



CALHOUN COUNTY, MICHIGAN JOINT OPERATIONS CENTER

COVID-19 Unified Response



Joint Information Center

Friday, May 1, 2020

Calhoun County's Joint Operations Center (JOC) will release Joint Information Center (JIC) briefings via email every Monday and Friday, as well as hold a live presentation mid-day Wednesdays.

As of 4 p.m. May 1, Calhoun County has a cumulative total of 231 confirmed cases of COVID-19 reported to Calhoun County Public Health Department (CCPHD), with a total of 15 deaths attributed to COVID-19 and 56 cumulative hospitalizations.

It is important for the community to remember that we are still in the middle of an active pandemic. As the COVID-19 virus progresses and the county looks toward slowly reopening, CCPHD urges everyone to continue to follow CDC guidance.

- Wash your hands often with soap and water for at least 20 seconds.
- Cover your coughs or sneezes with a tissue, then throw the tissue in the trash and wash your hands.
- Avoid touching your eyes, nose, and mouth.
- Clean and disinfect frequently-touched objects and surfaces.
- Wear a cloth face-covering in public to protect others.
- Practice social distancing by staying 6' from others when you must be in public spaces.
- Stay home unless you need essentials like groceries and prescriptions.

Statement from Advantage Living Centers in Battle Creek

Long-term care facilities are at increased risk for the spread of COVID-19 due to individuals living in close proximity. That's true throughout the world and here in Calhoun County. Advantage Living Centers in Battle Creek was an early site of cases in our county, with nearly two dozen positive cases. The Public Health Department works closely with these facilities to ensure the safety and health of staff and residents.

Akhil Vijay, the Administrator of Advantage Living Centers, said, "Huge thank you to the Calhoun County Public Health Department for their support and participation

with us. We felt very supported, and we appreciated how they worked with us and were attentive to our needs."

Grant Expands Mental Health Services in Calhoun County

Summit Pointe received a grant from the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration for \$3.9 million to improve the quality of mental health and substance abuse treatment services. The grant will fund a Certified Community Behavioral Health Clinic collaborative for Calhoun County, in conjunction with partners such as Bronson Battle Creek, the Calhoun County Public Health Department, Grace Health, Oaklawn Hospital, and the SHARE Center.

Individuals who participate in the collaborative will receive integrated care for behavioral and physical health risks, including primary care screening and monitoring and nurse care coordinators to assist with specific needs.

[Read the press release](#)

Field of Flight Event Cancelled

The annual Battle Creek Field of Flight Air Show and Balloon Festival is cancelled for 2020. The event, which attracts hundreds of thousands of visitors every year, was scheduled to be held in July. In a press release announcing the decision, Executive Director Barbara Holuszka said, "The reality is we are not back to any type of normal and we all must continue to do our part to keep everyone around us safe. Having a small gathering is not permitted, let alone an event with 124,000 people." The organization looks forward to the event in 2021.

[Read the press release](#)

Binder Park Golf Course

After receiving legal clarification this week about the governor's latest extension of the Stay Home, Stay Safe order, the city's Binder Park Golf Course has closed the clubhouse to the public. The driving range also is now closed until further notice.

The course is open for golf, and we encourage visitors to come play, at 7255 B Drive South, and follow these guidelines:

- You must schedule and pay for tee times in advance by calling the pro shop at 269-979-8250, or online at binderparkgolf.com.
- You can purchase take-out food and beverages – please enter the snack bar from the patio. One person at a time can enter the snack bar.
- Golf carts are available only for those who have ADA and mobility needs.
- Please observe the social distancing guidelines of keeping six feet of space between you and other golfers who are not in your household.

Thanks for your patience, and please enjoy our outdoor assets safely!

AccessVision programs

We want to remind the community that, beyond the information on the city and county websites, the Joint Operations Center team has recorded two programs for AccessVision to share information and updates.

At accessvision.tv you can see “Calhoun County Joint Commission” from April 9 (<http://accessvision.tv/file/18586>) and “Calhoun County Joint Commission” from April 20 (<http://accessvision.tv/file/18597>).

The first program features the Unified Command Team, giving general updates. This was the No. 1 program on AccessVision for the month of April, surpassing even views of the two AV channels, 16 and 17. The second program features law enforcement leaders and information.

Stay tuned next week for a COVID-19 program from the Calhoun County Public Health Department!

Recycling Notice

The Calhoun County Recycling and Solid Waste Program reminds residents that Personal Protection Equipment is not recyclable. Please do not put your PPE in your recycling. Masks and gloves must be landfilled.

[See all Calhoun County COVID-19 recycling updates on the program's website](#)

Sign up to [receive all Joint Operations Center communications](#).

For updates from Calhoun County, about County operations and COVID-19 in Calhoun County, visit the County website, calhouncountymi.gov.

For updates from the City of Battle Creek, please visit battlecreekmi.gov/coronavirus.

The State’s COVID-19 Hotline is available for anyone who has questions or concerns related to the virus. The hotline is open seven days a week from 8 a.m.-5 p.m. Call 1-888-535-6136. For state COVID-19 information, visit michigan.gov/coronavirus.

For information, contact

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