

Media Placement Highlights

May 6 – June 10, 2020

Notable media placements:

Daily Herald

"Lake County Chamber video focuses on COVID-19 impact on youth" – June 10, 2020

<https://www.dailyherald.com/business/20200608/lake-county-chamber-video-focuses-on-covid-19-impact-on-youth>

- The Lake County Chamber of Commerce released an online video focusing on the issues and concerns young people have surrounding the COVID-19 pandemic.
- "Youth & the Coronavirus: Getting the Point Across," is a virtual documentary produced on Zoom, and gives a voice to local youth, addressing their thoughts, questions and concerns as to how COVID-19 has or will change their summer, their education and their lives.
- The program features youth ages 5-19 who joined the chamber on Zoom to ask questions and industry professionals answered the questions.
- Jefferson McMillan-Wilhoit was a panelist answering questions.

"Judge denies Lake County sheriff's request for information on COVID-19 patients" – May 20, 2020

<https://www.dailyherald.com/news/20200520/judge-denies-lake-county-sheriffs-request-for-information-on-covid-19-patients>

- Lake County jail's medical provider can call the health department to confirm if a new inmate had previously tested positive for the coronavirus.
- A judge rejected Sheriff Idleburg's legal bid to force the county health department to provide information about COVID-19 patients.
- Hannah Goering was quoted, "It supports our priority to protect both the safety of our law enforcement personnel and the privacy of our residents who test positive for COVID-19 [...] We truly value our relationship with the Lake County Sheriff's Office and will continue partnering together for the health and well-being of all who live, work, and play in Lake County."

"Some Northwest suburbs ask to be split from Chicago in governor's Restore Illinois plan" – May 16, 2020

<https://www.dailyherald.com/news/20200515/some-northwest-suburbs-ask-to-be-split-from-chicago-in-governors-restore-illinois-plan>

- 42 suburbs, including Schaumburg and Arlington Heights, have asked Gov. J.B. Pritzker to put them in a different region than Chicago in his Restore Illinois plan.
- Palatine Village Manager Reid Ottesen said the resolution is just asking for a return to the usual 11 medical regions in the state, rather than the four recognized by the Restore Illinois plan.
- The Northwest Municipal Conference is asking that the full reopening of restaurants be moved out of Phase 4, to Phase 3.
- Mark Pfister is quoted, "We empathize with our residents who are facing hardship and appreciate both the economic and public health impacts of this pandemic, [...] the Restore Illinois plan is science-based -- its foundation being public health data -- and we are going to follow the science."

“COVID-19 racial disparities”- May 10, 2020

<https://www.dailyherald.com/news/20200509/measure-aims-to-help-seniors-stay-connected-amid-covid-19-isolation>

- U.S. Reps. Lauren Underwood, of Naperville, and Brad Schneider, of Deerfield, discuss racial disparities in COVID-19 cases and deaths with Demetrius Willis, nutrition services assistant coordinator for the Lake County Health Department.
- They discussed on racial health disparities and how the pandemic disproportionately is affecting black and Latino communities.
- In Lake County, for every white person confirmed to have COVID-19, there are four blacks and eight Latinos testing positive, said Demetrius Willis, nutrition services assistant coordinator for the Lake County Health Department.

Lake County News-Sun

“Lake County Health Department looks to ramp up contact tracing as economy reopens” – May 27, 2020

<https://www.chicagotribune.com/suburbs/lake-county-news-sun/ct-Ins-lake-county-contact-tracing-st-0528-20200527-bi5tebfuubgprlju6suso6xy5u-story.html>

- Lake County is one of two counties piloting the state’s contact tracing initiative, chosen for having significant needs in terms of case numbers within vulnerable populations and an existing capacity for contact tracing.
- LCHD Medical Epidemiologist Dr. Sana Ahmed explains that as with other contagious diseases like whooping cough and hepatitis A, case investigators reach out to every county resident who tests positive for the novel coronavirus.
- LCHD STI Program Coordinator Valerie Johansen shares that the Health Department could hire around 150 additional people for contact tracing and other related efforts.
- The Health Department also employs case coordinators who reach out to both confirmed cases and their contacts to make sure they have the resources they need in order to follow through with the guidance they’re being provided.
- “One the things that is so key to contact tracing is letting the people know that we’re trying to help them take care of the people they care about,” Johansen said.

“Lake County Health Department watching growing number of coronavirus cases among Hispanic, black residents” – May 10, 2020

<https://www.chicagotribune.com/suburbs/lake-county-news-sun/ct-Ins-lake-county-essential-workers-st-0509-20200509-ttnbev62ebgwjj4u4bfkbg4f5u-story.html>

- The Lake County Health Department noted rising numbers of cases within African American and Hispanic communities. The trend led the Health Department to reach out to local organizations and leaders within the communities to find out what may be behind those numbers.
- Hispanic workers make up 21% of workers in the region, they make up larger shares of construction and food service workers. Black workers make up 14% of the workforce but 37% of the healthcare support workforce.
- LCHD’s Demetrius Willis was mentioned, “Some factors may include the demographic makeup of areas with denser populations, like the city of Waukegan, and who makes up the essential businesses workforce.”
- Jefferson McMillan-Wilhoit said, “It is unclear whether Lake County is also seeing a higher mortality rate within the Hispanic and black communities because the number of cases in Lake County is so much smaller than what Chicago, for example, is experiencing”
- “One of the things I always say is we’re trying in public health... to help the data tell its story, not tell a story with data,” said McMillan-Wilhoit.

Press Releases Issued

Health Department Coronavirus Updates – May 6-June 10, 2020
<https://www.lakecountyl.gov/2650/News-Releases>

Total Media Placements

May 6 – June 10, 2020

Press Releases Sent	13
Press Release Placements	50
Other Articles Mentioning/Quoting LCHD/CHC	20