

**OFFICE OF THE PRINCE GEORGE'S COUNTY EXECUTIVE
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PRESS RELEASE

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**PRINCE GEORGE'S COUNTY LAUNCHES COUNTYWIDE VACCINE
DISTRIBUTION AND EDUCATION INITIATIVE**

*County Executive Alsobrooks Also Announces New Summer Programming for
Young People After Recent Shooting Death of 13-Year-Old King Douglas*

LARGO, MD – Prince George's County Executive Angela Alsobrooks announced today that the County has launched a Countywide Vaccine Distribution and Education Initiative, which conducts door-to-door, phone, and text outreach to County residents to help provide information on COVID-19 vaccines and resources related to the pandemic. The outreach team will be able to directly schedule vaccination appointments for County residents who answer the door or phone.

“By targeting communities that are lagging in vaccination rates, our outreach team will be a critical component of our efforts to ensure COVID-19 vaccines are distributed equitably,” said Alsobrooks. “As we work to get more residents vaccinated and recover from this pandemic, we are also focused on addressing a number of issues that have arisen due to the public health crisis, including a rise in violence and criminal activity among youth.”

Countywide Vaccine Distribution & Education Initiative

Canvassers are going door-to-door in communities in Prince George's County to ensure residents have accurate information about COVID-19 vaccines and can receive assistance with scheduling vaccination appointments. The County's Vaccine Equity Team has identified roughly a dozen communities that are a priority, based on socio-economic need, existing vaccination rates, and population size.

These targeted communities will receive the full suite of remote and in-person contact. The initiative will knock 266,352 doors and is currently targeting the following communities for door-knocking: Bladensburg, Temple Hills, Capitol Heights, Hyattsville, Oxon Hill, College Park, District Heights, Riverdale, Suitland, Langley Park, and Mount Rainier.

The canvassing program will also reach the entire County remotely via phone banking and text banking, making over 1.3 million calls and sending over 500,000 text messages throughout the duration of the initiative. As the outreach team assists with the scheduling of vaccination appointments, they will also provide information on government resources related to the COVID-19 pandemic, such as rental assistance, food assistance and employment assistance.

The County is encouraging residents to answer the door or phone if contacted by the vaccine outreach team. Members of the outreach team will always wear masks and observe appropriate

social distancing protocols while engaging residents. Team members will be credentialed with identification badges as “Prince George’s COVID-19 Vaccine Outreach Team” and will be wearing bright yellow safety vests while they are working in the community.

Programming for Young People

The County is launching new summer programming for young people, providing opportunities for them to learn and socialize in structured environments. This new programming comes after the recent shooting death of 13-year-old King Douglas by another child, as well as a national trend of an increase in criminal activity among young people.

County Executive Alsobrooks will launch the Alsobrooks Summer Youth Passport Experience, providing youth ages 12 to 18 throughout the County with a variety of safe and fun options to choose from this summer. This passport program will likely operate from June to August offering a number of day and evening events, starting daily at 9 a.m. and going until midnight. Activities for youth will cover the three Es: education, entrepreneurship, and experience. More information on these offerings will come in the near future.

The County Executive will also partner with the Maryland-National Capital Park and Planning Commission, Department of Parks and Recreation to offer under the lights and outdoor teen-based sports programming across the County this summer. Through the “Recreation Without Walls” program, beginning after Memorial Day Weekend, basketball-skills challenges, pickup flag football, and soccer will be available for teenage residents at County park locations.

Teens interested in participating will need to complete a one-time registration through the Department’s [Parks Direct](#) registration system. With this one-time registration, teens can check in to any of the program offerings all summer long. Programs will be offered during the evening hours so participants can beat the heat and have a planned activity to do during the evenings. ***In addition, all basketball hoops will return to courts across the County by the end of this week.***

Other opportunities through the Department of Parks and Recreation are already available. Many fitness centers, waterfront parks and arts centers are already open, and dozens of programs for children are accepting registrations now or will open within the next two weeks. These programs include a number of sports, chess, video game tournaments, workshops in gardening or writing, and more. County residents can visit pgparks.com for a full list of program offerings. For teens interested in volunteering this summer, a full list of volunteer opportunities is available at pgc.samaritan.com.

Growing Green with Pride Day

The County Executive joined residents for the first countywide community cleanup since the County recently placed a renewed focus on beautification efforts. More than 80 groups and 1,372 volunteers, including 3 municipalities and 9 schools, came out to help clean up and beautify Prince George’s County. Preliminary totals show that 49.7 tons, or 99,400 pounds, of litter and illegally dumped materials were collected on Saturday, May 1 for Growing Green with Pride Day.

This Thursday, May 6, the County's new Litter Task Force will have its first meeting, where the County will consider ways to keep up the momentum on litter and illegal dumping. The Task Force will discuss the ongoing communications campaign to let residents know how they can get involved. The Task Force will also discuss ways to expand the illegal dumping camera program and create an interactive dashboard and app for residents interested in litter removal.

COVID-19 Numbers & Vaccinations

Over 567,000 total vaccinations have been provided to County residents. 347,774 residents have received at least one dose of a vaccine, which represents 47.8% of residents ages 16 or older. 238,256 residents are fully vaccinated, nearly one-third of residents 16 or older.

The County's positivity rate is 4.3% as of April 29. The average daily case rate is 13.7 cases per 100,000 residents as of April 29, which has trended down consistently for the past two weeks. Finally, the County's infection rate is 0.91 as of April 25.

The latest COVID-19 numbers are available via the [County's COVID-19 Dashboard](#). The latest COVID-19 vaccination numbers are available via the [County's COVID-19 Vaccine Dashboard](#).

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