

**From:** Emily Ball <eball@ashevillenc.gov>  
**Sent:** 8/4/2021 7:26:33 AM  
**To:** Ashley Lung <alung@sunriseinasheville.org>, Jacqui Derreberry <jderreberry@sunriseinasheville.org>  
**Cc:**  
**Subject:** Fwd: COVID-19 Vaccination Financial Incentives and Recommended Prevention Measures  
**Attachments:** [image002.png](#), [image001.png](#)

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Emily Ball  
Homeless Services System Performance Lead  
City of Asheville  
O: 828.271.6129  
C: 828.747.8510

----- Forwarded message -----

From: **Timothy T. Love** <[Timothy.Love@buncombecounty.org](mailto:Timothy.Love@buncombecounty.org)>  
Date: Tue, Aug 3, 2021 at 5:19 PM  
Subject: COVID-19 Vaccination Financial Incentives and Recommended Prevention Measures  
To: Timothy T. Love <[Timothy.Love@buncombecounty.org](mailto:Timothy.Love@buncombecounty.org)>

All,

Please see the below press release regarding **1) vaccination financial incentives** and **2) recommended prevention actions**. However, here are a couple items of note for your quick reference. Please distribute widely.

☞•AAAAAAA **Vaccination Financial Incentives:** This week, Buncombe County will begin offering incentive cards through the N.C. Department of Health and Human Services Summer Incentive Program. **Individuals who are 18 and over and are receiving their first dose of the vaccine will receive \$100, and those providing a ride to individuals getting a first dose will receive \$25.** These incentives will be **available at the BCHHS vaccine clinic at 40 Coxe Ave.,** Asheville and at BCHHS outreach events. A public announcement will be made when the Summer Incentive Program cards have arrived and are available.

☞•AAAAAAA **Recommended Prevention Measures:**

○AA Buncombe County Public Health officials made the following recommendations for action to stop the spread of COVID:

- 🕒■A Buncombe County Government implement a County employee vaccine policy to ensure the workforce is protected and will limit the spread to the community
- 🕒■A All public indoor spaces require masks indoors, regardless of vaccine status, while transmission rates are increasing
- 🕒■A Universal masking for all students and staff in K-12 settings



**Timothy Love**

He/His

County Manager's Office

Inter-Governmental Affairs

[\(828\) 250-5243](tel:(828)250-5243) / cell [\(828\) 713-7894](tel:(828)713-7894)

200 College St., Asheville, NC 28801

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**From:** Lillian Govus <[Lillian.Govus@buncombecounty.org](mailto:Lillian.Govus@buncombecounty.org)>

**Sent:** Tuesday, August 3, 2021 4:27 PM

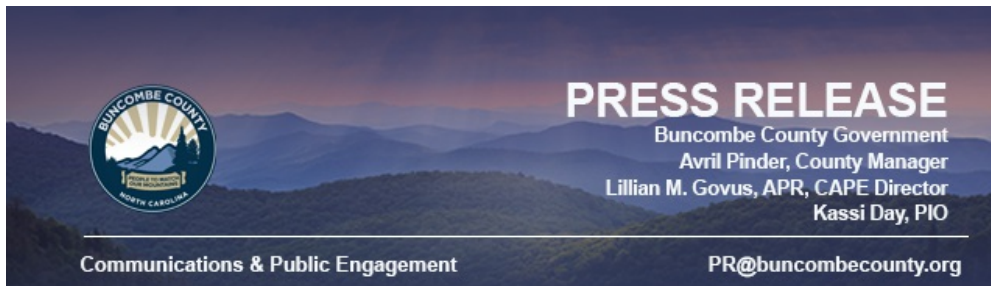
**To:** Lillian Govus <[Lillian.Govus@buncombecounty.org](mailto:Lillian.Govus@buncombecounty.org)>; Kassi L. Day <[kassi.day@buncombecounty.org](mailto:kassi.day@buncombecounty.org)>; HHSPIO <[HHSPIO@buncombecounty.org](mailto:HHSPIO@buncombecounty.org)>

**Subject:** Press Release: With Rapid Transmission, COVID-19 Infection Rate Doubles

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**For Immediate Release**

**Aug. 3, 2021**

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**With Rapid Transmission, COVID-19 Infection Rate  
Doubles**

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*Overwhelming majority of cases in younger, unvaccinated individuals*

In the two weeks since the most recent Buncombe County Health and Human Services COVID-19 update, the COVID-19 incidence rate has more than doubled. “I’m coming here today with a sense of urgency,” said Public Health Director Stacie Saunders. “Everyone has heard by now that the Delta variant is incredibly contagious. With reports that it spreads as fast or faster than small pox, the 1918 Flu, or chicken pox, individuals with the Delta variant can infect between six and eight people.”

The current rate of incidence is 7.2%, up from 3.4% two weeks ago. BCHHS is seeing about 50 new cases per day and 151 cases per 100,000 per week. Most cases were in those not fully vaccinated.

In Buncombe County, the average age for people with new cases is 39. “Vaccination is working to protect our elders who grew up in a time when they saw their classmates and childhood friends deeply impacted by infectious diseases, some that would permanently disable children and others that would ultimately kill children,” said Saunders. “They were also the generations that began to see the first impacts of widespread vaccinations and they began to experience childhoods without the threat of common infections of the time because of vaccines. These vaccines are our best shot at cutting off the virus’s supply chain and limiting its ability to change further.”

To date, BCHHS has administered almost 97,000 total doses of vaccine to date, and 55 percent of the total Buncombe County population has been at least partially vaccinated. A

This week, Buncombe County will begin offering incentive cards through the N.C. Department of Health and Human Services Summer Incentive Program. Individuals who are 18 and over and are receiving their first dose of the vaccine will receive \$100, and those providing a ride to individuals getting a first dose will receive \$25. These incentives will be available at the BCHHS vaccine clinic at 40 Coxe Ave., Asheville and at BCHHS outreach events. A public announcement will be made when the Summer Incentive Program cards have arrived and are available.

In the update, Buncombe County Public Health officials made the following recommendations for action to stop the spread of COVID:

• Buncombe County Government implement a County employee vaccine policy to ensure the workforce is protected and will limit the spread to the community

• All public indoor spaces require masks indoors, regardless of vaccine status, while transmission rates are increasing

• Universal masking for all students and staff in K-12 settings

• Mask-wearing by everyone in all public indoor spaces, regardless of the business or facility’s requirements, during this time of high transmission

Buncombe County Health & Human Services vaccine administration takes place at the Buncombe County Health Department, 40 Coxe Ave., Asheville. Walk-in vaccines are available between 9 a.m. and 4 p.m. Monday through Friday. Appointments can be scheduled online at [www.buncombeready.org](http://www.buncombeready.org). Additional vaccine providers can be found by visiting <https://covid19.ncdhhs.gov/vaccines>.

“Please honor the sacrifices of our emergency services responders, nurses, public health workers, restaurants workers, business owners, teachers, and school-aged children by getting your vaccine,” Saunders concluded. “Don’t squander the hard work of our entire community by choosing to let this virus use our bodies. We can all take steps to shut down COVID-19 through vaccination and masking.”

Visit the [Find my Testing Place website](#) to register for COVID-19 testing in Buncombe County. Individuals who are showing symptoms or believe they have had close contact to COVID-19 should get tested.

To view the full update in English, go to [www.facebook.com/buncombegov](http://www.facebook.com/buncombegov). To view the full update in Spanish, go to [www.facebook.com/bchhs](http://www.facebook.com/bchhs).

For more information about COVID-19 and vaccines in Buncombe County, go to [www.buncombeready.org](http://www.buncombeready.org).

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Sign up to receive emergency texts directly from Buncombe County for breaking health and safety news. Text **BCALERT** on your smart phone to **99411** to receive alerts on important information such as floods, communicable disease, county office closings, and relevant traffic safety notifications OR visit [buncombeready.org](http://buncombeready.org)

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