

## Media Placement Highlights

December 2021

### Notable media placements:

#### Lake County News-Sun

"New Lake County COVID-19 cases climb despite rising number of fully vaccinated people" – December 23, 2021

<https://www.chicagotribune.com/suburbs/lake-county-news-sun/ct-lns-lake-vax-update-st-1225-20211223-qutsg2qdkvc3pmjlwzj3gggpne-story.html>

- New COVID-19 cases in Lake County grew over 30% in just one week.
- The increase is attributed to the newer Omicron variant that is more infectious than previous variants.
- Lake County Health Department Executive Director Mark Pfister said, "Even though we have a lot of new cases, we know it is better now than it was last year. Less people are getting hospitalized and less are dying."

#### Lake & McHenry County Scanner

"CDC recommends 'test to stay' strategy as an option for children following study with 90 schools in Lake County" – December 17, 2021

<https://www.lakemchenryscanner.com/2021/12/17/cdc-recommends-test-to-stay-strategy-as-an-option-for-children-following-study-with-90-schools-in-lake-county/>

- A case study was conducted in Lake County, with the help of the CDC, involving 90 schools using the "test to stay" strategy. This strategy aims to keep kids in the classroom instead of quarantining.
- Following the completion of "test to stay", the CDC issued guidance nationwide recommending the strategy.
- Up to 8,152 in-person learning days were saved among close contacts using the "test to stay" strategy.
- Lake County Health Department Executive Director Mark Pfister said, "The Test to Stay strategy has allowed students and staff to benefit from in-person learning while being protected from COVID-19. This is exciting progress from where we were at the start of the pandemic."

## Patch

"Co-Responder Program Expands To Include 6 More Lake County Towns" – December 9, 2021

<https://patch.com/illinois/lakeforest/co-responder-program-expands-include-6-more-lake-county-towns>

- Police officers from six police departments team up with a mental health worker. This adds a second full-time unit to its Crisis Outreach and Support Team (COAST).
- The co-responder unit was launched as a pilot program more than three years ago by the Lake County Sheriff's Office in partnership with the Lake County Health Department.
- The team consists of Deputy Jim Yanecek and Jordan Wheeler, a counselor from the Lake County Health Department.
- Police-mental health collaboration programs have been shown to reduce the chances of people getting repeatedly arrested and provides support and resources for those going through a mental health crisis.

## Total Media Placements

December 1– December 31, 2021

Press Releases Sent	0
Press Release Placements	1
Other Articles Mentioning/Quoting LCHD/CHC	18