
HEALTH DEPARTMENT NEWS RELEASE



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Kent County Health Department Administers 20 Thousandth Dose of COVID-19 Vaccine

GRAND RAPIDS, Mich. (February 19, 2021) – The Kent County Health Department (KCHD) administered dose number 20,000 this morning at its vaccine clinic located at 700 Fuller NE. The milestone comes almost two months exactly since the first dose was administered on December 18, 2020.

Shelley Grissom of Grand Rapids was the recipient of the landmark dose when she received her first dose of the vaccine around 10:30 a.m. She was presented with balloons and a crown by KCHD staff to celebrate the event.

"This is the best birthday present I could have ever asked for," said Grissom whose birthday is Monday, February 22. "I have been wanting the vaccine for a long time and now I have it."

Grissom's husband of 28 years, Robert Grissom, received his first dose on Thursday, February 18.

KCHD Immunizations Supervisor Mary Winsinski, who received the first dose administered at the KCHD clinic on December 18, was on hand to witness the moment.

"This achievement shows what public health is all about. Our staff has been working tirelessly for the past year to get to this point. Today they are able to start seeing the tangible results of those efforts and they deserve to celebrate."

The KCHD clinic is open by appointment only and is currently working to vaccinate people over 65, and prioritized frontline workers as identified by the Michigan Department of Health and Human Service.

As of February 19, 2021, more than 136 thousand doses of COVID-19 Vaccine have been administered to Kent County Residents. Of this amount, more than 85 thousand have received their first vaccines and more than 50 thousand have now received their second doses.

"This is a significant moment in Kent County, not just for our clinic at KCHD but for everyone who lives in Kent County," says Dr. Adam London, Director at KCHD. "Everyday we are one step closer to containing this virus and getting back to our normal lives.

To learn more about our vaccine efforts, visit www.vaccinatemwestmi.com.

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KCHD has been in the business of providing health services to Kent County since 1931. The Health Department is home to nearly 265 employees including public health nurses, sanitarians, health educators, technicians, public health administrators, and specialized staff at the Kent County Animal Shelter. The Health Department operates one main clinic and three satellite clinics located in Kentwood, Rockford, and Grand Rapids. To learn more about KCHD services, visit www.accesskent.com/health.

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