Week of March 22, 2021

Through the COVID-19 Response initiative at The Patterson Foundation, this weekly Amplify communication aims to weave together what works in each of the counties for a healthier and more thriving Suncoast. You’re receiving this message because you’ve been identified as a community advocate, and we hope you’ll share these stories and messages far and wide in your network.

SPOTLIGHT STORY

Understanding Vulnerable Populations

Everyone is at risk of catching COVID-19. However, specific populations have a higher risk of getting COVID-19 and experiencing severe symptoms of the virus. Due to the higher risk or lack of access to health services, these populations may be considered “vulnerable” or “hard-to-reach.” COVID-19 vulnerability is determined based on the following:

- **Age** — your risk increases with age.
- **Underlying Conditions** — your risk of getting COVID-19 or becoming hospitalized increases if you have one or more medical conditions such as obesity, cancer, a weakened immune system, smoke, type 2 diabetes mellitus, and more.
- **Race and Ethnicity** — your risk of getting COVID-19 or becoming hospitalized increases if you are non-Hispanic white.

Many people in racial and ethnic minority groups are affected by COVID-19 in higher numbers than other groups. This disparity is explained by one or more factors such as limited access to health care or educational opportunities, community and housing conditions, income, and work settings.

To prevent the spread of COVID-19 in the Suncoast region, individuals and communities must continue to social distance and wear a mask to protect themselves and others.

HELPFUL LINK:

To download form EO-21-47, better known as the “Extreme Vulnerability” form for your doctor to fill out (making you eligible for the vaccine regardless of age), [CLICK HERE!](#)

Suncoast COVID-19 Stats

Week of March 22, 2021

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>COUNTY</th>
<th>% Pop. Tested Positive</th>
<th>% Pop. Completed Vaccine Treatment</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Charlotte</td>
<td>5.67%</td>
<td>14.83%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>DeSoto</td>
<td>10.15%</td>
<td>7.17%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Manatee</td>
<td>8.04%</td>
<td>10.96%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sarasota</td>
<td>6.34%</td>
<td>15.97%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Our goal is to share the bottom line data, and why they matter in the Suncoast. The first column is the percentage of the population who have tested positive — according to the CDC, communities should strive for less than 3%. The second column is the percentage of the population in each county who have either received both doses of the Moderna or Pfizer vaccine or the single dose Johnson & Johnson —signifying a “complete treatment.”

https://floridahealthcovid19.gov/

CONTACT US

Please forward this to your network, and when you have stories about overcoming and thriving during COVID-19, please send them to Abby Rolland at: ARolland@thepattersonfoundation.org

#COVID19 @ThePattersonFdn