



# SUNCOAST

AMPLIFYING WHAT WORKS  
COVID-19 RESPONSE

Charlotte  
DeSoto  
Manatee  
Sarasota

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.

## Let's educate, encourage others to boost vaccination rate – by Teri A. Hansen

Like so many all over Southwest Florida, the Charles & Margery Barancik Foundation staff spent months working from home as the COVID-19 pandemic settled worldwide.

Unfortunately, without broader vaccination rates, this scenario threatens to become our new norm until a basic resistance to the disease is developed through a vaccination level somewhere in the 75-80% range.

The pandemic continues – and will continue – ravaging the unvaccinated population with the deadly Delta variant. It is many times more contagious than the original strain, and it is worrisome to medical professionals – not only for the rate at which it kills even the young, but also because of the unknown long-term health effects it will inflict on a generation.

Read more [here](#).

## 5 Easy Steps We All Can Take to Stay Healthy during COVID-19



**Get Vaccinated:** Vaccines are the most effective tools to protect your health and prevent the spread of disease. Learn more [here](#).



**Get Tested:** If you are showing symptoms, you should get tested, experts say. You should also get tested if you live with a family member who was infected, or you came into close contact with someone who was. Learn more [here](#).



**Wear a Mask:** You should wear a mask, even if you do not feel sick. This is because several studies have found that people with COVID-19 who never develop symptoms (asymptomatic) and those who are not yet showing symptoms (pre-symptomatic) can still spread the virus to other people. Wearing a mask helps protect those around you, in case you are infected but not showing symptoms. Learn more [here](#).



**Social Distance:** The practice of social distancing means staying home and away from others as much as possible to help prevent spread of COVID-19. Learn more [here](#).



**Wash Your Hands Regularly:** With COVID-19 transmission mainly spreading between people through direct, indirect (through contaminated objects or surfaces), or close contact with infected people via mouth and nose secretions, washing hands with soap and running water is of critical importance. Learn more [here](#).



### DID YOU KNOW?

...if you've lost your COVID-19 vaccine card you can get a replacement by contacting:

CHARLOTTE COUNTY (941) 624.7200  
DESOTO COUNTY (863) 993.4601  
MANATEE COUNTY (941) 242.6646  
SARASOTA COUNTY (941) 861.2900

## Suncoast COVID-19 Stats Week of August 16, 2021

COUNTY	7 Day Rolling Ave. of Daily New Cases	A Population ^12 with at Least One Vaccination DoseC
Charlotte	120  last wk: 104	69%
DeSoto	30  last wk: 21	49%
Manatee	378  last wk: 285	62%
Sarasota	340  last wk: 275	72%

COVID-19 is not going away anytime soon. Recently, cases in Southwest Florida and the four county region have **spiked** as a result of the delta variant. Encourage your family, friends, stakeholders, clients, and others to get vaccinated. [Getting vaccinated](#) is the best protection against the variants, including delta.

## Getting 'Back to Normal' Is Going to Take All of Our Tools. Download this graphic [HERE](#).

Get vaccinated.



Wear a mask.



Stay 6 feet from others, and avoid crowds.



Wash hands often.



#COVID19  
@ThePattersonFdn



## CONTACT US

Please forward this to your network, and when you have stories about overcoming and thriving during COVID-19, please send them to Hannah Saeger Karnei at: [HSaegerKarnei@thepattersonfoundation.org](mailto:HSaegerKarnei@thepattersonfoundation.org)