

**From:** Maurice Jones  
**Sent:** Friday, October 23, 2020 9:22 PM  
**To:** Town Email Users  
**Subject:** Town Manager's Weekly COVID Update 10-23-20  
**Attachments:** [What's Next? A Virtual COVID Town Hall with Drs. Goldstein and Barzin](#)  
[Not too late to get your flu shot!](#)

Hello Everyone,  
It is easy to focus on the negatives when it comes to COVID-19, but I want to take a moment to praise the valiant efforts you all have made to limit the spread of the coronavirus, especially on the job.

We have had staff members who have contracted the coronavirus outside of work. However, our ERT continues to do a

great job tracking the cases and contact tracing to ensure no one is missed and work stations are properly cleaned. I am so thankful that all of those who have tested positive have been able to recover and I pray that trend continues. For those who have gotten sick or feel you may have been exposed, you have done the right thing in reporting to your supervisors and staying away from work when you don't feel well.

There is a lot of concern right now as we head into what public health professionals believe will be a surge in cases. I, too, am concerned—for the health and wellbeing of our staff, families, and community members, as well as the toll it will take on all of us physically and emotionally.

- Thursday's 2,400 new cases in NC is the third-highest to date;
- Hospitalizations have been on a steady increase throughout October (currently 1,205 hospitalization as of Thursday);
- 4,082 North Carolinians have died from COVID-19

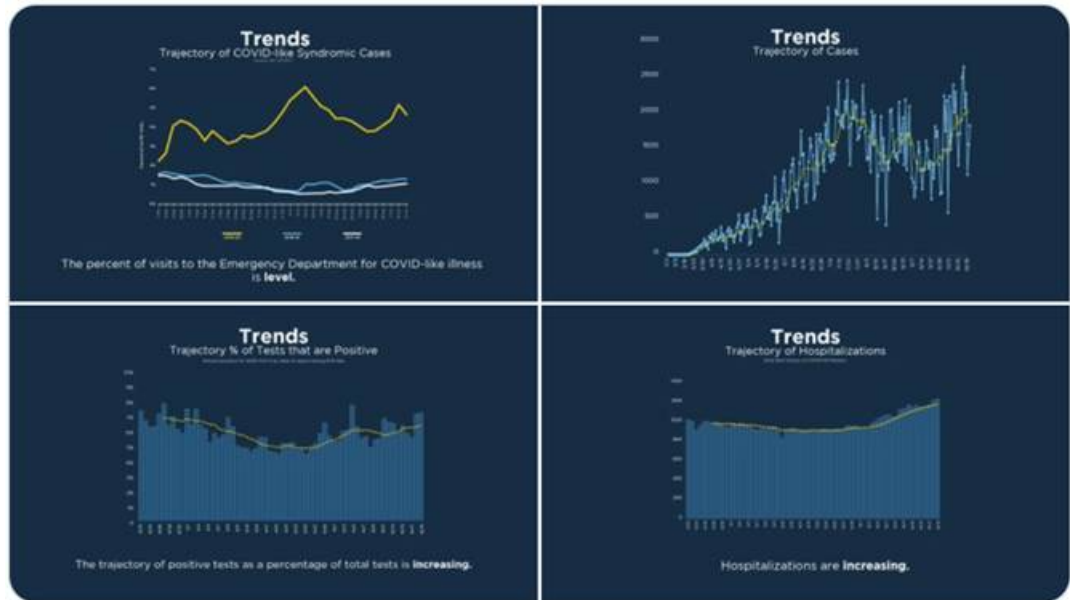
*\*(due to technical difficulties on the NC DHHS website, Friday numbers were not yet published)*

This is a time to all of to remain diligent in protecting each other. Continue to do what you're doing. And double down your efforts: strictly follow the three Ws. When this is all over, that which is difficult now we will look back on and be thankful 1. That it's over; and 2. That we did what was necessary to protect ourselves and those around us.

### **Hear from the experts**

We're excited to have an opportunity for you to hear from two medical professionals from UNC, Dr. Adam Goldstein and Dr. Amir Barzin, to answer important questions about how to keep yourself and those around you safe during the holidays and winter.

WHEN: Thursday, November 19, Noon to 12:30, via Zoom.



The doctors will lead a Town Hall on the current state of COVID-19 and what we can anticipate next Thursday, November 18<sup>th</sup> from noon to 12:30 via Zoom. Please bring your questions to the event and see the attachments for more details.

### Get your flu shot

The drive-through flu shot clinics have concluded. I'm happy to report that 250 Town staff and their dependents took advantage of this critical offering this year. That's more than 50 more than last year!

You haven't missed this important opportunity, though. Please see the attached message from the Wellness Clinic in order to schedule your flu shot with Liska. Remember, a lot of the conversation about COVID-19 is centered around waiting for a vaccine. A well-established flu vaccine is here—there's no need to wait.

### Resources

- Submit employee questions and concerns to the Office of Risk Management at 919-969-5035, [rallen@townofchapelhill.org](mailto:rallen@townofchapelhill.org)
- Contact the Town's Wellness Clinic: 919-968-2796, <https://chapelhillwellnessatwork.org/>
  - Please call first
  - Please note: the Town's Wellness Clinic does not have the capability to test for coronavirus; the staff can recommend whether you should seek additional medical guidance
- Your Blue Cross and Blue Shield health plan provides video diagnosis options.

## If you leave home, know your Ws!



**WEAR** a cloth face covering.



**WAIT** 6 feet apart. Avoid close contact.



**WASH** your hands often or use hand sanitizer.

@NCDHHS

#StayStrongNC

Visit <https://member.carefirst.com/members/health-wellness/video-visit.page>.

- Contact the Ombuds at [ombuds@townofchapelhill.org](mailto:ombuds@townofchapelhill.org) or 919-265-0806

As always, thank you, thank you, thank you for your tremendous efforts!

All the Best,  
Maurice

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