



KALAMAZOO COUNTY GOVERNMENT

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**NEWS RELEASE FOR
IMMEDIATE RELEASE**
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Drive-thru Flu Vaccine Clinic on Saturday October 24, 2020

KALAMAZOO, MI— Kalamazoo County Health & Community Services Department is hosting a drive-thru flu clinic on Saturday October 24, 2020 from 10 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. in the parking lot of the Stones Church, located at 1225 W. Paterson St., located in Kalamazoo. People will remain in their vehicles the entire time. Per CDC guidelines, all vehicles will be asked to park for 15 minutes following vaccination. Clinic will run while supplies last. The senior high-dose will not be available. Walk-up vaccination is possible for those without vehicles.

People must bring a picture ID and insurance cards for everyone 6 months of age and older who will be receiving their flu shot. The flu vaccine is covered by most health insurance plans; however, the health department is offering the vaccine at no cost to people who are uninsured or underinsured. In addition to the drive-thru clinic, the flu vaccine is also offered by appointment at the health department by calling 269-373-5203 or visiting www.kalcounty.com/hcs/flu vaccine.

Anyone can get the flu, including healthy children and adults. Getting the flu vaccine is one of the best ways to reduce respiratory illness circulating in the area. Every person six months and older should get an annual flu vaccine, especially certain groups considered at the highest risk, like young children, pregnant women, adults who have chronic health conditions, or adults over the age of fifty.

Symptoms of influenza, which are similar to COVID-19 symptoms, include fever or feeling feverish/chilled, body aches, cough, sore throat, or fatigue. While preventive actions recommended to reduce the risk of COVID-19 such as wearing a face covering and social distancing may also help to reduce the risk of flu transmission, it is important to get the flu vaccine, which is the most effective way to prevent the virus altogether.

The flu shot takes approximately two weeks to provide full protection against the influenza virus. It is recommended that residents receive their vaccine now before the holiday season begins. Getting a flu vaccine this fall can reduce your risk of getting the flu and help save scarce medical resources needed to care for people with COVID-19.

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Kalamazoo County Government
Health & Community Services Department

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HEALTH AND COMMUNITY SERVICES DEPARTMENT

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