/3cwjsxB>
- The State's **Connected Illinois grant program** is 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, and applications are due by June 12. <https://www2.illinois.gov/dceo/AboutDCEO/GrantOpportunities/Pages/2424-1617.aspx>.
- **The Lake County Suicide Prevention Task Force is hosting a virtual seminar, "Impact of a Pandemic in First Responders"** on Wednesday, June 24, 2020, 11 a.m.-noon. Clinical

psychologist Dr. Alice Schrubba will discuss compassion fatigue & burnout and Detective Matt Thornton and founder of My Father's Business will explain the importance of self-care and coping skills. If you are interested in attending, please contact Lourdes Shanjani at [lshanjani@lakecountyil.gov](mailto:lshanjani@lakecountyil.gov).

- For the safety of the public and the staff of the **19<sup>th</sup> Judicial Circuit, beginning Monday, June 1, all court cases in Family, Civil, Criminal, and Orders of Protection are being done remotely through ZOOM.**
  - Whether on a tablet, smart phone, desktop or laptop, those that are due in Court can download the free ZOOM application, and then visit the [19th Judicial Circuit's website](#) and click on [Remote Hearings tab](#).
  - If you are due in Court, but do not have access to a phone or the internet, ZOOM stations have been set up in the Courthouse Law Library at 18 N. County Street in Waukegan.
- 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](http://www.lakecountyil.gov/assessor).
- **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>
- 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](mailto:workplacerrights@atg.state.il.us) to receive **complaints of employers failing to abide by the social distancing or sanitation guidelines.**
- 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

- **New guidelines for Places of Worship are available on the IDPH website:** <http://www.dph.illinois.gov/covid19/community-guidance/places-worship-guidance>. This guidance does not obligate or encourage places of worship to resume in-person activity. It is strongly recommended that places of worship continue to facilitate remote services, particularly for those who are vulnerable to COVID-19 including older adults and those with co-morbidities.
  - Even with adherence to physical distancing, multiple households convening in a congregational setting to worship carries a higher risk for widespread transmission of the virus that causes COVID-19, and may result in increased rates of infection, hospitalization, and death, especially among vulnerable populations.
  - In particular, the high risk associated with activities such as singing and group recitation can negate the risk-reducing behaviors such as physical distancing.
- **The CDC has a webpage dedicated to communities of faith.** <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/community/organizations/index.html>
- **The Lake County Community Action to Counter Hunger (CATCH) initiative continues to grow.** The initiative is currently serving 65 families, plus another 60 at the Highwood Library. The program recently started piloting grocery shopping for seniors and is looking to expand.
  - 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.
  - CATCH is receiving funding from CARES money through the Lake County government and through donations accepted through the Lake County Community Foundation.: <https://www.lakecountycf.org/>
  - To get involved, please contact Barb Karacic of the Alliance for Human Services, [b.karacic1340@gmail.com](mailto:b.karacic1340@gmail.com).
- **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-LFbkbjguB7fKNcQpAymA/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](mailto:JAshworth@lakecountyil.gov).

## Community Resources

- **United Way of Lake County 211** continues to see a sharp increase in the number of people contacting 211 with COVID-19 related needs:
  - 55% of calls were identified as COVID-19 related in April
  - 48% increase in COVID-19 calls from March
  - A majority of COVID-19 calls are from Waukegan (36%).
  - Top needs across all callers continue to be rent assistance, food pantry assistance, and assistance with utility payments.
  - 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/>
- United Way of Lake County, Lake County Government, Lake County Community Foundation, and the Lake County Municipal League 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.
  - The fund has surpassed \$700,000 in contributions to date. Since the fund launched on March 20, United Way has disbursed four fund installments totaling \$453,262 to 35 local nonprofits.
  - The fund is aimed at meeting critical needs, such as emergency food and shelter, rental and utility assistance, essential basic needs for children and families, and other basic needs identified real time through 211.
  - For more information or to give, visit [LIVEUNITEDlakecounty.org/covid19](https://LIVEUNITEDlakecounty.org/covid19).



- **COVID-19 testing and treatment is available to all Illinois residents, 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.
- **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://asafeplaceforhelp.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](http://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>
- 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](http://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>
- 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.** 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](http://ABE.Illinois.gov)
  - 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](mailto: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](https://www.healthcare.gov) or [GetCoveredIllinois.Gov](https://www.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 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

The State determines the testing sites, but does local CARES funding allow for local run testing? If front line workers are doing on site testing, what about expanding testing on site at work places of essential workers?

- The Health Department is working with our community partners to strategically expand testing in areas of need. Our Health Informatics team is analyzing where testing is being done in the County and where there may be gaps. One area that is currently being explored is mobile testing sites that could, if needed, be stationed outside of places of employment.
- Spending of Lake County's CARES funding is being determined by the Lake County Special Committee on COVID-19 Recovery.
- The Health Department's CARES funding was received from HRSA, and therefore has to be designated toward the Federally Qualified Health Center (FQHC), so we have been using those funds for testing patients of our Community Health Centers.

I've been asked about guidance for opening pools within Phase 3 as it applies to apartment complexes and condo associations.

- Right now pools are to remain closed. The State is expected to release guidelines today or tomorrow for pool owners.

Who enforces masks in public spaces?

- A store or business can generally prohibit a person from entering the building if they do not have a face covering. Employers and organizations can also require face coverings of their staff and volunteers within their business. A person with a medical condition or disability that prevents them from safely wearing a face-covering need to speak with a store employee or their employer about a reasonable accommodation.
- In general, law enforcement may ask a person or group to adhere to the State's guidelines such as wearing face coverings or social distancing, but do not have legal mechanism to enforce it.
- It's important to note that beyond the State guidelines, some municipalities may have their own face covering ordinance which could include more strict enforcement measures.

Who verifies if businesses are equipped with masks for their employees and have applied social distancing changes for the safety of the community?

- Businesses are responsible for the safety of their employees and customers. Employees with concerns that their employer is not allowing for safe social distancing or that it is not maintaining a safe and sanitary work environment should contact the Workplace Rights Bureau of the Illinois Attorney General's Office at 844-740-5076 or [workplacerrights@atg.state.il.us](mailto:workplacerrights@atg.state.il.us). Customers may also use this hotline to report concerns. Our Health Department's Environmental Health team is investigating complaints made through this office.