



## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

## **Additional COVID-19 Community Testing Available**

HOWELL, Michigan. - (January 4, 2022) Due to increased COVID-19 activity and the confirmation of the Omicron variant in Michigan, Livingston County and Washtenaw County Health Departments are working with LynxDx of Ann Arbor to provide COVID-19 community testing. Daily PCR saliva-based testing will be available by appointment only. This type of PCR saliva-based testing is not a rapid antigen test and results are usually available within 24-48 hours. The testing process consists of collecting a spit sample and does not involve nasal swabbing. Please do not eat or drink for at least 30 minutes before your scheduled appointment. Testing is available at the following locations until further notice:

- Legacy Center Sports Complex 9299 Goble Dr. Brighton, MI 48116
  - o Monday-Sunday from 9am-5pm
- Roundtree Place 2515 Ellsworth Rd. Ypsilanti, MI 48197
  - Monday-Sunday from 9am-5pm

Appointments are required for testing. Visit <a href="https://lynxdx.health/register">https://lynxdx.health/register</a> to schedule an appointment. To review frequently asked questions about testing through LynxDx, visit <a href="https://bit.ly/3sWMRNe">https://bit.ly/3sWMRNe</a>.

Because Omicron is more transmissible, there is concern that its presence in our community could cause an increase in cases, hospitalizations, and deaths. Prevent transmission whenever possible and seek testing if you have any symptoms, have recently been exposed to COVID-19, or have recently traveled. People with COVID-19 have reported a wide range of symptoms ranging from mild to severe. Symptoms may appear 2-14 days after exposure to the virus. People with one or more of these symptoms may have COVID-19 and should consider testing, even if symptoms seem mild:

- Congestion or runny nose
- Sore throat
- Fever or chills

- Cough
- Shortness of breath or difficulty breathing
- Fatigue
- Muscle or body aches
- Headache
- New loss of taste or smell
- Nausea or vomiting
- Diarrhea

Residents are also strongly encouraged to continue using all effective prevention strategies.

- Get vaccinated (<a href="https://vaccinefinder.org">https://vaccinefinder.org</a>)
- Wear a well-fitting face mask around others
- Keep at least 6 feet apart from others
- Clean hands frequently
- Avoid crowded areas or gatherings
- Stay home if you are feeling ill or waiting for test results

Vaccination remains the best tool for fighting COVID-19. Vaccines are readily available throughout Livingston County. To find a location that offers the COVID-19 vaccine near you, visit <a href="https://vaccinefinder.org">https://vaccinefinder.org</a>. For more information about the COVID-19 vaccine, including safety and efficacy information, visit <a href="https://www.CDC.gov/Coronavirus">www.CDC.gov/Coronavirus</a> or <a href="https://www.Michigan.gov/COVIDvaccine">www.michigan.gov/COVIDvaccine</a>. For more information and local updates, please visit <a href="https://www.LCHD.org">www.michigan.gov/coronavirus</a>. For questions, email <a href="mailto:covid19@livgov.com">covid19@livgov.com</a> or call 517-546-9850.

## **CONTACT:**

Courtney Rynkiewicz, Public Information Officer Livingston County Health Department (517) 546-9850 <a href="mailto:crynkiewicz@livgov.com">crynkiewicz@livgov.com</a> <a href="mailto:www.lchd.org">www.lchd.org</a> <a href="https://www.facebook.com/myLCHD">https://www.facebook.com/myLCHD</a>