

# HEALTHCARE COUNCIL REGIONAL COVID-19 UPDATE

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The weekly COVID-19 Update highlights stories and information that might be of interest to healthcare organizations in the DC/MD/VA region. We offer this as a service to our members and other interested parties.



We work with local organizations to help with supply needs through our [ShareSource](#) division. Please contact us directly at **301-731-4700** if there are ways in which we can help you get the supplies you need.



## Guidelines, Information, and Policies Updates

- The AHA responded to a *NY Times* story this week about hospital finances and COVID relief with this [press release](#) from President and CEO, Rick Pollack.
- Half of the adults in the United States are now fully vaccinated against COVID-19, marking a major milestone in the pandemic. [ABC News has more here.](#)
- In DC, Black residents make up more than 80 percent of coronavirus cases reported in recent days, compared with 46 percent late last year. [See more from the Washington Post.](#)
- The Washington Post has put together a primer on COVID-19 variants. What are they? How do they mutate? Are they a serious problem in the United States? Do the vaccines work on them? Find the answers to those questions and more [here.](#)
- [HHS](#) announced that it is dedicating \$4.8 billion from the American Rescue Plan (ARP) to support the HRSA COVID-19 Uninsured Program. This funding will allow the program to continue reimbursing health care providers for testing uninsured individuals for COVID-19. [Find out more here.](#)
- In a study conducted by [University of Michigan Medicine M Health Lab](#), investigators found that 45% of patients hospitalized for COVID-19 experienced significant functional decline after being discharged. [HPN has more here.](#)
- HHS announced the availability of \$14.2 million from the American Rescue Plan to expand pediatric mental health care access by integrating telehealth services into pediatric primary care. [More here.](#)
- A bipartisan pair of House lawmakers introduced legislation that would permanently cover audio-only telehealth visits through Medicare and allow Medicare patients to

receive telehealth services away from health facilities. The bill reflects Medicare's expanded role in telehealth during the COVID-19 pandemic.

## Education, Learning, and Resources

- **Re-thinking Mental Health: How Businesses Can Support Working Parents: June 3, 2021, 2-3:30 pm:** Join our member [HCAM](#) for the final session of their Speaker Series on Re-thinking Mental Health, moderated by their CEO, Traci Kodek. The June 3 conversation will be about the mental health and well-being of parents and caregivers. Hear from Larry Lopez, Jill Smokler, and Delegate Brooke Lierman about best practices and policies for supporting parents at work. [Register here.](#)



- In case you missed it, in honor of National Hospital Week 2021 (May 9-15), the American Hospital Association (AHA) collaborated with [Musicians On Call, \(MOC\)](#), a nonprofit organization that delivers the healing power of music, to release an original [song and video](#) inspired by the words of health care workers honoring their work and sacrifices during the COVID-19 pandemic. To all those working in America's hospitals and health systems, thank you!

## General Information and Data Sources

Resources for National and Regional Up-to-the-Minute Data and Information:

- [Johns Hopkins University global COVID-19 Tracker](#)
- Latest Case data for each state can be found at these websites:
  - [Maryland](#)
  - [Virginia](#)
  - [District of Columbia](#)
  - [West Virginia](#)
- State Hospital Association information can be found at these websites:
  - [Maryland Hospital Association](#)
  - [Virginia Hospital and Healthcare Association](#)
  - [DC Hospital Association](#)
  - [West Virginia Hospital Association](#)



You are receiving our Regional Covid-19 Update because your organization is or has been a member of The Healthcare Council.

