DIVISION: COMMUNITY HEALTH
COVID-19 PROGRAM

LEADING KITSAP’S PANDEMIC RESPONSE

Our program works to prevent the spread of COVID-19 in our community and help people and organizations respond effectively to the pandemic. In 2022, our teams established and built on strong relationships with community partners to maintain a strong response to COVID-19 outbreaks and exposures.

“What COVID-19 remains disruptive and affects individuals and organizations in various ways, to various degrees. I take pride in being able to help individuals and organizations through whatever COVID-19 related challenges exist.” – Kevin Nguyen, Disease Intervention Specialist

WHAT WE DO

In 2022, our program’s core activities included:

• Conducting case, contact, and outbreak investigations
• Supporting our schools and childcare facilities in maintaining compliance with state COVID protocols
• Assisting the community with securing accessible care related to COVID-19 (i.e. testing, vaccination)
• Reporting and daily quality assurance efforts, which include outreach to community members and organizations within 2 business days

2022 BY THE NUMBERS

399 outbreaks investigated
350 answered calls from community members
23,828 self-tests distributed to community organizations

Find data reports at kcowa.us/covid19data
2022 HIGHLIGHTS
COVID-19 RESPONSE

AT A GLANCE

PROGRAM NAME: COVID-19
MANAGER: Kandice Atismé-Bevins
COORDINATORS: Michelle McMillan, Windie Borja
2022 FTE STAFF: 19 (at the start of the year), 4 (by the end of the year)

GRANTS & SPECIAL FUNDING SOURCES FOR 2022:

- Federal COVID funding for operations, case investigation, contact tracing, outbreak investigation, technical assistance support, and vaccine work.
- State COVID funding for operations, case investigation, contact tracing, outbreak investigation, technical assistance support, and vaccine work.
- Contracts with North Kitsap School District, South Kitsap School District, and Bainbridge Island School District for dedicated COVID technical assistance and contact tracing support.

Thank you to our funders and community partners for their continued support!

HOW WE GOT HERE

A brief timeline of the COVID-19 pandemic in Kitsap County.

- January 20, 2020: First COVID-19 case reported in U.S. and WA.
- March 8, 2020: First case confirmed in Kitsap County.
- October 2020: Kitsap Public Health and county partners open drive-thru testing sites.
- Jan. 13, 2022: More than 4,300 cases are reported over a 7-day period in Kitsap as Omicron wave peaks.
- June 2022: Vaccine authorized for children as young as 6 months.
- March 2022: Kitsap Public Health begins wind down of emergency response as Omicron wave recedes.

LOOKING AHEAD TO 2023

We are excited to continue working with and providing support to our community partners as we navigate the end of the federal public health emergency. We’re also excited to apply lessons learned from COVID to other public health issues.

Kitsap Public Health is working with a contractor to create an “after action report” assessing our COVID-19 response and identifying strengths and areas for improvement.

- COVID-19 vaccines will still be available at doctors offices and clinics. Vaccines will remain free while federal stockpiles last and will be covered by most insurance plans.
- Self-tests will still be available at pharmacies and other stores. Healthcare providers will also administer tests.
- Treatments will still be available from healthcare providers. There may be a fee depending on the type of treatment and your insurance coverage.

LEARN MORE & CONNECT

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Scan this QR Code with your smartphone camera to visit our program page.