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To:	Gawande, Hattie
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Subject:	COVID-19 Update
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Legislators,

We have now had 705,535 laboratory confirmed cases in North Carolina. This included 7,436 newly reported cases with a percent positive rate of 10.1%. There are 3,512 people hospitalized with COVID-19. Sadly we have 8,464 confirmed deaths for North Carolina.

All of our information can be found on the dashboard at the link below:
https://covid19.ncdhhs.gov/

Vaccine Update

Our local partners have been working tirelessly to ramp up and vaccinate people as quickly as possible under difficult circumstances. This week, in response to indications that the federal government might base future allocations on the supply states have on hand, our state and providers worked tirelessly to rapidly administer vaccinations and exhaust North Carolina's current supply.

- First, we worked to facilitate large-scale vaccination events, including two huge events at Charlotte Motor Speedway and the Panthers Stadium
- Second, we worked with may providers to stand up special events and push to use up every first-dose vaccine they have.
- Third, we asked local providers to aggressively schedule appointments.

Our partners stepped up. Hospitals, Local Health Departments, and other vaccine providers have been working as one team – Team Vaccine – on this shared goal. They are doing incredible work to clear a backlog and this week's allocated doses and get 280,000 doses into arms in a single week. For the coming vaccine week beginning 1/27 we only have 120,000 dose allocation to administer. A large portion of those doses are committed to the large-scale events planned to address the backlog. If we keep pace with our current rate of vaccinations, we have strong proof for the Federal Government that they can give North Carolina more shots we will get them in arms quickly.

As a result, many providers are getting small allocations or zero allocations for the week of 1/27. We know this is causing pain among providers who did an incredible job working to vaccinate residents quickly. As long as we are getting such a small amount of vaccine as a state, there are going to be challenges and shortages as we try to ensure equitable access to vaccine, while getting shots into arms quickly. We understand this hard for providers who are doing everything right.

We will make every effort to bring additional supplies into the state and appreciate the effort of providers to exhaust each week's shipment quickly until supplies increase.

Thanks,
Matt

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