

- April 7, 2022 – OC Department Head Meeting;
- April 11, 2022 – DHHS COVID Call with Large/High Impact Counties
- April 13, 2022 – Opioid Task Force Meeting; I shared information from the NCACC Opioid Summit held in Greensboro on March 29, 2022. The team outlined next steps for meeting settlement deliverables as outlined under Option B. The recruitment and retention of a neutral trained consultant for facilitation of the Strategic Planning Process is top of the list. Total Payment for Orange County will be \$6,799,780.00; 2022-2038 (18 Year Period). We are scheduled to receive **\$261,245** in the “Spring” of 2022 (this month) and another **\$574,528** in the “Summer” (Mid July) of 2022. The payments decline after the first year.
- Supervisors are working hard this month to complete the Mid-Year reviews as part of the new Focal Review Process with County Human Resources.
- The team and I continue to work with UNC and both school districts on COVID mitigation activities

Legislative Updates

- Funding provided in the American Rescue Plan Act of 2021 delineated in *Senate Bill 105* for the Department of Health and Human Services, Division of Public Health, to be allocated to local health departments to expand communicable disease surveillance, detection, control, and prevention activities to address the COVID-19 public health emergency and other communicable disease challenges impacted by the COVID-19 public health emergency arrived this month. Orange County received **\$215,667.00** for year 1.

COVID-19 Updates

Orange County Status as of April 13, 2022:

OC Cases –26,520 Deaths – 124

Over the past 7 days we've had 323 new cases. This is a slight increase in cases over the last month (3.12% increase). We've had 0 additional deaths over the last month.

We currently have 4 outbreaks in the County (2 Nursing Homes, 1 Residential Facilities and 1 Correctional Facility).

A couple of local schools have experienced clusters after returning from Spring Break and after Prom. The Health Department continues to work with school nurses and administrators as we normally do for communicable disease outbreaks. We recommended schools experiencing clusters return to universal indoor masking for a minimum of 10 days to slow the spread further.

NC DHHS Dashboard

Weekly update for April 13, 2022 Summary page of the NCDHHS COVID-19 Dashboard includes the following:

- *Wastewater Surveillance,*
 - *State – slight increase overall; this week 2.1 million versus last week 1.4 million*
 - *Orange County – seeing fluctuation in viral gene copies per person; on 3/30/22 4 million, on 4/2/22 6 million, and on 4/6/22 3 million; although we see an increase, numbers are significantly lower than we saw during the peak of Omicron in early January when it was 89 million viral gene copies per person.*
- *COVID-Like Illness in Emergency Departments,*
 - *State – 2%; no change from last week*
 - *Orange County – UNC Health reports low ED visits for CLI; no change from previous week*
- *Hospital Admissions,*
 - *State – decrease; this week 242 versus 274 last week*
 - *Orange County – decrease; this week 2.6% versus 4.2 % last week*
- *COVID-19 Cases,*

- State- Small increase; 3,026 this week versus 2,795 last week
- Orange County – As of 4/6 case rate 75/100k (last 7 days) versus 3/30 a case rate of 55/100k (last 7 days)
- **Booster Rates,**
 - State – 51%
 - Orange County – 50% -73,946
- **Prevalence of Variants,**
 - State – B.A.1 – 40.31% and B.A. 2 – 59.69%
 - Orange County – B.A.1 – 30% and B.A.2 – 70%
- **and CDC COVID-19 Community Levels data.**
 - Orange County - Low

In addition, the Dashboard will no longer include testing or contract tracing. The County Transmission Data Dashboard will be completely retired on March 23, 2022.

COVID-19 Vaccination Data – (Data as of April 13, 2022)

- NC DHHS Vaccinations dashboard found at <https://covid19.ncdhhs.gov/dashboard/vaccinations> : Orange County (all Providers)
 - 116,823 first dose – 79%
 - 113,340 full vaccine series – 76%

CDC COVID-19 Community Level (Data as of April 11, 2022)

COVID-19 Community Levels – Use the Highest Level that Applies to Your Community				
New COVID-19 Cases Per 100,000 people in the past 7 days	Indicators	Low	Medium	High
20.88 Fewer than 200	New COVID-19 admissions per 100,000 population (7-day total)	3.1 <10.0	10.0-19.9	≥20.0
	Percent of staffed inpatient beds occupied by COVID-19 patients (7-day average)	3% <10.0%	10.0-14.9%	≥15.0%
200 or more	New COVID-19 admissions per 100,000 population (7-day total)	NA	<10.0	≥10.0
	Percent of staffed inpatient beds occupied by COVID-19 patients (7-day average)	NA	<10.0%	≥10.0%

The COVID-19 community level is determined by the higher of the new admissions and inpatient beds metrics, based on the current level of new cases per 100,000 population in the past 7 days

Masks and Public Transportation

The Transportation Security Administration (TSA) extended the security directive requiring masks on public transportation conveyances and hubs through **May 3, 2022**. Read the TSA announcement [here](#).

FTA will share updates as soon as possible. Learn more about FTA’s mask guidance for public transportation through the [FTA Transit Mask Up webpage](#)

UPCOMING EVENTS

- **April 27-29, 2022** – NC Public Health Association (NC PHA) in Asheville, NC; This year's theme: "Connectedness and Equity: Public Health Creates a Healthier North Carolina". Environmental Health staff will give a presentation about the Gaines Chapel Road sewer connection study at this conference.