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19 de febrero, 2021 Weekly/Semanal 16 páginas Vol. 68, No. 23

LA ERA DE COVID-19 • GO VIRTUAL!

## OHIO COVID-19 Update: Vaccine Distribution, Nursing Home Cases Drop, School Model Update

COLUMBUS, Feb. 11, 2021: Ohio Governor Mike DeWine and his administration has provided the following updates on Ohio's response to the COVID-19 pandemic:

**VACCINE DISTRIBUTION UPDATE:** Ohio has received a total of 214,525 first doses of vaccine. Additionally, 223,025 first doses are scheduled to arrive in Ohio during the week of February 15.

The federal retail pharmacy program will soon begin allotting doses to Ohio's more than 160 Rite Aid pharmacies. Vaccine distribution will also expand into all 194 Kroger pharmacies.

Those with specific medical conditions that put them at a very high risk of dying from COVID-19 will be eligible for vaccinations the week of February 15th.

Ohioans born with the medical conditions outlined below, or those who were diagnosed in early childhood whose conditions continued into adulthood, will qualify to be vaccinated

beginning on February 15.

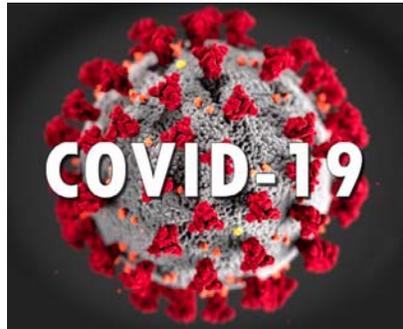
Dr. Bruce Vanderhoff, chief medical officer at Ohio Department of Health, explained these conditions in more detail. His remarks are available on the Ohio Channel's YouTube page.

Approximately 12,000 individuals with these severe medical conditions and developmental disabilities have already been vaccinated, and vaccinations of those in this group will continue.

**NURSING HOME CASES:** The number of COVID-19 cases in Ohio's nursing homes has dropped more than 77 percent since late November. This dramatic drop in cases follows Ohio's aggressive efforts to vaccinate residents and staff in Ohio's long-term care facilities.

As outlined in the chart below, there were 2,697 COVID-19 cases in long-term care facilities in Ohio during the week of November 29, 2020. During the week of January 17, 2021 there were 612 positive cases.

**SCHOOL MODEL**



**UPDATE:** DeWine shared the latest information on the number of school districts that are physically in school versus those that are fully or partially remote. As a condition to receive priority access to the vaccine, schools were required to commit to full or partial in-person learning by March 1, 2021. All but one school district in Ohio have committed to this plan.

**OHIO PUBLIC HEALTH ADVISORY SYSTEM:** There was no change in this week's Ohio Public Health Advisory System map. A county-by-county breakdown outlining the presence of COVID-19 in all

of Ohio's 88 counties can be found on the Ohio Public Health Advisory System's website.

**CURRENT CASE DATA:** In total, there are 931,437 confirmed and probable cases of COVID-19 reported in Ohio and 12,577 confirmed and probable COVID-19 deaths. A total of 48,269 people have been hospitalized throughout the pandemic, including 6,908 admissions to intensive care units. In-depth data can be accessed by visiting [coronavirus.ohio.gov](http://coronavirus.ohio.gov).

For more information on Ohio's response to COVID-19, visit [coronavirus.ohio.gov](http://coronavirus.ohio.gov) or call 1-833-4-ASK-ODH.

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## México reduce nivel de alerta por COVID en la mitad del país

CUADRO DE MÉXICO, 12 El 21 (AP): México redujo el viernes su nivel de alerta por COVID-19 en la mitad de los estados del país ya que, según las autoridades sanitarias, ha disminuido el ritmo de contagios y la cantidad de hospitalizados en muchos lugares, entre ellos la Ciudad de México y el Estado de México.

Por eso, entidades como la capital anunciaron la apertura a partir de la próxima semana de gimnasios, piscinas cubiertas e iglesias, y los restaurantes podrán operar en exteriores hasta las 10 de la noche. La Ciudad de México ya abrió esta semana con restricciones y controles espacios como los centros comerciales.

“La epidemia sigue pero va, por lo menos en este momento, a la baja; la vacunación va para adelante. Sigamos con calma, optimistas pero con prudencia y disciplina”, resumió el subsecretario de Salud Hugo López-Gatell, vocero del gobierno federal para la pandemia.

Sin embargo, las cifras no tienen un cariz optimista: México supera ya los 1.9 millones de contagios con al menos 172.557 muertes confirmadas por COVID-19, aunque las propias autoridades

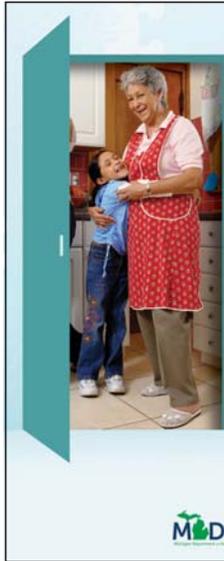
reconocen que la cifra real de fallecidos es mucho mayor. La letalidad se mantiene en un 8% de los diagnosticados.

El gobierno está tratando de acelerar el programa de inoculación con la autorización de dos nuevas vacunas esta semana (las chinas de CanSino y Sinovac) y la llegada de más lotes. Dos millones de dosis de la de CanSino arribaron el jueves para ser envasadas en México; el domingo se esperan medio millón de las de AstraZeneca, y la próxima semana se reanuda la recepción de las de Pfizer, las únicas aplicadas hasta el momento.

En total, menos de 86.000 personas han sido inmunizadas de forma completa, lo que supone un porcentaje mínimo en un país con 126 millones de habitantes.

López-Gatell aprovechó la conferencia del viernes para alertar que habían detectado intentos de fraude en internet con plagios de los sitios web de reconocidos laboratorios para ofrecer inoculaciones, y por eso recordó que en México no hay ninguna vacuna contra el COVID-19 salvo la que ofrece el gobierno.

De 13 estados que



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Obtenga más información en [Michigan.gov/COVIDvaccine](http://Michigan.gov/COVIDvaccine).



estaban en el nivel máximo (rojo), sólo quedaron dos—Guanajuato (en el centro) y Guerrero (en el suroeste)—, aunque el subsecretario advirtió que eso no quiere decir que se deba bajar la guardia porque ocho entidades de las 21 que hay en el nivel naranja están en riesgo de volver al rojo si no se respetan todas las recomendaciones para evitar contagios.

El semáforo de cuatro colores —rojo, naranja, amarillo y verde— condiciona las actividades que se pueden llevar a cabo en cada lugar, aunque de forma muy general porque en México no se decretaron

cuarentenas obligatorias y son las autoridades estatales y locales las que acaban decidiendo qué autorizan y qué no.

La mayoría de los estados fronterizos tanto en el norte como en el sur del país disminuyeron su nivel de riesgo, salvo los de la Península de Yucatán, en el sureste, que se mantuvieron sin cambios.

El único estado en verde es Chiapas, fronterizo con Guatemala, el nivel en que teóricamente ya se podrían reactivar las escuelas, aunque aún no ha ocurrido. López-Gatell dijo que ya se trabaja en ello.

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## Statement on MI Sens. Stabenow and Peters' vote to withhold COVID Relief from Undocumented Immigrants

Feb. 5, 2021: The U.S. Senate voted on the *Young Amendment*, to withhold COVID relief from undocumented immigrants. Exec. Dir. **Lonnie Scott responds for Progress Michigan:**

“COVID has impacted people in every community. The virus doesn't distinguish by immigration status—and neither

should our response to it. Undocumented immigrants, just like everyone else in Michigan and around the country, have struggled with this pandemic for nearly a year and they need just as much help as anyone else.

Undocumented immigrants contribute taxes which are being used to fund this relief, and many work

on the frontlines fighting this pandemic. They deserve access to relief, but more than that they deserve our humanity.

We're incredibly disappointed that Michigan's Democratic Senators voted with Republicans to withhold this relief and urge them to reconsider their position and apologize to the communities who will be harmed

by their decision.”

**Update on Michigan's vaccine prioritization for food and ag workers. Farm workers now among first to receive COVID-19 vaccine**

Feb. 15: On Monday Michigan Governor Gretchen Whitmer and the Michigan Department of Health and Human Services (MDHHS) announced a revision to the state's COVID-19 vaccine

prioritization guidance that gives food processing and agricultural workers access to vaccines starting March 1, 2021. There are an estimated 79,000 workers in food processing and agricultural settings across Michigan. Food processing and agricultural workers, designated to Phase 1B Group C, previously would not have been eligible for vaccines until May 2021.

The change in the prioritization schedule comes after pressure from advocates and community health experts. The *UFW Foundation*, *Michigan Immigrant Rights Center (MIRC)*, *Progress Michigan*, and *Farmworker Legal Services (FLS)* applauded the latest move by the state of Michigan.

## Law enforcement diversity may improve policing, study shows

By CHRISTINE FERNANDO and MARION RENAULT, Associated Press

CHICAGO, Feb. 11, 2021 (AP): In the last decade, high-profile police killings—including George Floyd in 2020—have shaken the nation and led to widespread protests and calls for reform, including hiring more non-white and female officers.

But there was little research to back that up. Now, a new study published Thursday in the journal *Science*, suggests that diversity in law enforcement can indeed lead to improvements in how police treat people of color.

“It’s a system that very clearly needs reforming,” said study co-author Dean Knox, an assistant professor at *The Wharton School of the University of Pennsylvania*. “We just haven’t had good data on what reforms work.”

For the paper, Knox and his colleagues analyzed data on nearly 3 million Chicago Police Department patrol assignments. They found that compared to white officers, Black and Latino officers made far fewer stops and arrests—especially against Black civilians. They also found female officers used less force than their male counterparts.

“This is the best evidence to date” that officer demographics have an influence on policing, said *Harvard* sociologist *Joscha Legewie*, who was not involved in the study. “It’s an old question, and one that’s really hard to answer.”

Researchers spent three years fighting for detailed

data from Chicago police, and appealed some of their requests all the way up to the Illinois Attorney General’s Office.

“It’s a difficult, difficult thing to pull together these data sources,” said *Thaddeus Johnson*, a senior fellow at the *Council on Criminal Justice* and a former Tennessee police officer who was not involved in the study. “This is the kind of research we really need.”

Eventually, the team amassed data on 1.6 million enforcements—such as stops and arrests—by nearly 7,000 officers from 2012 to 2015.

By comparing officers working in similar areas, researchers noticed a difference across demographics. Relative to white officers on the same assignments in the same neighborhoods, Black officers were less likely to stop, arrest, and use force against civilians.

Over the course of 100 shifts, Black officers made, on average, about 16 fewer stops and two fewer arrests—a 20% to 30% reduction compared to white officers in comparable scenarios.

“We see two groups of officers going out, and they’re treating the same group of civilians differently,” Knox said. “It’s troubling.”

This disparity was most pronounced in majority-Black neighborhoods, researchers found, and was predominantly focused on minor crimes and not violent offenses.

Most officers respond the same way to violent

crimes such as armed robbery or assault. With minor infractions, though, like traffic violations or drug possession, Legewie said, “There’s more leeway for the officer to make a decision.”

And in recent years, police response to minor infractions have set off many protests against police brutality—including the 2014 killing of *Laquan McDonald* in Chicago.

“It can escalate,” said co-author and *Princeton University* political scientist *Jonathan Mummolo*. “These can have extreme consequences.”

The new study has its limitations.

Since the data was collected from 2012 to 2015, it doesn’t capture recent changes to policing in Chicago. The paper also doesn’t account for the department’s internal culture, which influences how recruits behave in the field.

And, as a case study of Chicago, the paper is not automatically generalizable to the country’s more than 18,000 law enforcement agencies, especially suburban and rural ones.

Still, the findings support what local community activists have argued for decades.

“That’s what we expect,” said *Regina Russell*, co-chair at the *Chicago Alliance Against Racism and Political Repression*. “That’s why we’ve been pushing for this for years.”

Russell grew up in a predominantly Black area of Chicago, but said the police officers who patrolled her neighborhood were largely white—“Never anyone who looked like us.”

Chicago has long been plagued by tensions between police and residents, roughly half of whom are

## ACLU challenges Trump-era rule on behalf of asylum seekers

BOSTON, Feb. 9, 2021 (AP): A civil liberties group is challenging a Trump-era immigration policy as it seeks to unite seven asylum seekers with their families in Massachusetts.

The *American Civil Liberties Union (ACLU) of Massachusetts*, in a lawsuit filed Tuesday in Boston federal court, said the asylum seekers from Central America expelled last fall include an unaccompanied child fleeing Guatemala to seek safety with family in Massachusetts. The plaintiffs include two families sent back to the Mexican border.

The suit challenges a rule imposed under former President



Donald Trump that expelled asylum seekers from the southern U.S. border, on the grounds that they might exacerbate the coronavirus pandemic.

The ACLU called on President Joe Biden to repeal the rule, saying it exploited a public health crisis to further Trump’s headline immigration policies and “racial animus towards Central Americans and people of color.”

The Department of Homeland Security,

which is named in the suit, declined to comment, citing the pending litigation.

The ACLU is also challenging the Trump-era policy in other federal courts.

The organization filed a class action suit in Washington D.C. on behalf of unaccompanied children seeking protection in the U.S. in November and in January filed a class action suit seeking to stop the expulsion of migrant families.

nonwhite.

Local activists have long called for diversity to reduce the harm of a “racially oppressive police department,” said *Simon Balto*, who researches history and African American studies at the *University of Iowa*.

During the early 1960s, Balto said, internal initiatives to increase recruitment helped diversify the Chicago Police Department—an effort further bolstered by a 1973 discrimination suit filed by the city’s Afro-American Patrolmen’s League. “By the ‘70s, the CPD wasn’t some beacon of diversity or even representative of the city’s demographics,” Balto said, “but it made strides for the first time in history.”

Today, about half of Chicago Police Department officers are people of color and more than one-fifth are women.

Russell said it was exciting to watch this demographic shift happen in real

time. However, she said, “Just increasing diversity isn’t going to fix this.”

She and other local activists want to see more body cameras, community oversight of police, stringent use of force policies and more consequences for police officers who do harm while on the job.

Others, like *Erika Maye*, a senior leader for the nonprofit civil rights organization *Color of Change*, say pushes for diversity are a misstep. “They don’t go deep enough or tackle the root issues,” she said. “Police violence is not an issue of representation.”

Instead, *Color of Change* advocates for cities to divest from policing and invest in health care, education and job training. “To really protect Black lives, we feel we really need to upend the current policing system,” Maye said.

Maye, Russell and Balto said they hope for future research on other reform

proposals that center on systemic change, such as initiatives to reduce the size and scope of police departments and reallocate those resources to create crisis intervention teams and other community-based programs.

Mummolo agreed. “We have a lot of policies that were adopted based on hunches or intuitions,” he said.

Data on fatal police encounters, body camera use, civilian complaints and officer political affiliation, for example, could be the focus of future studies.

“This (study) lays out a road map for other researchers,” said co-author and *Columbia University* economist *Román Rivera*.

EDITOR’S NOTE: Renault reported from New York. The Associated Press Health and Science Department receives support from the Howard Hughes Medical Institute’s Department of Science Education. The AP is solely responsible for all content.

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## Cubanos varados 33 días ya están detenidos en EEUU

Por ADRIANA GÓMEZ LICÓN, Associated Press

MIAMI, 11 de febrero (AP): Tres naufragos cubanos que sobrevivieron 33 días bebiendo agua de coco y comiendo crustáceos y ratas en un islote deshabitado al sur de Florida se encontraban el jueves bajo custodia de las autoridades de inmigración, y expertos jurídicos consideran que podría permitirles permanecer en Estados Unidos según las políticas federales actuales.

Un helicóptero de la Guardia Costera detectó esta semana a dos hombres y una mujer, a los que rescató en canastillas de un acantilado rocoso en Cayo Anguila, una pequeña isla de las Bahamas próxima a Cuba.

Las tres personas fueron trasladadas por aire a un hospital en Cayo Hueso, y el miércoles la Patrulla Fronteriza las llevó a un centro de detención del Servicio de Control de Inmigración y Aduanas (ICE por sus siglas en inglés) en Pompano Beach, Florida. Las autoridades dijeron que los cubanos no presentaban lesiones de consideración.

The Associated Press solicitó entrevistar a los sobrevivientes, pero las autoridades de inmigración y de la Guardia Costera no aceptaron entrevistas ni revelaron su identidad.

“Recibirán atención médica completa desde el momento de su llegada y durante toda su permanencia”, dijo Nestor Yglesias, portavoz del ICE. “Los tres individuos tendrán acceso a todos los procesos jurídicos disponibles para ellos de acuerdo con las leyes de Estados Unidos”.

Como sus nombres no han sido dados a conocer, se desconoce quiénes son sus abogados. Según abogados que conocen la Ley de Ajuste Cubano—que prácticamente le ha garantizado a los cubanos un camino a la residencia legal y finalmente a la naturalización—, se podría autorizar la permanencia de esas personas por motivos humanitarios.

Como la Guardia Costera los trajo a tierra firme, las tres personas podrían beneficiarse de esa ley, que data de hace 55 años y les permite a los cubanos solicitar la residencia legal permanente un año después de su llegada y que se les deje en libertad, según los abogados.

“Tarde o temprano el ICE tendrá que liberar a estas personas. No llegaron aquí ilegalmente”, dijo Lorenzo Palomares, abogado de

inmigración.

La Guardia Costera no respondió a una solicitud para que aclarara qué consideraciones se hicieron antes de que el grupo fuera trasladado por aire a Estados Unidos.

Se desconoce si esas personas se dirigían originalmente hacia Estados Unidos o simplemente se perdieron en el mar, y la Guardia Costera ha dicho que solamente se enfocó en rescatarlos. El servicio de guardacostas vigila rutinariamente ese islote rocoso y deshabitado para ver si hay migrantes varados en su intento por llegar a Estados Unidos.

El teniente Riley Beecher, piloto de la Guardia Costera, dijo que durante una misión de rutina el lunes vieron lo que parecían banderas que se movían entre lo que habitualmente es una topografía color café y verde claro. “Pensé: ‘echemos un vistazo más de cerca’. Nunca había visto nada en esa isla”, señaló Beecher. “Entonces vi a dos personas que agitaban sus manos desesperadamente en un intento para que bajáramos”.

La tripulación les lanzó agua fresca y un radio an

(Continúa en la p. 13)



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## Los problemas de la era Trump continúan en frontera de EEUU

Por NOMAAN MERCHANT, Associated Press

HOUSTON, 11 de febrero (AP): Al día siguiente de dar a luz en un hospital en la frontera de Texas, Nailet y su hijo recién nacido fueron trasladados por agentes federales a un centro de detención al que los inmigrantes a menudo se refieren como “la hielera”.

Dentro, las grandes celdas estaban llenas de mujeres con niños pequeños. Nailet y su hijo estaban con otras 15 mujeres y recibieron una colchoneta para dormir, con poco espacio para guardar las distancias pese a la pandemia del coronavirus, explicó. Las luces nunca se apagaban. Todo el tiempo había niños estornudando y tosiendo.

Nailet, que abrigaba a su recién nacido con una manta que le dieron en el hospital, dijo a The Associated Press que los agentes de la patrulla fronteriza no le decían cuándo podrían salir. Ella y su hijo estuvieron seis días detenidos en un puesto de la Patrulla Fronteriza, el doble de lo que suelen permitir las normas federales.

“Tenía que insistir constantemente para que me trajeran toallitas y pañales”, dijo Nailet, que salió de Cuba el año pasado y pidió que no se publicara su apellido por miedo a represalias si se la obliga a regresar.

Muchas familias inmigrantes han cruzado la frontera entre México y Estados Unidos en las primeras semanas del gobierno de Joe Biden. Hay indicios de advertencia de las mismas crisis que marcaron el mandato del expresidente Trump: Cientos de inmigrantes recién liberados se ven entregados a grupos sin fines de lucro, en ocasiones sin previo aviso, y crecen los reportes como el de Nailet, de detenciones prolongadas en centros diseñados para estancias cortas.

Las medidas para contener el virus han reducido de forma drástica el espacio disponible en centros de detención que se vieron sobrepasados por un repunte en las llegadas en 2018 y 2019, cuando aparecieron las noticias de familias hacinadas en celdas y niños no acompañados que tuvieron que cuidarse entre ellos.

La Oficina de Aduanas y Protección Fronteriza (CBP por sus siglas en inglés) dijo el miércoles que los encuentros de sus agentes con migrantes en

la frontera sur aumentaron 6% en enero con respecto al mes anterior, parte de un constante incremento desde que los cruces disminuyeron al comenzar la pandemia.

La mayoría de los puestos de la Patrulla Fronteriza no están diseñados para atender a niños ni familias, ni para retener a gente a largo plazo. Para gestionar las nuevas llegadas, la agencia reabrió el martes un gran recinto con carpas en el sur de Texas que aloja a familias y niños inmigrantes.

En un comunicado la semana pasada, la CBP dijo que algunos de sus centros habían alcanzado su “capacidad máxima de retención segura”, y mencionó varios desafíos: los protocolos contra el COVID-19, los cambios en la ley mexicana y el espacio limitado para retener a los inmigrantes.

“Continuaremos utilizando a todas nuestras autoridades actuales para evitar mantener a personas en un entorno congregado durante cualquier periodo de tiempo”, señaló la agencia, que declinó una petición de entrevista.

Mientras tanto, los centros de retención de largo plazo para niños cruzan la frontera solos - algunos enviados por padres obligados a esperar en México - están a un 80% de su capacidad. El Departamento federal de Salud y Servicios Humanos, que gestiona esos centros, reabrirá un centro de contingencia en un antiguo campamento para trabajadores petroleros en Carrizo Springs, Texas, incluso a partir del lunes. Puede alojar a unos 700 adolescentes. Los centros de contingencia tienen un costo estimado de 775 dólares por menor al día, y los demócratas los criticaron duramente durante el mandato de Trump.

No hay un factor claro para explicar el incremento en la llegada de niños y familias. Algunos expertos y activistas creen que hay más gente tratando de cruzar de forma ilegal ahora que Biden es presidente, creyendo que su gobierno será más permisivo que el de Trump.

Muchos han esperado un año o más dentro del programa “Permanecer en México” de Trump, que obliga a los solicitantes de asilo a permanecer al sur de la frontera mientras un juez estudia su caso. La Casa Blanca no ha añadido gente al programa, pero no ha dicho cómo resolverá los casos pendientes. También declinó expulsar a niños no acompañados

amparándose en una orden de salud pública vinculada a la pandemia que emitió Trump.

Otros señalan a las consecuencias de catástrofes naturales en Centroamérica y a la inestabilidad en países como Haití.

Estados Unidos también ha dejado de enviar a algunas familias inmigrantes de vuelta a México, especialmente a la zona del estado de Tamaulipas, junto al sur de Texas. El cambio parece ser dispar, ya que en otras regiones sí se expulsa a migrantes y no hay una explicación clara para esas diferencias.

En México ha entrado en vigencia una ley que prohíbe retener a niños en centros de detención de migrantes. Pero la Secretaría de Relaciones Exteriores mexicana indicó en un comunicado que los acuerdos firmados con Estados Unidos durante la pandemia se mantienen en los mismos términos. Señaló que, si bien es normal que haya ajustes en las políticas a nivel local, eso no implica que la práctica haya sido modificada o suspendida.

Algunas mujeres embarazadas, como Nailet, a las que se les negó la entrada antes, vuelven a cruzar a Estados Unidos cuando están por dar a luz. Sus hijos se convierten en ciudadanos estadounidenses por nacimiento. La Patrulla Fronteriza suele liberar a estas familias en el país, aunque han aparecido reportes de expulsiones de padres inmigrantes y niños nacidos en Estados Unidos.

En el caso de Nailet, la CBP dijo que un aumento imprevisto en el número de familias que cruzaron la frontera cerca de Del Rio, unos 241 kilómetros (150 millas) al oeste de San Antonio, hizo que se prolongara su detención.

Los activistas afirman que las autoridades deberían haber liberado rápido a Nailet y a otras familias con niños pequeños, y acelerar los trámites para evitar demoras. Las autoridades se resisten desde hace tiempo a liberaciones rápidas, afirmando que animan a más inmigrantes a intentar el cruce ilegal, a menudo con contrabandistas transnacionales.

Aún dolorida por el parto, Nailet daba de mamar a su bebé en la fría celda. Cuando dijo a los agentes fronterizos que le habían dado instrucciones en el hospital de que regresara el 1 de febrero, dice que se negaron a llevarla.

(Continúa en la p. 8)

# MDHHS campaign emphasizes the need for mask-wearing even after receiving safe and effective COVID-19 vaccine

LANSING: The Michigan Department of Health and Human Services (MDHHS) is expanding its statewide media campaign to remind all Michiganders, including those who have already received the vaccine, to continue wearing masks as the safe and effective COVID-19 vaccine is administered throughout the state.

“We are making great progress towards our goal of vaccinating 70% of Michiganders as quickly as possible, but it is important people remain vigilant in preventing spread of COVID-19 even after receiving a vaccine,” said Dr. Joneigh Khaldun, chief medical executive and chief deputy for health. “Wear the right mask and wear it properly over your mouth and nose every time you will be around someone outside of your household. Masks, social distancing and washing hands are still very important in slowing the spread of COVID-19 and ending this pandemic.”

The \$1 million mask campaign runs through April and includes television, connected TV, radio, audio streaming, digital media, search, print in minority publications, and social media. Digital

ads with specific messaging and targeting parameters were also developed to connect with minority populations.

**MDHHS reminds Michiganders to follow these tips when wearing a mask:**

**1. Make sure your mask fits snugly against your face.** Gaps can let air with respiratory droplets leak in and out around the edges of the mask.

**2. Pick a mask with layers to keep your respiratory droplets in and others’ out.** A mask with layers will stop more respiratory droplets getting inside your mask or escaping from your mask if you are sick.

See the graphic provided, to help make the best choices when selecting a face mask.

The CDC has recently recommended wearing two masks to increase protection against COVID-19. **Double**

**masking** is an easy way to improve fit, which also improves protection. The more particles that are blocked, the better you are protected against getting COVID-19. Other options to improve fit include wearing a mask fitter or wearing a nylon covering (like a gaiter) over a mask.

**One cloth or medical mask** 40% of particles blocked

**A cloth mask worn over a medical mask** 85%

**Mask up, Mask right**

A face mask is defined as a tightly woven cloth or other multi-layer absorbent material that closely covers an individual's mouth and nose. Here are some guidelines to help you choose the most effective face mask.

**Recommended**

- Masks that fit properly (snugly around the nose and chin with no large gaps around the sides of the face)
- Masks with two or three layers
- Masks with inner filter pockets
- Masks made with tightly woven fabric (i.e., fabrics that do not let light pass through when held up to a light source)
- Non-medical disposable masks
- Masks made with breathable fabric (such as cotton)

**Not Recommended**

- Masks that do not fit properly (large gaps, too loose or too tight)
- Masks with one layer
- Masks made from loosely woven fabric or that are knitted (i.e., fabrics that let light pass through)
- Masks with exhalation valves or vents
- Masks made from materials that are hard to breathe through (such as plastic or leather)
- Wearing a scarf/ski mask as a mask

**Need help getting a mask?**  
Residents can pick up a free mask from partner sites across the state, including most local MDHHS offices and Community Action Agencies. Find a distribution site or call the COVID-19 hotline at 1-888-535-6136.

MDHHS

of particles blocked  
**Two medical masks worn or a medical mask knotted and tucked properly** 95% of particles blocked

Data Source: *Maximizing Fit for Cloth and Medical Procedure Masks to Improve Performance and Reduce SARS-CoV-2 Transmission and Exposure, 2021.* Those in need of a free mask can contact their local Community Action Agency or local DHHS office.

Information around this outbreak is changing rapidly. The latest information is available at [Michigan.gov/Coronavirus](http://Michigan.gov/Coronavirus) and [CDC.gov/Coronavirus](http://CDC.gov/Coronavirus). To learn more about the COVID-19 vaccine, visit [Michigan.gov/COVIDvaccine](http://Michigan.gov/COVIDvaccine).

## Time for Senate Republicans to get over their egos

Op Ed by Lonnie Scott, Executive Director of Progress Michigan



After the Michigan Senate voted to reject even more of Gov. Gretchen Whitmer's political appointees for no legitimate reason, Sen. Ed McBroom doubled down on defending the decisions, complaining that Gov. Gretchen Whitmer has “emasculated” the Senate by doing her job.

We've been dealing with the COVID-19 pandemic for nearly a year—and throughout this crisis, Gov. Whitmer has consistently worked

to create policy that will keep Michiganders as safe as possible.

Meanwhile, Michigan Republicans have ignored the advice of public health experts and refused to cooperate on common-sense, life-saving solutions like mask mandates and limits on public gatherings. They have undermined, smeared, and obstructed Gov. Whitmer at every turn while she worked to create real solutions, only to turn around and say she's the one not willing to come to the table.

The fact that Sen.

McBroom chose the word ‘emasculated’ is bizarre, and speaks volumes about Senate Republicans’ real complaint here: that Gretchen Whitmer, a woman who handily won her election in 2018, has the nerve to actually do her job instead of following their orders. It's time for Michigan Republicans to get over their fragile egos, get to work on real solutions that will benefit the people, and stop publicly embarrassing themselves and our state.

**PREGUNTAS FRECUENTES SOBRE LA VACUNA DEL COVID-19**  
[Michigan.gov/COVIDvaccine](http://Michigan.gov/COVIDvaccine)



### ¿La vacuna tiene efectos secundarios?

Puede experimentar algunos efectos secundarios leves, como dolor en el brazo, fiebre baja, dolor de cabeza, cansancio.

Esta es una señal normal de que su cuerpo está creando inmunidad contra el virus para que tenga protección contra el COVID-19.



**CALL CENTER**  
INFORMACIÓN ACOMPAÑAMIENTO DIGITAL  
CARAVANA DE MIGRANTES 2020

**Lunes a Viernes**  
9:00 a 18:00 HRS, México

**Sábado**  
9:00 a 14:00 HRS, México

+1646 918 5230

2021 SLSV COALITION  
**ADVISORY BOARD**



**Sebastian Canales**  
Student, Cuyahoga Community College

**Sebastian Canales named to National Advisory Board focused on student voting**

CLEVELAND, Feb. 2021: A Cuyahoga Community College (Tri-C®) student will continue his nationally recognized work on election participation with the Students Learn Students Vote Coalition.

Sebastian Canales has been selected to serve on the 2021 Advisory Board for the coalition, a nonpartisan network dedicated to increasing college student voter participation in the United States.

The 15-member board includes students and faculty members from campuses across the country. They will look to build on efforts

that led to historic highs in young voter turnout during 2020 elections.

“The 2021 Advisory Board and Executive Committee will help us continue this work as we move closer to a more equitable democracy,” said Clarissa Unger, director of the coalition.

Motivating students to vote is woven into the college experience at Tri-C. Aside from being a partner in the coalition, the College has been recognized as a “Voter Friendly Campus” and selected for a lead role in the “Ask Every Student” project.

Canales served as a 2020 Democracy Fellow at Tri-C with the Fair

Election Center’s Campus Vote Project. His work helped the College gain national attention in the area of student civic engagement.

He also serves on the executive committee of the Mid-East Honors Association, which represents honors programs at colleges and universities in a six-state region.

Canales, of Parma, is a Jack, Joseph and Morton Mandel Scholar at Tri-C. He is scheduled to graduate from the College this year with two degrees — an Associate of Arts and an Associate of Science.

**OBITUARIES**

**ANDRES SAN MIGUEL PECINA**

It is with deep sorrow that we announce the death of Andrés “Andy” San Miguel Pecina of Toledo, Ohio, born in San Marcos, Texas, who passed away on February 5, 2021, at the age of 84, leaving to mourn family and friends.

Andy was very well-liked and was a loyal member of Latinos United Social Club. He was a roofer by trade for most of his life.

He is survived by: his children: Magdalena Silvas (Ignacio), Michael Pecina, Angelena Ibarra, Andrés Pecina Jr., Marcos Pecina, Ronald Pecina, Leopoldo Lozano (Mike), and Carlos Pecina; and his siblings Esther Dioncio, Lily López, Leo Pecina, Marcos Pecina, Refugia Pecina, Angelo Pecina, Pablo Pecina, and Mary Ellen Pecina. He is also survived by numerous grandchildren, great-grandchildren, and great-great grandchildren.

He was predeceased by: his parents, Leopoldo Pecina and Refugia Pecina (née San Miguel); his wife Constance (née Ortega); his daughters Susanna and Andrea; and his siblings Magdaleno, Frank, Ralph, and Robert Pecina.

Visitation was held on February 14th 2021 at the Eggleston Meinert Pavley Funeral Home, Oregon Chapel (440 S Coy Rd, Oregon, OH). A Mass was held on February 15th at Our Lady of Lourdes Catholic Church in Genoa, OH.

SOURCE: Eggleston Meinert Pavley Funeral Home, Oregon Chapel.

**FIDENCIO PARRAZ, JR.**

Fidencio Parraz, Jr., 64, of Toledo, OH passed away Tuesday, February 2, 2021 at ProMedica Toledo Hospital. He was born August 19, 1956 in Toledo to Fidencio and Conception (née Díaz) Parraz, Sr. He was a graduate of DeVilbiss High School and employed by the Chrysler Corporation for 37 years - in the paint departments at Willys Jeep, Detroit Axel, the Marysville, MI Plant, and Warren Truck Assembly.

A devoted and hardworking husband, father, grandfather and great-grandfather, Jr. loved life and he loved family. He enjoyed working on cars, cooking, watching sports, sharing a great meal, babysitting, and playing cards with the grandkids. An avid movie buff and newspaper reader, he always looked forward to his daily paper and coffee. He was a member of Compelled Church, Temperance, MI.

Fidencio is survived by his beloved wife of 44 years María (née Marroquin) Parraz (married July 30, 1976); children, Fidencio E. Parraz, Carlos Parraz, Irene (Mario) Jimenez, and Crystal Parraz; 9 grandchildren; and 4 great-grandchildren. Also surviving are siblings Stella (Pete) Ruiz, David (Ellen) Parraz, Delia Ethridge, Elena Parraz, Michael Parraz, Linda (Mark) Johnson, Olga (Mickey) Viertelbeck, Blanca “Eva” (Wendall) Goans, and Rubén Parraz, Sr; and many nieces, nephews, great-nieces, and great-nephews.

He was preceded in death by his parents; sister, Elida Torres; and nephews Angelo Ruiz and Rubén Tomás Parraz Jr. Internment at Toledo Memorial Park, Sylvania, OH.

SOURCE: [www.sujkowski.com](http://www.sujkowski.com)

EDITOR’S NOTE: Keeping the word count below 300 words, there is no cost for publication of obituaries in La Prensa. Just email text—the Friday before the Tuesday printing—to [rico@laprensa1.com](mailto:rico@laprensa1.com)



**6TH ANNUAL ODE to the ZIP CODE**

**YOUR ZIP CODE IS MORE THAN AN ADDRESS, IT'S AN IDENTITY.**

**CALL FOR ENTRIES!**

**SEND US A POEM INSPIRED BY YOUR ZIP CODE.**

**Submit your entries February 10 - 24**

at [toledocitypaper.com/the-city/ode2021](http://toledocitypaper.com/the-city/ode2021)

**CASH PRIZES!**  
Winners selected from three categories: youth, young adult, and adult

**Finalists published in Toledo City Paper and Toledo Area Parent!**

Hosted by:

Last year's 1st Place poem in the Youth Category

Poems must be 5 lines each, with the number of words in each line determined by the corresponding digit in your ZIP Code. Contact your Library for help completing the online form.

*4 Snow crunching, kids screaming  
3 Steep, icy hill  
6 Wait, wait, wait. Finally my turn!  
0 (It feels like I am flyingggggg)  
6 Wish I could fly back up.  
- Simon Rose*

**Call for Entries: 6th Annual Ode to the ZIP Code Poetry Contest Seeks Poems Inspired by Local ZIP Codes**

Your ZIP Code matters. It’s not just an address, it’s an identity.

Entries are currently being accepted for the sixth annual Ode to the ZIP Code poetry contest, a partnership of The Fair Housing Center, The Arts Commission, Toledo Lucas County Public Library, Toledo City Paper, and Toledo Area Parent.

This free poetry contest invites local residents to submit short poems inspired by their ZIP Code, where the number of words in each line of the poem is determined by the corresponding digit of



their ZIP Code. All ages and neighborhoods are welcome.

Entries will be accepted online February 10 - 24 at <https://toledocitypaper.com/the-city/ode2021>. Participants can contact their Library for help completing the online form.

Winners selected from youth (11 and under), young adult (12-17), and adult (18 and older) categories will be awarded cash prizes.

Top poems will also be published in Toledo City Paper and Toledo Area Parent. All entries will be juried, and finalists will be featured in a special virtual event in April.

April is both National Poetry Month and Fair Housing Month. The Ode to the ZIP Code event is a fun and creative way to engage the community in talking about how our life experiences are shaped by where we live. Inspiration for the contest came from the O, Miami Poetry Festival and WLRN-Miami Herald News, the originators of the “zip ode” concept.

## COVID-19 TESTING LOCATIONS

### Toledo Health Department:

• **RITE AID:** Drive-thru testing available at the 7225 Airport Highway; Time: Starting 6/4 testing hours will be 10-8 M-F and 10-5 on the Weekend; **Appointment: Must have an appointment.** Pre-screening and appointments can be set up at [www.riteaid.com](http://www.riteaid.com) For Questions: (419) 866-8943; Cost: Free

• **WALMART ON CENTRAL:** Drive-thru testing available at the Walmart Supercenter at 5821 Central Ave, Toledo; **Time:** Testing is available M-W-F from 7 am - 9 am; **Appointment: Must have an appointment.** Pre-screening and appointments can be set up at [www.MyQuestCOVIDTest.com](http://www.MyQuestCOVIDTest.com) For Questions: (866) 697-8378; Cost: Free

• **LABCORP:** Anti-body testing available at 1565 S. Byrne Rd Suite 105, Toledo; **Time:** Testing available Monday-Friday from 7:30 am - 4 pm **Appointment: Order Required, No Appointment Needed.**

**How Labcorp Works (419-381-1300);** Individuals without an order may have one created at Labcorp COVID-19 Antibody Testing; Cost: \$10 if order is purchased from Labcorp website.

• **NHA: NEXUS HEALTHCARE CENTER:** Drive-thru and walk-up testing available at the Nexus Healthcare Center at 1415 Jefferson Ave;

**Time:** Beginning 4/27; **Appointment: Must have an appointment.** Pre-screening and appointments can be set up by calling 419-214-5700;

Cost: Free  
• **NHA: NAVARRE PARK FAMILY CARE CENTER:**

Drive-thru and walk-up testing available at the Navarre Park Family Care Center at 1020 Varland Ave (Spanish Speakers Available); **Appointment: Must have an appointment.** Pre-screening and appointments can be set up by calling 419-214-5700;

Cost: Free  
• **CVS:** Drive-thru testing available at the CVS Pharmacy at 2104 S. Byrne Road, Toledo;

**Time:** Testing is available M-F from 9 am - 6 pm, on Sat 9 am - 5 pm, and on Sun 10 am - 5 pm; **Appointment: Must have an appointment.**

Pre-screening and appointments can be set up at [www.CVS.com](http://www.CVS.com) For Questions: 419-389-9112 **Cost:** Free  
• **Health Partners of Western Ohio:** Drive-thru and walk-up Drive-thru testing available at the Old West End Site (former Girl Scout Building) at 2244 Collingwood Blvd Toledo;

**Time:** Testing is available M-F from 8:15 am - 4 pm (All Ages); **Appointment: Must have an appointment.** Pre-screening and appointments can be set up by calling 567-318-3900;

**Cost:** Free  
• **NEW LOCATION- Toledo Family Pharmacy:** Drive-thru testing available at 324 Main Street, Toledo;

**Time:** Testing is available M/TR: 10am -1 pm, W/F: 1 pm-6 pm, Sat : 11 am-3 pm; **Appointment: Must have an appointment;** Visit [DoINeedACOVID19test.com](http://DoINeedACOVID19test.com) or call 800-635-8611 to schedule an appointment; **Cost:** Free

### Testing locations for Cleveland:

• **Cleveland Clinic -** Main campus, 9500 Euclid Ave., Cleveland. Drive-thru. • **Walgreens,** 4281 W. 130<sup>th</sup> St., Cleveland; drive-thru, 9am to 5pm. Cleveland

*Ohio Dept of Health: If you have questions regarding Coronavirus/ COVID-19 call 1-833-4-ASK-ODH (1-833-427-5634).*

### Michigan Dept of Human and Health Services

**Questions About COVID-19? Call the COVID-19 Hotline at 888-535-6136.**

**Email COVID19@michigan.gov. Don't Bring COVID-19 Home.**

**Get Tested Today At No Cost.**

Are you or is someone close to you sick or has symptoms? Do you work outside the home? You should get tested for coronavirus. There are many locations where you can get tested at no charge to you. Call the COVID-19 Hotline at 888-535-6136, press 1.

**Testing sites in Detroit:**  
• **CVS Pharmacy at**

### Wayne County Community College:

Drive-thru 1001 W Fort St, Detroit, MI 48226; (313) 412-2160; **Appointment Required** Features

- No-cost
- No doctor's order needed
- Tests uninsured individuals
- Insurance accepted.
- Call to make an appointment for a self-swab test. Testing available to individuals meeting CDC, state, and age guidelines.

- Tests some asymptomatic depending on risk and occupation.

• **Health Centers Detroit Medical Group** FQHC, 7633 E. Jefferson Ave., Suite 340, Detroit, MI 48214; (313) 822-9801

**Appointment Required**

**Hours:** Mo,Tu,We,Th,Fr - 08:30AM-05:00PM

**Features**

- Tests people without symptoms (asymptomatic)
- No doctor's order needed
- Tests uninsured individuals
- Insurance accepted.
- Please call the site to schedule a testing appointment.

### Grand Rapids, MI

• **AFC Urgent Care Grand Rapids TeleCare:**

In an effort to minimize the spread of infection, we are now able to provide you with an opportunity to hold a telemedicine video visit with one of our providers. This will allow our providers to facilitate health care virtually without an in-person visit. TeleCare will be available from 8:00am to 8:00pm, 7 days a week. Patients requiring further care will be directed to our clinic or other appropriate health resources, as needed. Most insurance companies have agreed to cover the telemedicine visits for the cost of your typical copay. For those patients who do not have insurance coverage, we are offering the telemedicine visit for \$65.

• **AFC URGENT CARE GRAND RAPIDS**

**Appointment is Required for COVID Testing.** PHONE: 616-288-2980; 1740 28th Street SE Grand Rapids, MI 49508

• **CVS:** Drug store - Grand Rapids, MI - (616) 514-5602; COVID-19 testing center

- Appointment required
- Referral not required
- Tests limited to certain patients
- Drive-through



## Tri-C hosts Three days of COVID-19 Testing, week of Feb. 15

**Drive-thru testing Monday, Wednesday at Metro Campus; Thursday at Corporate College East**

CLEVELAND: Drive-thru COVID-19 testing will be offered three days next week at Cuyahoga Community College (Tri-C) campuses through a partnership with Care Alliance Health Center.

Free testing will take place at Metropolitan Campus in Cleveland on Monday, Feb. 15, and Wednesday, Feb. 17. Testing will also be offered at Corporate College East in Warrensville Heights on Thursday, Feb. 18.

Testing begins at 11 a.m. each day. No testing will be done after 2 p.m. It is recommended that individuals arrive at least an hour before the site closes in order to get through the line. Testing is completed on a first-come, first-served basis. No appointment is necessary.

The testing service is

available to area residents as well as Tri-C students, faculty and staff. The program offers testing to individuals regardless of their symptom status, insurance status or ability to pay. Individuals will not be charged for the test.

A government-issued ID with name and address is required for testing. Those with health coverage are asked to bring their insurance card.

Visit [tri-c.edu/covidtest](http://tri-c.edu/covidtest) or call 216-317-1250 for more information. Metro Campus is located at 2900 Community College Ave. in Cleveland. Corporate College East is located at 4400 Richmond Road in Warrensville Heights.

Individuals can also call the above number to schedule testing appointments at the Care Alliance Central Clinic, located at 2916 Central Ave. in Cleveland.

Test results are communicated to individuals by phone within approximately one week. Reporting could take longer during periods of high-volume testing.

The opportunities for testing come amidst the continued spread of COVID-19 in Northeast Ohio, the state and the nation. The collaboration with Care Alliance reflects Tri-C's commitment to meeting community needs during the pandemic.

Care Alliance is a non-profit community health center providing primary and preventative medical services to residents regardless of their ability to pay. It serves the unique needs of patients at two downtown health centers and a mobile unit, as well as through outreach programming.

## COVID-19 Vaccines: Trust the Facts

COVID-19 vaccines are safe and effective.

COVID-19 vaccines currently available in the U.S. were rigorously tested and are more than 94% effective.

[coronavirus.ohio.gov/vaccine](http://coronavirus.ohio.gov/vaccine)

## La Prensa Weekly Newspaper

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### The Network calls for immigration reform without delay

February 10, 2021: The NW Ohio Immigrant Rights Network has sent a letter to President Joe Biden, Speaker of the House Nancy Pelosi, and Senate Majority Leader Charles Schumer urging them to fulfill their promise of addressing the dire situation of immigrants and asylees.

Beatriz Maya, Director of La Conexión and a founding member of the Network, says that "Immigration policies have to be humane and realistic. Our country suffers from an aging popula-

tion. This can be easily reversed by opening up to newcomers. For decades now, we have criminalized 12 million young workers by subjecting them to an undocumented status, blocking all access for them to obtain documentation in the US. This needs to stop!"

Deacon Jennifer Vásquez, a faith-based assistant to the NW Ohio Immigrant Rights Network, adds that "People of all faiths understand that welcoming sojourners and appreciating their gifts, and not perpetuating

racism, fear, or animosity towards others, is what brings people together for the common good, lifting our country to its brightest future."

Zeltzin Contreras, youth organizer for La Conexión, highlights how "many of the DACA Dreamers have been on the forefront of the struggle against COVID - 19, even as health personnel, risking their lives to protect the community." The Network estimates that 5 million essential workers are considered undocumented.



COVID-19

**We want to hear your story**

**Tell us how you or your business has been impacted by COVID-19.**

Contact **Adrienne** at 419-870-2797 [adrienne@laprensa1.com](mailto:adrienne@laprensa1.com) or **Raena** at 419-806-6736 [raenalaprensa@gmail.com](mailto:raenalaprensa@gmail.com)



Hispanics are about **one and one-half times** as likely to have **Alzheimer's or other dementias** as older whites.

**By 2060**, Latinos will face the **largest increase** in Alzheimer's disease and related dementias cases **of any racial/ethnic group** in the United States.

**ALZHEIMER'S COMMUNITY FORUM**  
**VIRTUAL EVENT DATES:**  
**FEBRUARY 17 | 1 p.m.**  
**MARCH 10 | 10 a.m.**

Join the Alzheimer's Association for one of our two upcoming virtual Community Forums for an open discussion on Alzheimer's disease, dementia and memory loss, the resources available to those impacted, and how the Alzheimer's Association can help provide care and support to your community.

Register today, call: 800.272.3900

alzheimer's association

### The Color of Health: Race, Racism and Public Policy in USA

CLEVELAND: Learn why racism is being recognized as a *public health crisis* during a virtual panel discussion hosted by *Cuyahoga Community College* (Tri-C®) and its Stand for Racial Justice alliance.

The free program — "The Color of Health: Race, Racism and Public Policy in America" — will take place via livestream from noon to 1 p.m. Wednesday, Feb. 24, 2021.

The conversation will explore how systemic racism impacts "health equity" through social determinants such as housing, education and employment. These forces create differences in length and quality of life; rates of disease, disability, and death; and access to treatment.

The *COVID-19 pandemic* — which has disproportionately affected people of color — illustrates the connection between race and health and the imbalances that exist.

**Program panelists include:**

- Yvonka Marie Hall, executive director of the Northeast Ohio Black Health Coalition
- Dr. J. Nwando



**THE COLOR OF HEALTH**

**Examining Racism as a Public Health Crisis**

Olayiwola, chair and professor of the Department of Family and Community Medicine at The Ohio State University and chief of family health services for the OSU Health System

• Dr. Sherrie D. Williams, a pulmonologist with The MetroHealth System, associate professor at Case Western Reserve University's School of Medicine and medical director of Tri-C's Respiratory Therapy program

The conversation will be moderated by Ohio State's *Winston C. Thompson*, an internationally regarded philosophy professor with a specialized focus on social, political and ethical is-

sues related to justice and education.

Visit [tri-c.edu/colorofhealth](http://tri-c.edu/colorofhealth) to register for the program.

This event is being hosted by Tri-C's Stand for Racial Justice, which seeks to advance racial equity and healing at the College and across Northeast Ohio through education, dialogue and action. The College's Jack, Joseph and Morton Mandel Humanities Center is a co-host.

Co-sponsors of the program include Ohio State's Center for Ethics and Human Values, the Ray C. Bliss Institute for Applied Politics at the University of Akron and The City Club of Cleveland.

## COVID-19 Vaccines: Trust the Facts

- ▶ **1. COVID-19 vaccines are safe and effective.** COVID-19 vaccines currently available in the U.S. were rigorously tested and are more than 94% effective.
- ▶ **2. You can't get COVID-19 from a COVID-19 vaccine.** The vaccines do not contain a live virus, meaning they can't give you COVID-19 or cause a positive COVID-19 viral test.
- ▶ **3. COVID-19 vaccine trials were among the largest in history.** A typical vaccine study has about 5,000 participants – the Moderna COVID-19 trial had more than 30,000 participants, and the Pfizer-BioNTech study had more than 43,000.
- ▶ **4. COVID-19 vaccines have not been linked to infertility or miscarriage.** There is no evidence that COVID-19 vaccines cause infertility or increase the risk of miscarriage.
- ▶ **5. No serious safety concerns were observed in clinical trials.** The most common side effects, much like other vaccines, are fatigue, headache, soreness or redness at the injection site, and muscle or joint pain.
- ▶ **6. COVID-19 vaccines will not change your DNA or alter your genetic makeup.** It isn't possible for mRNA to alter or modify a person's genetic makeup.
- ▶ **7. Vaccine injections do NOT contain microchips or tracking devices.** Vaccines do not contain microchips, nanochips, RFID trackers, or devices that would track or control your body in any way.
- ▶ **8. Vaccines do not cause autism.** Studies conducted across the globe continue to show that there is no connection between autism and vaccines.

**MIKE DEWINE**  
GOVERNOR OF OHIO

**Ohio**  
Department of Health

[coronavirus.ohio.gov/vaccine](http://coronavirus.ohio.gov/vaccine)



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Saturday, March 6 at 3 p.m. at Glass City Metropark  
Saturday, March 20 at 3 p.m. at Toledo Botanical Garden  
For registration or for more information, call Customer Service at 419-407-9700.

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 **INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY**  
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21-0061

## Mask up, Mask right

A face mask is defined as a tightly woven cloth or other multi-layer absorbent material that closely covers an individual's mouth and nose. Here are some guidelines to help you choose the most effective face mask.

### Recommended



**Masks that fit properly** (snugly around the nose and chin with no large gaps around the sides of the face)



**Masks with two or three layers**



**Masks made with tightly woven fabric** (i.e., fabrics that do not let light pass through when held up to a light source)



**Masks with inner filter pockets**



**Non-medical disposable masks**



**Masks made with breathable fabric** (such as cotton)

### Not Recommended



**Masks that do not fit properly** (large gaps, too loose or too tight)



**Masks with one layer**



**Masks made from loosely woven fabric or that are knitted** (i.e., fabrics that let light pass through)



**Masks with exhalation valves or vents**



**Masks made from materials that are hard to breathe through** (such as plastic or leather)



**Wearing a scarf/ski mask as a mask**

#### Need help getting a mask?

Residents can pick up a free mask from partner sites across the state, including most local MDHHS offices and Community Action Agencies. Find a distribution site or call the COVID-19 hotline at 1-888-535-6136.



## PREGUNTAS FRECUENTES SOBRE LA VACUNA DEL COVID-19

Michigan.gov/COVIDvaccine



### ¿La vacuna tiene efectos secundarios?

Puede experimentar algunos efectos secundarios leves, como dolor en el brazo, fiebre baja, dolor de cabeza, cansancio.

Esta es una señal normal de que su cuerpo está creando inmunidad contra el virus para que tenga protección contra el COVID-19.



**AUMENTA LA ESPERANZA  
Y FOMENTA LOS SUEÑOS  
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Get hands-on training for a career in the skilled trades at Grand Rapids Community College.

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A university-quality education at a community college price.  
Una educación de calidad universitaria al precio de un colegio comunitario.

## ¡Pleibol!

In the Barrios and the Big Leagues  
En los barrios y las grandes ligas

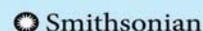


Courtesy of the Clemente Museum



500 Federal Ave, Saginaw, MI, 48607  
989-752-2861 | www.castlemuseum.org

January 23, 2021 - April 18, 2021



¡Pleibol! In the Barrios and the Big Leagues / En los barrios y las grandes ligas is organized by the Smithsonian Institution Traveling Exhibition Service in collaboration with the National Museum of American History. This exhibition received generous support from the Cordoba Corporation and federal support from the Latino Initiatives Pool, administered by the Smithsonian Latino Center.

## Ohio's Vaccination Program - A Phased Approach

**GOALS** Save lives and slow the spread of the virus. In the early vaccination phase, supply will be limited. The speed at which Ohio will move through the phases is largely dependent upon the number of vaccine doses available.

PHASE 1	PHASE 2	PHASE 3 - 4
<b>Supply Limited</b> Vaccine is available in limited supply for specific critical populations. Ohio will focus on vaccinating those most at risk, as well as essential healthcare workers and personnel caring for COVID-19 patients. Vaccines will not yet be available for all Ohioans.	<b>Supply Increasing</b> Vaccine is increasing and available for other specific critical populations who choose to be vaccinated. Vaccines will not yet be available for all Ohioans.	<b>Widely Available</b> Once the vaccine is widely available, Ohio will continue to strategically vaccinate Ohioans if they choose. During these phases, vaccines will begin to be available to all Ohioans.

As supply increases, COVID-19 vaccines will be available to all Ohioans who choose to be vaccinated.




[coronavirus.ohio.gov](http://coronavirus.ohio.gov)

## Workforce Success Course

In partnership with  
Tri-C Access Centers



**Class begins March 15**

**The Workforce Success course will help you:**

- Identify your personal interests and skills
- Improve your resume
- Give successful interviews
- Find a path toward achieving your goals
- Connect with academic and workforce opportunities at Tri-C
- Earn college credit

*This course is offered at no cost to you through available scholarships.*

**Preregister at [tri-c.edu/accesscenters](http://tri-c.edu/accesscenters). Deadline is March 8.**

**More Information** 216-987-4787 | [karen.lee@tri-c.edu](mailto:karen.lee@tri-c.edu)

**About Tri-C Access Centers**  
Cuyahoga Community College is partnering with Esperanza Inc., MetroHealth Medical Center, Olivet Housing and Community Development Corp. and Cuyahoga Metropolitan Housing Authority to support individuals and families on their path to success by providing affordable, community-based educational and workforce programming.







21-0033



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  - Nuestra pre-certificación de documentos que califican, autorizada por el IRS, agiliza el proceso.
  - ¿No tiene número de Seguro Social?
- **iNo hay problema!**
  - Incluye **Traducciones**
- Preparación de Impuestos Electrónico
- Revisión gratuita de sus declaraciones de impuestos de años anteriores
  - Todavía puede presentar 2017-2018-2019
  - Usted puede calificar para un reembolso.

**¿Sabía que todavía puede presentar los impuestos, incluso si usted es indocumentado?**

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## Consulado de México inicia jornadas sabatinas

Por: Isabel Flores, corresponsal La Prensa

DETROIT, MI, 7 II 21: El Consulado de México inicio con gran éxito sus jornadas sabatinas, el pasado sábado 6 de febrero en sus oficinas, para tramitar pasaportes, matriculas consulares y credenciales para votar. Con esto se logra atender la gran demanda de documentación que existe actualmente.

“Estamos atendiendo un promedio de 60 personas todos los días (de lunes a viernes), es una cifra muy parecida a lo que teníamos antes de la pandemia y estamos siguiendo todas las medidas sanitarias al interior de la oficina, como por ejemplo no entrar con acompañantes porque regularmente vienen con un familiar o amigo, ahora tienen que esperar afuera, tampoco pueden entrar con bolsas o mochilas para evitar el contacto con objetos que puedan contagiar el entorno.

Cada hora aproximadamente se realiza una limpieza en la sala, se desinfectan los asientos y las estaciones de trabajo para que se reduzca el riesgo de contagio”,

informó Claudio Uribe, Vicecónsul de Servicios Consulares.

Otra de las restricciones es no atender a personas sin cita, ya que todas las citas actuales son el resultado de un cálculo realizado entre el número de personas atendidas y el tiempo promedio del trámite, lo cual es un aproximado de 15 minutos. “Es el tiempo estimado desde que el connacional pasa a la ventanilla, se realiza la entrevista, se captura su información, toman la fotografía y huellas.

Tenemos en la sala 7 personas de manera constante cada 15 minutos, por lo que si llega una persona sin cita, se altera la cadena de producción o bien, se vulnera el número de personas que pueden estar en la sala, esto afecta las medidas sanitarias”, agregó el entrevistado.

Cabe destacar que la sala de atención fue acondicionada para este tipo de servicio, se cambiaron los bancos y muchos de los asientos actuales están cancelados para evitar que

los solicitantes se sienten juntos.

En caso de emergencia comprobada por un familiar enfermo o fallecimiento, o bien que se requiera el pasaporte para realizar un trámite legal, es necesario enviar correo a curibe@sre.gob.mx o comunicarse al (248) 336 0320 x 37 para solicitar una cita extraordinaria. Indispensable presentar comprobante como boleto de avión con una salida en los próximos días, una carta del abogado o citatorio de migración.

Uribe destacó la importancia de solicitar una cita extraordinaria por los medios antes mencionados y destaco que en este momento hay una gran demanda de los servicios consulares, ya no hay citas disponibles para el mes de febrero. Los interesados en ser atendidos para el mes de marzo, favor de ingresar al siguiente link para agendar su cita: <https://consulmexdeticias.online/marzo>

Durante marzo, el proceso de citas será mediante Google forms, por lo que una vez que se

complete el formulario, el interesado recibirá un correo con los datos que ingresó. Importante mencionar que este correo puede llegar a la bandeja de correos no deseados, por lo que se sugiere buscarlo como “Google forms, o Formas de Google”.

El horario de atención para pasaportes, matriculas consulares y credenciales para votar es de lunes a viernes de 8:00am a 1:00pm. En cuanto a los trámites de visas, menajes de casa, copias certificadas y OP7, es de 3:15 a 4:30pm.

**Consulados Móviles 2021 - Cleveland, Ohio** será la sede del primer consulado móvil 2021

Este año se tiene contemplado realizar 10 consulados móviles, el primero se llevará a cabo el mes de abril en Cleveland, Ohio. Por cuestiones de seguridad en esta ocasión se anunciarán las sedes de cada uno de los móviles un



mes antes de la fecha indicada, a través de las redes sociales del Consulado.

Al respecto, el Vicecónsul de Servicios Consulares explicó las razones: “Estaremos realizando el anuncio de cada uno de los consulados móviles y abriendo las citas a través de MEXITEL al mismo tiempo, es decir un mes antes de cada móvil. La razón por la que estamos haciendo esto es porque han habido algunos malos entendidos en años anteriores, al tener las fechas y sedes anticipadamente se prestaba a que en ocasiones se cobrara por apartar los lugares y se pensaba que el Consulado era quien realizaba ese cobro, por lo que preferimos tenerlo todo en igualdad de circunstancias

para la gente que realmente lo necesita.

Asimismo, es importante tomar en cuenta que seguimos en contingencia y no sabemos si puedan cambiar las circunstancias o restricciones por lo que tal vez los planes se puedan ver afectados, es por ello que estamos tomando la cautela necesaria”.

Para concluir, es importante tomar en cuenta los nuevos costos de los derechos consulares en este 2021:

- Pasaporte 10 años: \$165.00
- Pasaporte 6 años: \$113.00
- Pasaporte 3 años: \$83.00
- Pasaporte de 1 año para menores de 3 años: \$36.00
- Matriculas Consulares: \$33.00

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## El Centro de Servicios Sociales Upcoming Events



Debido a la pandemia de COVID-19, las oficinas de El Centro están ofreciendo servicios por teléfono a la comunidad con una cantidad limitada de personal. Si necesitas servicios y necesitas venir a la oficina, le recomendamos que llame primero a la oficina (440-277-8235) para recibir instrucciones del nuevo procedimiento para visitas. Los siguientes son servicios que aún estamos ofreciendo:

- Servicios de administración de dinero / representante del beneficiario para personas con enfermedades de salud mental severa y discapacidades físicas
- Línea telefónica de información y de referidos en español 211
- Línea de navegación de salud mental y adicción (440-240-7025)
- Interpretación médica y de salud mental (por teléfono) para agencias con contratos
- Difundir información a la comunidad sobre COVID-19
- Distribución de Comida
- Seminarios para compradores de vivienda por primera vez

**Tutoría gratuita - 231Go!** El programa colaborativo de escuelas intermedia de El Centro está ofreciendo tutoría y sesiones de ayuda con la tarea con cita previa. Contamos con tres tutores bilingües disponibles durante todo el año escolar. Para obtener más información, comuníquese con Verónica González al 440-277-8235 Ext. 7014.

**10, 11, 17, 18, 24 y 25 de febrero** - Clases de participación de los padres / Padres Comprometidos. Estas clases virtuales son en colaboración con Lorain County Community College y UnidosUS. Las clases serán todos los miércoles y jueves a partir de las 5:00 p.m. a las 6:30 p.m. a través de Zoom y los padres aprenderán habilidades de alfabetización digital, cómo trabajar con sus escuelas para preparar a su hijo para la universidad y más allá, así como otras herramientas importantes. Los talleres se ofrecen en español y terminarán con una celebración familiar. Los padres pueden unirse en cualquier momento durante el período de 4 semanas. Para obtener más información, comuníquese con Verónica González al 440-277-8235 Ext. 7014 (folleto adjunto).

**20 y 27 de febrero:** talleres bilingües de educación para compradores de vivienda certificados por HUD: estas clases ayudarán a mejorar la educación financiera de los residentes del condado de Lorain. El Centro está ofreciendo a los compradores de vivienda dos cursos (cuatro horas por clase) enfocados en: Conocimientos financieros (presupuestación y ahorro) y el proceso de propiedad de vivienda para preparar a los participantes en el proceso de compra de vivienda. Las clases se llevarán a cabo a través de Zoom. Para registrarse o para obtener más información, llame a *Maria Carrion* al 440-277-8235.

## BOOKS BY MAIL, FAMILY MEALS, AND MORE!

### WHAT'S NEW FOR THE CLEVELAND PUBLIC LIBRARY COMMUNITY

**FEBRUARY 12, 2021:** *Cleveland Public Library* will reopen its doors to visitors on Monday,



February 22, 2021. To celebrate a return to browsing, the Library is offering new programs and services to help patrons achieve their goals and survive during the pandemic.

"We're excited to see people back in our libraries," said *Felton Thomas, Jr.*, Executive Director and CEO of Cleveland Public Library. "The community is the heartbeat of the People's University. Visitors bring energy to our great center of learning. Virtual is convenient, but it's nothing like face-to-face interaction. Our staff feels more connected to the people in this environment."

The Library's hours of operation will remain the same. Walk-up and curbside services will still be provided.

#### CLEVELAND PUBLIC LIBRARY HOURS OF OPERATION

##### All CPL Locations except for PAL

- Monday - Friday**  
10 a.m. - 6 p.m.
- Main Library Drive-up Window Only**  
*Monday - Friday*  
7 a.m. - 7 p.m.
- Saturday*  
10 a.m. - 6 p.m.

Due to the public health threat of COVID-19, patrons are required to wear face coverings and maintain social distance. Our neighborhood branches will limit capacity and seating, as well as require visitors to limit their visits to one hour and 15 minutes to ensure everyone has access to the Library.

The Public Administration Library (PAL) will remain closed due to limited hours at City Hall.

#### OUR FUTURE IS BUILDING:

Our plans to renovate existing branches and build new ones will soon become a reality. Construction will begin this Spring. To get ready for the construction projects, West Park, Woodland, and Jefferson branches will not reopen to visitors on February 22 with the rest of the Library system. Curbside and walk-up services will still be available at West Park, Woodland, and Jefferson. All services will cease at those branches at 6 p.m. on Friday, April 2 for construction.

#### BOOKS BY MAIL:

Can't make it to your neighborhood branch? Let us bring the library to you. Cleveland Public Library users can now receive their favorite books and movies at home through the mail.

Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, the Library is offering a new free service, Words on Wheels, to adult residents of the Cleveland Metropolitan School District which includes Cleveland, Bratenahl, Newburgh Heights, and Linndale. For more information on Words on Wheels and Homebound Service, visit [cpl.org/books-by-mail](http://cpl.org/books-by-mail).

#### FREE FAMILY MEALS:

Cleveland Public Library is making sure no one goes hungry. In partnership with the Greater Cleveland Food Bank, the Library is now offering three meal services:

**• Kids' Cafe:** Nutritious grab-and-go meals for youth, ages 18 and under. Kids' Café is offered Monday - Friday at all locations.

**• Backpack Meals:** A two-day supply of meals for youth, ages 18 and under. Backpack meals include two breakfasts, two entrees, and two snacks. Meals are available Monday-Friday. To receive a backpack, children must provide their name and age.

**• Emergency Food Boxes:** Adults and families can pick up a 20-30 lb. box of non-perishable, dry goods including milk, pasta, rice, and canned goods such as fruit and tuna. Emergency food boxes are available Monday-Friday.

#### COMPUTERS, PRINTING, AND YOU:

Looking to get back to work or learn a new skill? Cleveland Public Library is offering a series of computer classes to help people create resumes, search for jobs, and understand how to operate Microsoft software.

Mobile printing is also available from home using your computer or mobile device. Print from the web, email, or mobile device, then visit your local branch to pick up your items.

Cleveland Public Library will celebrate Founders Day on Wednesday, February 17. All library locations will be closed to the public until 2 p.m. to allow for staff development. Patrons are encouraged to use our digital collection to find their next great read, movie, or audiobook.

Visit [cpl.org](http://cpl.org) to learn about our Homebound Service and Words on Wheels programs.

## LORAIN PUBLIC LIBRARY SYSTEM UPDATES

### Story Stop on Facebook Live

*Tuesday, Feb. 23; 10:30 a.m.*  
*March 2, 9, 16, 23, 30; April 6, 13, 20, 27; 6:30 to 7 p.m.*  
*Mondays, March 1, 8, 15, 22, 29; April 5, 12, 19, 26; 10:30 a.m.*  
Enjoy stories, songs, and activities from the comfort of your own home. Our songs may feature shaky eggs, rhythm sticks, or scarves. There's a lot of things around your home that you can use to sing and dance. Our storytellers will even recommend some easy and accessible props.

### LPLS Zoom Writers Group

*Tuesday, Feb. 23; 6:30 to 7:45 p.m.*  
Adult writers are invited to join us via Zoom to write and discuss together. Preregistration required.

### American Red Cross Blood Drive at the North Ridgeville Branch

*Thursday, Feb. 25; 9 a.m. to 2 p.m.*  
Appointments are needed. Schedule your appointment online at [RedCrossBlood.org](http://RedCrossBlood.org) or call 1-800-RED CROSS.

### Baby and Me Story Time on Facebook Live

*Thursday, Feb. 25; March 4, 11, 18, 25;*

*April 1, 8, 15, 22, 29; 10:30 to 11 a.m.*  
This story time is intended for babies, birth through 18 months, or early walkers, with their caregivers.

### Tech Troubleshooting While Working or Learning from Home (on Zoom)

*Tuesday, March 2; 6:30 p.m.*  
Learn tips and work-arounds for technology issues with audio, video quality, internet, Zoom and more.

### Cooking with Charlie for Kids (on Facebook)

*Wednesday, March 3; 10 a.m.*  
Learn how to make kid-friendly snacks!

### Family Food for Thought - How to Read a Recipe (on Zoom)

*Monday, March 8; 4 to 5 p.m.*  
Join us virtually via Zoom from the Main Branch's Culinary Literacy Center as we help build culinary skills for the entire family. This session will teach the basics of food safety. Preregistration required.

### Resume Writing and Cover Letters (on Zoom)

*Tuesday, March 9; 6:30 to 7:30 p.m.*  
Learn about a new free online legal help resource that can make



accessing legal information easier for everyone. This is an informational introduction and is not to be used as legal advice. Preregistration required.

### Grab & Go Activity Kits

Throughout the month, the Lorain Public Library System will offer a variety of Grab & Go crafts and activities for every age range for you to enjoy at home. Contact your local branch for more information and availability.

### Mobile Hot Spots Available

The Avon, North Ridgeville and Columbia branches have a limited number of mobile hot spots for 21-day loan periods. Call ahead for availability.

To join any of our Facebook programs, visit us at <https://www.facebook.com/LorainPublicLibrarySystem>.

Patrons can register for programs offered on Zoom at <https://www.lorainpubliclibrary.org/events>. Registrants are asked to include their email addresses so that Zoom invitations can be sent for the event.

## COVID-19

## Vaccines: Trust the Facts

Vaccine injections do NOT contain microchips or tracking devices.

Vaccines do not contain microchips, nanochips, RFID trackers, or devices that would track or control your body in any way.

Department of Health

[coronavirus.ohio.gov/vaccine](http://coronavirus.ohio.gov/vaccine)



Cuyahoga Community College provided automotive technician **William Hernández** with the tools to succeed in the United States after he left Guatemala three years ago in search of new opportunities.

Hernández spent a year advancing through Tri-C's English as a Second Language (ESL) program after moving to Cleveland. He found support along the way from the College's *Hispanic Council*.

After polishing his English-speaking skills, Hernández enrolled in the Automotive Technology program to build on skills that had him working as a Toyota technician in Guatemala.

Hernández progressed through his studies with help from the College's *Advanced Technology Academy (ATA)*. The workforce-driven program is designed to guide young adults into high-demand careers.

He earned a short-term certificate in automotive maintenance from Tri-C in 2020 and — with the help of ATA — acquired tools to use on the job. Hernández recently began working at Sunnyside Toyota in North Olmsted.

### 'Tri-C Classical Piano Series' honors Black History Month

Celebrate *Black History Month* through the artistry of American jazz pianist **Aaron Diehl** during the *Tri-C Performing Arts Classical Piano Series* presented by Cuyahoga Community College (Tri-C®).

The free virtual concert begins at 2 p.m. on Sunday, Feb. 21, 2021. Diehl's performance will honor the musical legacies of famous Black composers such as *Fats Waller, Willie "The Lion" Smith, Mary Lou Williams, John Lewis, and William Grant Still*.

Visit [tri-c.edu/performingarts](http://tri-c.edu/performingarts) on Feb. 21 to view the recital, which was prerecorded in the auditorium at Tri-C Metropolitan Campus.

"Throughout history, many Black composers have been overlooked," said **Emanuela Friscioni**, director of Tri-C's Classical Piano Series. "This performance offers an opportunity to appreciate and savor their incredible contributions to the art form."

Their work will be brought to life by

Diehl, a 33-year-old classically trained pianist and composer with Ohio roots. He has collaborated with living jazz masters while establishing himself as one of the pre-eminent interpreters of the Great American Songbook.

Diehl's latest evolution comes as he begins to tackle modern classical works, performing the music of George Gershwin with the Cleveland Orchestra, New York Philharmonic, Minnesota Orchestra, and Los Angeles Philharmonic.

This is the second show in Tri-C's four-part 2021 Classical Piano Series. All performances will be presented online. Upcoming performances, listed by date, include:

**March 21** — **Caroline Oltmanns**, a German concert pianist whose talent has taken



Aaron Diehl

her around the world. She currently serves as a professor of piano at *Youngstown State University*.

**April 18** — **Dan Tepfer**, a French-American jazz pianist whose many honors include winning first prize and audience prize at the 2006 Montreux Jazz Festival Solo Piano Competition.

Tri-C Classical Piano Series is presented by the William O. and Gertrude Lewis Frohring Foundation and made possible by Cuyahoga Community College, the National Endowment for the Arts, the Ohio Arts Council and Arts Midwest.

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### CIFF has announced its theme of "Bring Film Home"

CLEVELAND, February 12, 2021: The 45<sup>th</sup> Cleveland International Film Festival (CIFF) has announced its theme: *BRING FILM HOME*. The campaign, designed by the team at Type Twenty Seven, celebrates the connections we will form — even while we remain physically apart — when viewing the extraordinary on-screen stories created by our CIFF45 Streams filmmakers.

**Brittyn DeWorth**, Creative Director and owner of *Type Twenty Seven*, stated: "This year we wanted to embody the Cleveland International Film Festival community and reflect how—despite a physical distance—we are even more connected than ever. By



showcasing our homes as theaters, we reinforce the camaraderie that has developed over the decades, forming a neighborhood of like-minded individuals who have decided to "*Bring Film Home*."

The Festival is once again working with Fusion Filmworks to produce the CIFF trailer, which will be released on Opening Night of CIFF45 Streams on Wednesday, *April 7, 2021*. Opening Night is generously sponsored by Dollar Bank.

as well as audience engagement activities and events. CIFF45 Streams will also include two extra days — making it a 14-day presentation — for extended viewing. The Festival lineup will be released on Friday, March 12<sup>th</sup> at 11:00 AM ET, with tickets going on sale to CIFF Members on Monday, March 22<sup>nd</sup> at 11:00 AM ET and to the public on Friday, March 26<sup>th</sup> at 11:00 AM ET. For more information, including membership opportunities, please visit [clevelandfilm.org](http://clevelandfilm.org).

## México advierte sobre idea falsa de puertas abiertas a EEUU

CIUDAD DE MÉXICO, 11 de febrero (AP). Muchos migrantes creen que hay "puertas abiertas" a Estados Unidos tras la elección del nuevo mandatario estadounidense Joe Biden, señaló el presidente mexicano Andrés Manuel López Obrador el jueves.

López Obrador sostuvo que eso es falso y exhortó a los migrantes a no creer en traficantes que les aseguran que podrían obtener un estatus legal de residencia inmediato. El presidente mexicano se dijo a favor de la propuesta de política migratoria de Biden, pero advirtió que tomaría tiempo ser aprobada e implementada.

"Ahora por ejemplo, cuando hay una política migratoria que va a regularizar la situación de los migrantes en los Estados Unidos, paisanos nuestros y también hermanos centroamericanos se piensa que ya están las puertas abiertas y que de inmediato el presidente Biden va a regularizar a todos los migrantes", afirmó López Obrador. "No es que ya todos

pueden ir a los Estados Unidos y van a ser regularizados, todavía no hay una definición", añadió. "Que tengan nuestros hermanos migrantes esta información para que no se dejen engañar por los traficantes de personas, que les pintan el mundo color de rosa". El mandatario también abordó la reciente masacre de 19 personas, entre ellas al menos 14 migrantes guatemaltecos, como una justificación de su política de impedir el paso de los migrantes centroamericanos en la frontera sur de México.

López Obrador dijo que la masacre dejó de manifiesto que es demasiado peligroso para los migrantes cruzar por territorios de cárteles de la droga en el norte de México. "Fue siempre un argumento de nuestra parte, es decir, necesitamos cuidar a los migrantes, protegerlos. Si se introducen, se dispersan, no tenemos vigilancia o protección y caen en manos de la delincuencia organizada, corren peligro", subrayó. Doce integrantes de una

fuerza élite de la policía en Tamaulipas, estado fronterizo del norte de México, han sido acusados de participar en la masacre del 12 de enero de los 14 guatemaltecos y al menos dos mexicanos, presuntos traficantes de personas. Ellos fueron asesinados, apilados en una camioneta tipo pickup e incinerados, al grado que tres de los restos aún no han sido identificados.

Presionado por el entonces presidente estadounidense Donald Trump en 2018 y 2019, López Obrador asignó a miles de agentes de migración, militares y la Guardia Nacional a custodiar la frontera de México con Guatemala para impedir que las caravanas de migrantes centroamericanos ingresaran a territorio mexicano.

Defensores de derechos afirman que la política del gobierno mexicano ha expuesto a los migrantes a más peligros, incluyendo el uso excesivo de la fuerza de parte de las fuerzas policiales, extorsiones de grupos criminales y violaciones a los derechos humanos.

## Los problemas de la era Trump continúan en frontera de EEUU

(Continuación de p.3)

La CBP dijo que Nailt y su hijo habían pasado una revisión de salud el miércoles por la mañana.

Fue liberada el jueves y trasladada a un hotel con ayuda de un grupo sin fines de lucro, la *Val Verde Border Humanitarian Coalition*, una de las organizaciones que está recibiendo a muchas familias inmigrantes cuando salen de la custodia oficial.

La doctora Amy Cohen, psiquiatra infantil y directora ejecutiva del grupo activista de inmigración *Every Last One*, describió cómo la detención en fronteras

puede traumatizar a un recién nacido: el frío, la luz constante, el estrés que sufre su madre lactante.

"Es un momento tremendamente vulnerable", dijo. "Está consumiendo el estrés que ella sufre. Esta es su primera exposición al mundo fuera del útero. Esto es extremadamente cruel y peligroso".

Un repunte previo en los cruces ilegales de fronteras, combinado con las demoras en el procesamiento de familias, provocó unas condiciones espantosas en varios puestos fronterizos en 2019, con escasez de agua y comida, y niños que en

muchos casos tuvieron que arreglárselas solos.

El año anterior, cuando el gobierno de Trump separó a miles de familias inmigrantes dentro de su política de "tolerancia cero", mucha gente fue detenida en un almacén reconvertido en el sur de Texas. Miles de niños arrebatados a sus padres pasaron a custodia del gobierno, lo que incluyó recluirlas en centros en Tornillo, Texas, y Homestead, Florida.

Los periodistas de *The Associated Press* Christopher Sherman y María Verza en la *Ciudad de México* contribuyeron a este despacho.

DO YOUR PART TO SAVE LIVES



Wash hands frequently



Wear a mask



Don't touch your face



Clean carts and surfaces



Keep your distance from others

## El Departamento de Salud Pública del Condado de Lorain brinda una oportunidad de recuperación

Los familiares, amigos y compañeros de trabajo de alguien que usa drogas opioides deben tener a la mano un kit de rescate Narcan, al igual que cualquier persona que se esté recuperando de un problema de opioides. Narcan (naloxona) es un medicamento que detiene y revierte una sobredosis de opioides.

"Salvar la vida de alguien con Narcan brinda una oportunidad para que esa persona busque la recuperación", dijo David Covell, MPH, RS, Comisionado de Salud de Lorain County Public Health (LCPH). "Obtener el apoyo de otras personas ayuda a alguien con adicción a buscar y alcanzar la recuperación". En 2020, LCPH distribuyó 932 kits de rescate de Narcan a los residentes del condado de Lorain para prevenir las sobredosis de opioides. Los informes muestran que esos kits de rescate de Narcan salvaron a 140 personas de morir por una sobredosis. Estos kits salvaron la vida de la hija, la madre, el padre, el hijo o el amigo de alguien. En 2020, 120 seres queridos perdieron la vida como resultado de una sobredosis de opioides.

La pandemia de COVID-19 deja vulnerables a las personas con trastornos por abuso de sustancias. LCPH mantiene su compromiso de frenar la propagación de COVID-19 en el condado de Lorain mientras continúa sirviendo de manera segura a las personas más vulnerables. Para seguir brindando oportunidades de recuperación, LCPH ahora ofrece capacitación Narcan virtualmente y kits de rescate Narcan disponibles por correo.

**Quienes deseen prevenir una muerte por sobredosis de opioides pueden solicitar un kit de rescate Narcan sin costo en LorainCountyHealth.com/opioids.** Recibirán entrenamiento de Narcan en línea y deberán enviar una solicitud para obtener por correo un kit de rescate de Narcan. **O visita LCPH para recibir entrenamiento Narcan y recoger un kit de rescate Narcan. Acude a 9880 Murray Ridge Road en Elyria de lunes a viernes de 8a.m. a 4p.m. Comunícate al 440-322-6367** para programar una cita fuera del horario de atención.

Otro recurso durante este tiempo de interacciones sociales limitadas incluye la línea de llamada "Never Use Alone". Si tienes un ser querido que usa drogas, infórmale sobre la línea telefónica "Never Use Alone" al marcar 800-484-3731. Un operador permanece en la línea y se comunica con los servicios de emergencia si la persona que llama no responde. Este recurso proporciona otra forma de salvar vidas y brindar oportunidades de recuperación.

En este momento, más personas se quedan en casa y trabajan desde ahí. Protege a tus seres queridos y compañeros de casa, guarda los analgésicos recetados de forma segura. Guarda los medicamentos en el envase original y fuera de la vista. Mantén el medicamento en un recipiente con llave, en un armario o cajón seguro para medicamentos, fuera del alcance de los niños y las mascotas. Si tienes medicamentos sobrantes, desecha de manera segura las píldoras restantes. Consulta con la comisaría de policía local para encontrar un lugar para dejar los medicamentos no utilizados.

El financiamiento para esto fue posible (en parte) por (1H79TI081684-01) de SAMHSA. Las opiniones expresadas en los materiales o publicaciones de conferencia por oradores y moderadores, no reflejan necesariamente las políticas oficiales del Departamento de Salud y Servicios Humanos; ni la mención de nombres comerciales, prácticas comerciales u organizaciones implica el respaldo del gobierno de EE. UU. Financiamiento a través de la Administración de Servicios de Salud Mental y Abuso de Sustancias, Subvención # SP 080284 de la Ley de Recuperación y Adicción Integral para Primeros Respondedores.

Funding for this was made possible (in part) by (1H79TI081684-01) from SAMHSA. The views expressed in written conference materials or publications and by speakers and moderators do not necessarily reflect the official policies of the Department of Health and Human Services; nor does mention of trade names, commercial practices, or organizations imply endorsement by the U.S. Government. Funding through the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration, First Responders Comprehensive Addiction and Recovery Act Grant # SP 080284.

## Lorain County Public Health provides a chance for recovery

Family members, friends and coworkers of someone who uses opioid drugs should have a Narcan rescue kit on hand, as should anyone in recovery from an opioid problem. Narcan (naloxone) is a medication that stops and reverses an opioid overdose.

"Saving someone's life with Narcan provides a chance for that person to seek recovery," said David Covell, MPH, RS, health commissioner at Lorain County Public Health (LCPH). "Getting support from others helps a person with addiction seek and reach recovery." In 2020, LCPH distributed 932 Narcan rescue kits to Lorain County residents to prevent opioid overdoses. Reports show that those Narcan rescue kits saved 140 individuals from dying from an opioid overdose. These kits saved the life of someone's daughter, mother, father, son or friend. In 2020, 120 loved ones lost their lives as a result of an opioid overdose.

The COVID-19 pandemic leaves people with substance abuse disorders especially vulnerable. LCPH remains committed to slowing the spread of COVID-19 in Lorain County while continuing to safely serve people that are most vulnerable. To continue providing chances for recovery, LCPH now offers Narcan training virtually and Narcan rescue kits available by mail.

**Someone who wants to prevent an opioid overdose death can place an order for a no-cost Narcan rescue kit at LorainCountyHealth.com/opioids.** Then, you'll get online Narcan training and submit a request to get a Narcan rescue kit mailed to you. **Or, visit LCPH to get Narcan training and pick up a Narcan rescue kit. Come to 9880 Murray Ridge Road in Elyria on weekdays 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. Call 440-322-6367 to make an appointment after hours.**

Another resource during this time of limited social interactions includes the "Never Use Alone" call line. If you have a loved one that uses drugs, tell them about the "Never Use Alone" call line, available at 800-484-3731. An operator stays on the line and contacts emergency services if the caller becomes unresponsive. This resource provides another way to save lives and provide chances for recovery.

At this time, more people are staying home and working from home. Protect loved ones and housemates - store prescription pain medications safely. Store medications in the original container and out of sight. Keep medication in a locked container, drug-safe cabinet or drawer - out of reach of children and pets. If you have leftover medication, safely dispose of the remaining pills. Check with your local police station to find a drop-off location for unused medication.

## History of abuse for Mexican police unit in migrant massacre

By ALFREDO PENA and MARK STEVENSON, Associated Press

CIUDAD VICTORIA, Mexico, 10 II 21 (AP): When state police in northern Mexico allegedly shot 19 people, including at least 14 Guatemalan migrants, to death in late January near the border with Texas, it was a tragedy that critics say authorities had been warned could come.

In 2019, prosecutors charged that the same Tamaulipas state police unit, then operating under a different name, pulled eight people from their homes in the border city of *Nuevo Laredo*, posed them in clothing and vehicles to make them look like criminals, and shot them to death.

Now, a dozen officers of the 150-member Special Operations Group, known by its Spanish initials as *GOPES*, have been ordered held for trial on charges they shot to death at least 14 Guatemalan migrants and two Mexicans on a rural road in the border township of Camargo. The bodies were then set afire and burned so badly that three other corpses are still awaiting identification.

Authorities had ample warning of the problems in the unit, which was created last year from the remains of the special forces group accused of the 2019 killings and other atrocities. A federal legislator even filed a non-binding resolution in Mexico's Congress in early January to protest beatings and robberies by the unit.

As recently as November, a Tamaulipas business association charged that

officers in the *GOPES* unit had broken into a member's home and stolen cash, other belongings and appliances. The group said the victim even took remote photos through her home's security cameras showing uniformed officers with guns slung over their backs robbing her house.

The complaint was ignored, and nothing was ever done to rein the unit in.

"If back then they had done something, if any attention had been paid, perhaps today we would not be mourning the deaths of 19 people," said *Marco Antonio Marino*, vice president of the Tamaulipas Federation of Business Chambers.

Tamaulipas has seen rival drug cartels fighting the longest, bloodiest, best-equipped turf war in Mexico's history for over a decade now. Bands of gunmen with names like "The Troop from Hell" regularly drive around in homemade armored trucks.

The cartels coopted so many municipal police forces in Tamaulipas that the state decided to dissolve them all and rely more on better-trained state police officers. And the federal government's withdrawal of Mexican marines, who once provided much of the heavy firepower for law enforcement in the state, encouraged the state to create elite units like *GOPES*.

So fearsome is the unit's reputation that the U.S.

government, which trained a few of its individual members, has sought to distance itself from the force, which it refers to both by its former initials, *CAIET*, and its current name, *GOPES*.

The U.S. Embassy in Mexico City said three of the 12 officers charged in the migrant massacre "received basic skills and/or first line supervisor training" through a State Department program before they were assigned to the special unit. "The training of these individuals took place in 2016 and 2017 and were fully compliant with Leahy (human rights) vetting," the embassy said.

*CAIET* is the Spanish acronym for the *Tamaulipas Center for Analysis, Information and Studies*, a bizarrely academic name for what was essentially a rapid-reaction, SWAT-style police force. Like *GOPES*, it often operated with armored cars and masks.

In 2019, the bodies of the eight people dragged from their homes in *Nuevo Laredo* were later found with gunshot wounds to the head, dressed in camouflage cartel-style gear with bulletproof vests bearing Cartel de Noreste initials, with guns by their sides. Prosecutors eventually concluded that *CAIET* officers planted the guns and cartel gear on the victims before executing them.

*Raymundo Ramos*, the human rights activist who

investigated and exposed the *Nuevo Laredo* massacre, notes that despite those findings only two of the 40 members of the *CAIET* unit involved in the killings are in custody facing charges. Three other officers agreed to testify in return for getting their charges dropped, and two officers are fugitives.

Authorities didn't dissolve the *CAIET* unit. They just changed its name to *GOPES*.

"This is a recurring practice among (state) governments, that they just change their names to clean up the image of their police forces," Ramos said.

Prosecutors have not publicly discussed any motive for why the *GOPES* officers allegedly decided to massacre the migrants, and court hearings in the case so far have not been open to the public.

The migrants were accompanied by several Mexicans who were apparently serving as armed "protection" for the "shipment" of migrants being smuggled to the U.S. border. The Gulf cartel makes much of its money by charging migrant traffickers a protection fee for passing through its territory. It also makes money kidnapping unaccompanied migrants, torturing them until they reveal the phone numbers of relatives in the United States and holding them for ransom.

Among the theories is that the *GOPES* officers opened fire on armed gang members aboard the migrants' vehicle — three assault rifles were found in the burned-out pickup. The gunfire killed the guards, and the officers then killed the migrants seeking to hide their mistake.

State prosecutors say the fact that there were no shell casings found at the

massacre site means police picked them up to cover their tracks.

Ramos said that fits in with the unit's tactics. "Normally, they do not leave witnesses. That is part of their training," he said.

In the 2019 massacre in *Nuevo Laredo*, the police unit did leave four witnesses at the homes from which the victims were dragged, apparently only because the four were teenage girls or mothers with children.

The problem is not just limited to killings, said *Oscar Hernández*, an anthropologist at *Colegio de la Frontera Norte*.

"It's not news that some police units get involved in this kind of thing, not just violence, which is the most visible, but other things like aiding and abetting, and corruption," Hernández said.

Marino, the business leader, stresses that some state police units have made it safe again to use the roads in Tamaulipas, where drivers and bus passengers were once routinely abducted and never heard from again.

The *GOPES* unit isn't the first of Tamaulipas' problem with abusive police forces.

In 2014, a police unit known as "*Grupo Hercules*," which acted as a sort of paramilitary bodyguard for the mayor of the border city of Matamoros, and Mexican marines abducted and murdered four people, including three US-American siblings.

*Erica, Alex and José Angel Alvarado Rivera* of Progreso, Texas, disappeared in October 2014 while visiting their father in Control, a small town in Mexico near Matamoros, which is across the border from Brownsville, Texas. An acquaintance, Mexican

citizen *José Guadalupe Castaneda Benitez*, was also taken. Their bodies were all found shot in the head more than two weeks later.

Other facets of this year's massacre remain unexplained. For example, Ramos said some of the officers detained in the case have said they killed the migrants, but didn't burn the bodies.

### A briefing paper from the U.S. Drug Enforcement

Administration suggests the rival Northeast Cartel was active in the area in late January, looking to kill a top Gulf cartel figure, when they happened on the migrants. Some people believe the Northeast cartel gunman could have either been involved in the massacre, or at least have set the pickup and the bodies afire after they were killed, to damage the Gulf cartel's operations.

One point everyone agrees on: The bodies were so badly burned that in the normal course of events they might never have been identified and could have been buried and forgotten as the likely participants in just another gunbattle between cartels.

But unknown to the *GOPES* unit, the pickup was part of a larger convoy of vehicles carrying migrants, including a Guatemalan migrant smuggler who knew all the victims. He advised their families back home of the massacre and the relatives went public with the news.

"If it had not been for him, they might all be buried now, as just more suspected criminals," said Ramos.

Stevenson reported from Mexico City.

## Cubanos varados 33 días ya están detenidos en EEUU

(Continuación de p.3)

tes de que otra tripulación les llevara suministros adicionales el mismo lunes, y el martes fueron rescatadas. La Guardia Costera indicó que los tres dijeron que bebieron agua de coco para permanecer hidratados y comían ratas y moluscos de caracolas.

*David Abraham*, profesor de ley de inmigración y naturalización en la escuela de derecho de la Universidad de Miami, dijo que el estatus de los migrantes podría caer en el limbo porque no está claro si se considerará que se les detuvo en el mar.

Abraham dijo que será interesante ver cómo manejará el caso el gobierno del presidente Joe Biden, tomando en cuenta que el exmandatario

demócrata *Barack Obama*, cuando descongeló las relaciones con Cuba, puso fin a la política de "pies secos, pies mojados" con la que se consideraba que cualquier cubano que pisara territorio estadounidense automáticamente había llegado legalmente.

A partir de ese momento, las autoridades ya podían rechazar a los migrantes cubanos que intentaran ingresar al país de manera ilegal, incluso después de que pisaran tierra firme, aunque muchos continuaron llegando y solicitando protección con base en las leyes de asilo.

Republicano *Donald Trump* revirtió el deshielo de *Obama* y restituyó las sanciones económicas a Cuba, pero no así la política de "pies

secos, pies mojados", y su gobierno adoptó una postura más estricta hacia las solicitudes de asilo.

Algunos cubanos han permanecido meses en centros de detención del ICE sin conseguir la libertad condicional que les permitiría solicitar la residencia en un año.

"Esta podría significar una oportunidad para el gobierno de Biden", declaró Abraham. "El gobierno de Trump, como parte de su mano dura generalizada, no respetó esa excepción a los cubanos. En el pasado, sin duda el ICE habría dejado en libertad a estas personas, les habría concedido la libertad condicional. Sería interesante ver si lo hacen ahora".





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**Notice of Civil Service Examination  
Patrol Officer  
City of Fremont**

The Fremont Civil Service Commission will be holding an entrance exam for the position of **Patrol Officer on Saturday, April 10<sup>th</sup> at 9:00 am or Wednesday, April 14<sup>th</sup> at 6:00 pm.** This will be held at the Fremont Community Recreation Complex at 600 Saint Joseph St. Fremont, Ohio 43420. Applications for the test can be completed by visiting the National Testing Network and clicking on Fremont, Ohio. Applications are *due by April 2, 2021.* For questions, please contact the Office of the Safety Service Director at 419-334-2687 or e-mail [AmandaSears@fremontohio.org](mailto:AmandaSears@fremontohio.org).

**Dual (English/Spanish) Language Specialist – Fremont Ohio**

**SUMMARY:** Aligns and coordinates English and Spanish language services to staff and participants in the *Migrant Seasonal Head Start program.* Develops dual language program documents and materials, provides interpretation services and coordinates sharing among teachers of best practices in dual language instruction throughout the program.

**19.00 to \$26.50 per hour**

**Requirements:**

- Education:** Bachelor's degree in early childhood education, Social Work, or related field.
- Experience:** Three years' experience providing written and oral translation services for Spanish speaking individuals.

**Additional Requirements:**

1. Initial and periodic Motor Vehicle Records checks maintain a valid driver's license and maintain a safe driving record.
  2. Must have insured, dependable transportation available for daily use.
  3. Initial and periodic physical exams required.
  4. Must submit to initial and/or periodic state and/or federal criminal checks.
  5. Must submit to initial and periodic drug and alcohol testing.
- Ability to be reached by cellular phone during business hours and after hours.

**How to Apply:** Online at [www.glcap.org](http://www.glcap.org) Click on jobs.

**Contact Information:** Human Resources Email: [employment@glcap.org](mailto:employment@glcap.org)

**Deadline to apply is February 14, 2021.**



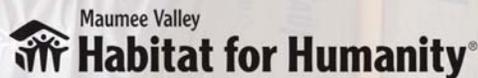
**Police Officer  
Sylvania Township, Ohio  
Entrance Examination Announcement**

Sylvania Township is testing to establish a pre-eligibility list for the position of Police Officer. The Township will be using National Testing Network to administer this test. Starting salary \$30.07 per hour. To review the requirements, qualifications and to schedule a test, go to [www.nationaltestingnetwork.com/publicsafetyjobs](http://www.nationaltestingnetwork.com/publicsafetyjobs)

Testing centers are located around the country; you can choose a date, time, and testing center of your choice. Home/virtual testing is also available. You must complete the test and have your scores sent to Sylvania Township Police by March 19, 2021.

Please visit [www.sylvaniamtownshippolice.com](http://www.sylvaniamtownshippolice.com) for more information on the application process. All potential employees will be required to pass a physical fitness test, interviews, background investigation, physical examination, drug and nicotine screens, and psychological evaluation. The Sylvania Township Police Department is an equal opportunity employer.

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**EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES**

Lucas Metropolitan Housing (LMH) and its affiliate Lucas Housing Services Corporation (LHSC) located in Toledo, OH is seeking experienced applicants for the following position(s): **Maintenance Supervisor, Inspection Supervisor & Resident Advisor**. For complete details, visit <https://www.lucasmha.org> and click on Careers. **Deadline to apply: 02/28/2021**. This is a Section 3 covered position. HUD recipients are encouraged to apply and are to indicate on the application if you are a LMHA Public Housing client or Housing Choice Voucher Program participant. Persons with disabilities are encouraged to apply. **NO PHONE CALLS**. Equal employment opportunity shall be afforded to all qualified persons without regard to age, race, color, religion, religious creed, gender, military status, ancestry, disability, handicap, sexual orientation, genetic information or national origin.



**US will re-entry to the UN HRD Council**

By **MATTHEW LEE**, Associated Press

WASHINGTON, DC, Feb. 12, 2021 (AP): President Joe Biden's administration has announced that the United States will re-enter the UN Human Rights Council from which former President Donald Trump withdrew nearly three years ago. The decision reverses another Trump-era move in which he pulled the United States out of several multilateral organizations and agreements, including the untimely withdrawal by Trump of the United Nation's WHO (World Health Organization).

Secretary of State Antony Blinken and a senior U.S. diplomat in Geneva announced the Feb. 8th that Washington will return as an observer to that Swiss-based agency, with the idea of later being elected as a full member, officials said.

Trump withdrew the United States from the UN's top human rights

agency in 2018.

A senior U.S. official said Biden's government believes that the council should be reformed, but that the best way to drive change is to "commit to it in a 'principled way'." The official said it can be "an important forum for those fighting tyranny and injustice around the world", and the United States intends with its presence to "ensure that the agency can live up to that potential."

Although the United States will only have non-voting observer status on the council until the end of 2021, officials said Washington, DC wants to look for one of three full-member seats occupied by Austria, Denmark, and Italia—for the 'Western European and Other States group' that will be subject to elections this year.

The United Nations General Assembly makes its final election through a vote that usually takes place in October each year to fill vacancies for a three-year term on the

47-member council.

Trump's ordered withdrawal from the UN Human Rights Council was one of several in which the United States ceased to participate in the international community during Trump's four-year presidency. Trump also withdrew from the Paris Climate Agreement, the Iran Nuclear Agreement, the World Health Organization, UNESCO and various arms control treaties.

Trump had threatened to withdraw the United States from the International Postal Union and the World Trade Organization.

Since taking the Presidency on January 20, 2021, Biden has reintegrated the United States into the Paris Agreement and WHO, and has shown interest in returning to UNESCO and the Iran agreement.

The Associated Press reporter Jamey Keaten in Geneva contributed to this firm.

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**Organizations receive funding in latest round of grantmaking from Greater Cleveland COVID-19 Rapid Response Fund**

CLEVELAND, Feb. 9, 2021: The Greater Cleveland COVID-19 Rapid Response Fund has announced its seventh cycle of biweekly grants as part of its Phase II efforts to support the Greater Cleveland non-profit community during the ongoing pandemic. In total, \$227,500 was awarded to 10 organizations and groups serving Cuyahoga, Lake, and Geauga counties, bringing the overall amount to nearly \$2.6 million since the start of Phase II in mid-November of 2020.

The Fund's grant-making priorities will now primarily focus on basic needs, responding to housing challenges, and PPE distribution to reduce the spread of the deadly virus. Applications in the family support priority area for Phase II will not be considered at this time unless they also fall in one of the aforementioned focus areas. This change to the funding priorities will continue until the end of March of 2021. At that time, the Fund will evaluate community needs and adjust priorities as necessary.

**The latest round of grant recipients includes:**

- Epilepsy Association (\$45,000): To provide tablets to keep vulnerable clients in Cuyahoga County in touch with case managers and other healthcare professionals in order to improve client health outcomes by increasing access to care
- Feed the Soul (\$20,000): To purchase a new refrigerator and to collaborate with additional organizations to identify transportation for food delivery to up to 500 additional individuals with difficulties accessing services in Cleveland's near east side neighborhoods
- Help Foundation, Inc. (\$30,000): To continue to staff the organization's residential facilities 24 hours a day, while offering virtual adult day support ser-

vices for individuals with developmental disabilities in Cuyahoga, Lake and Geauga counties

- Koinonia Homes, Inc. (\$15,000): To install touchless bathroom faucets in Cuyahoga County residences housing multiple clients to help stop the spread of COVID-19 among individuals with developmental disabilities and staff members

- Medina Creative Housing Inc. (\$20,000): To purchase PPE for staff and clients and to provide additional distance learning and life skills training opportunities to individuals with developmental disabilities in Cuyahoga County

- New Agrarian Center (\$10,000): To allow the continued operation of 15 City Fresh markets, 10 of which are located in Cuyahoga County census tracts deemed food deserts

- 1,000 Ties (\$9,500): To provide 2,000 hygiene kits to Cleveland Metropolitan School District students

- Two Foundation (\$30,000): To continue to provide job training and placement for individuals with developmental disabilities in Cuyahoga, Lake and Geauga counties

- West Side Catholic Center (\$18,000): To purchase new HVAC systems and air purification systems so that the organization on Cleveland's near west side can continue to provide programming and meal delivery services by keeping staff and clients safe

The partners have also allocated \$30,000 to retain a government affairs firm on behalf of the Fund that will monitor and pursue state and federal advocacy opportunities that improve local COVID-19 recovery efforts.

Contributions to the second phase of the Greater Cleveland COVID-19 Rapid Response Fund totaled more than \$3.5 million. Funding partners urge other foundations, corporate entities, individuals

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and organizations to contribute to the Fund. Donations of any amount are welcomed, and all contributions are tax deductible.

Based upon the charitable structure of the Rapid Response Fund, the second phase is currently accepting grant applications from eligible organizations serving Cuyahoga, Lake, and/or Geauga counties. The Fund is designed primarily to support human service nonprofits with operational budgets of less than \$20 million.

The Fund partners encourage collaborative proposals that involve multiple organizations within similar sectors or neighborhoods working on shared issues.

Grants during Phase II of the Greater Cleveland COVID-19 Rapid Response Fund are awarded every two weeks and will continue for one year. Awards range in size from \$5,000 to \$100,000, with a maximum grant amount of \$100,000 for any non-profit organization throughout the current cycle ending Oct. 31, 2021. Organizations that were funded during Phase I (between March-July 2020) are eligible to apply for additional funding. Grants are limited to 501(c)(3) nonprofit organizations, groups fiscally sponsored by a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization, or other charitable organizations able to receive a tax-deductible contribution.

For more information or to donate, visit [ClevelandFoundation.org/Response](http://ClevelandFoundation.org/Response).



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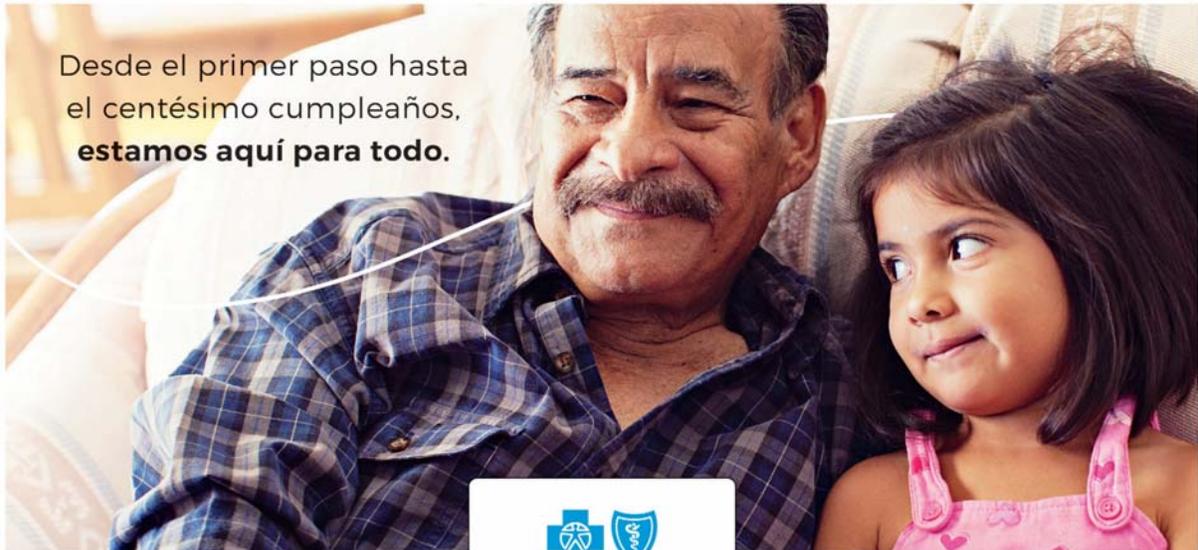


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