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NIHHC'S COVID-19 DRIVE-THRU CLINIC MAINTAINS ACCESS TO VACCINATION & TESTING

ELKHART, IN, June 2022 – The Northern Indiana Hispanic Health Coalition (NIHHC), in partnership with the Indiana Department of Health (IDOH) and Heart City Health Center, ran its **COVID-19 vaccine & testing drive-thru clinic on Saturday, June 11, from 1 PM-5 PM, in the parking lot of NIHHC's Elkhart office location.**

The clinic offered Pfizer and Moderna vaccines, as well as COVID-19 testing. NIHHC volunteers and staff from IDOH, Heart City Health, and NIHHC provided 33 vaccines and 1 test to the community in four hours. 5 first doses and 28 boosters were administered, 5 of them pediatric doses, including the recently approved pediatric booster. NIHHC also distributed hand sanitizers, N95 masks, and 30 COVID-19 home testing kits, responding to the lack of rapid tests available in the area. 82% of attendees were Hispanic.

With testing sites in Elkhart County severely limited and vaccines only available by appointment from both public and private providers, NIHHC is the only organization in the area providing regular COVID-19 clinics with bilingual and culturally sensitive staff during weekend hours. Clinics are open to all and accept both appointments and walk-ins, no insurance or fees required.

COVID-19 cases and deaths have not disappeared. Nationwide, hotspots are emerging, and many infections go uncounted in official reports. Vaccination remains an important part of protecting ourselves and loved ones from getting seriously ill or dying from COVID-19.

NIHHC offers consistent vaccination and testing opportunities and remains committed to meeting the needs of the community to fight COVID-19. The next clinic is July 9, where NIHHC will have health care providers available to respond to any questions community members may have, especially if they are hesitant to get vaccinated.

“Summer is the perfect time to take care of your family and catch up on your vaccination cycle,” said NIHHC Executive Director, Liliana Quintero. “Our bilingual community health workers are available to talk to you about getting vaccinated.”

With support from the CDC Foundation, the Indiana Department of Health, and REAL Services, NIHHC's COVID-19 vaccination campaign, *Unite Against COVID-19*, reaches the community

by partnering with trusted influencers and messengers, leaders, health care providers, and community organizations and agencies.

The Northern Indiana Hispanic Health Coalition's mission is to provide preventative health care programs to the communities of Elkhart, Kosciusko, Noble, and Marshall counties through education, advocacy, physician referral, and research, so that they may lead healthier lifestyles.

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If you would like more information on NIHHC's activities and programs, please call NIHHC at 574-522-0966 or toll free at 1-877-21-SALUD, or visit our website at www.nihhc.com. If you have questions regarding COVID-19, please call NIHHC's bilingual COVID-19 hotline at 574-206-3938. Visit NIHHC's Facebook page for up-to-date information regarding COVID-19, and don't miss NIHHC's Pills of Knowledge video segments with healthcare professionals, broadcasted every Tuesday, 5-6 PM, on Facebook Live. **#UniteAgainstCOVID-19!**



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