

MARK HACKEL, MACOMB COUNTY EXECUTIVE



COVID-19 UPDATE

MacombGov.org



January 6, 2021

Good afternoon,

Welcome to the first full week of 2021 and another Macomb County COVID-19 newsletter update. In this edition, we feature information on the COVID-19 vaccine, CDC guidance on gathering safely and details about an upcoming food distribution event hosted by the Macomb Food Program. You can find all of this below.

Please know that even though this is a new year, our commitment to our community remains. Our team will continue to work hard on behalf of the residents of Macomb County and we stand ready to help you with whatever you need. So if you have questions or are looking for services, please visit MacombGov.org and get in touch.

Wishing you wellness,

Mark

Mark A. Hackel
Macomb County Executive

Important Things to Know

- The COVID-19 vaccine is safe and effective for human use as stated by the U.S. Food and Drug Administration and the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. To learn more about the science on how it's developed, approved and manufactured, visit the State of Michigan vaccine website [here](#) or the MacombGov vaccine central page [here](#). You can also check out this image from the Michigan Health and Hospital Association for some quick information:



How can a safe vaccine be made so quickly?

Vaccine development typically takes many years. Scientists had already begun research for coronavirus vaccines during previous outbreaks caused by related coronaviruses, and that earlier research provided a head start for rapid development of vaccines to protect against infection with COVID-19.

No steps were skipped in the development of the COVID-19 vaccine that would sacrifice safety.

- Last week, Governor Whitmer announced that a new round of grants would be made available to businesses hit hardest by the pandemic. At this time, we are awaiting more details about when this application will open as well as eligibility requirements. Please check out [MacombGov.org](https://www.mmacombgov.org) regularly for new information.



The CDC is offering guidance for participating in activities this season. If you are looking to spend time with people who don't live with you, outdoors is the safer choice. COVID-19 spreads more easily indoors than outdoors. You are less likely to be exposed to COVID-19 when you attend outdoor activities, stay at least 6 feet apart and limit the amount of time spent with people who don't live with you. More tips for participating in activities can be found at the CDC [here](https://www.cdc.gov/covid19/outdoor-activities).

- January is Mental Wellness Month and Macomb County Community Mental Health is hosting a wellness week. Join MCCMH each day at 10 a.m. the week of January 10 for a virtual wellness session featuring the MyStrength App. Topics will include depression and anxiety, resources for men, crisis planning and suicide prevention and coping with COVID-19. Register for any of these sessions [here](#).
- The Macomb Food Program will be distributing non-perishable items to families in Macomb County facing food insecurity on January 21. Visit the Max Thompson Family Resource Center in Warren between 10 a.m. and Noon to pick up food items and frozen meats, as well as dairy and produce (if available). This is a drive-up distribution event. Residents are asked to remain in their vehicle while items are loaded into their trunks. This is a first-come first-serve event while supplies last. Recipients will be asked to provide their signature upon receipt of food items; there

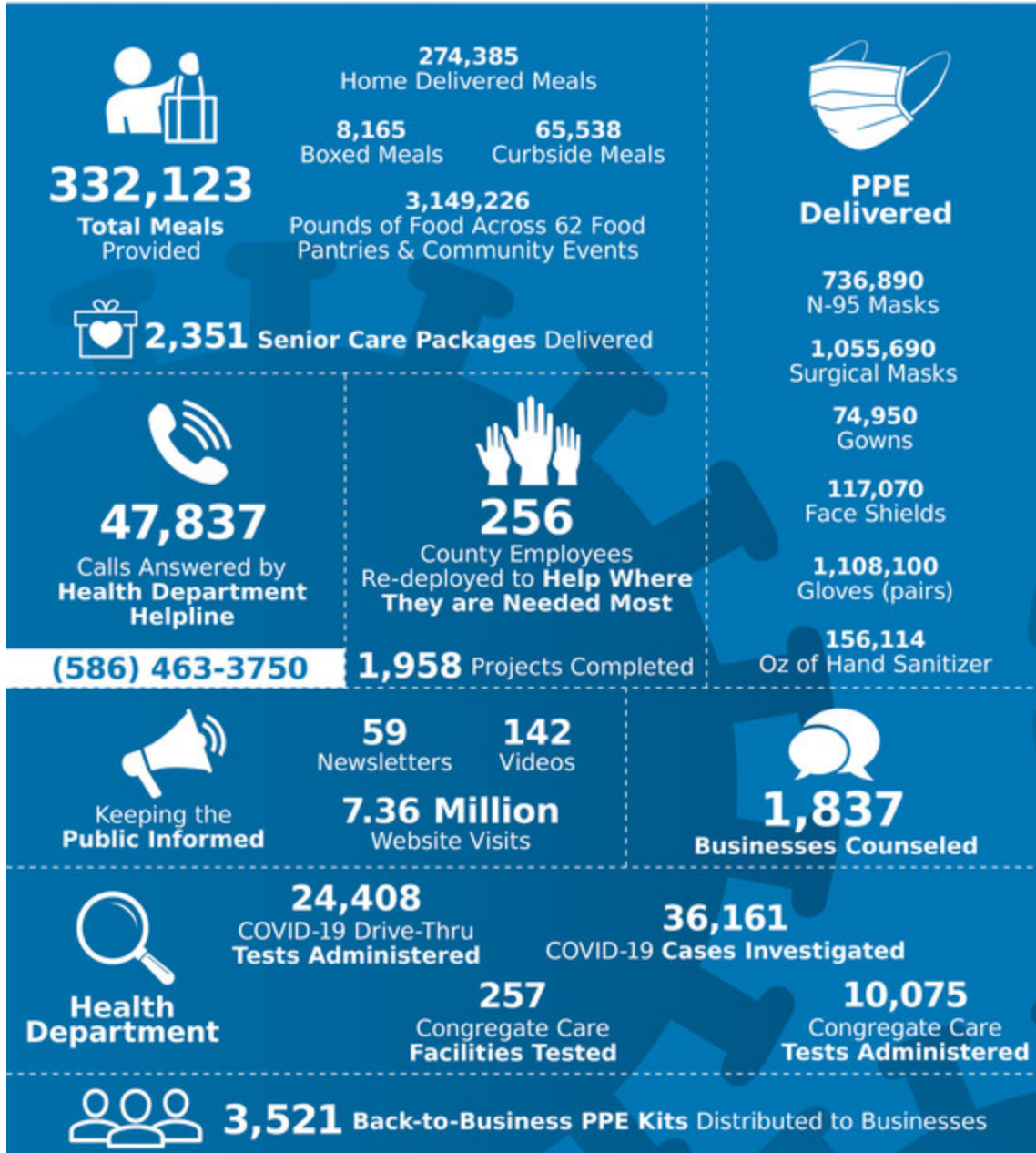
are no other eligibility requirements. To learn more about the Macomb Food Program or to volunteer, [click here](#).



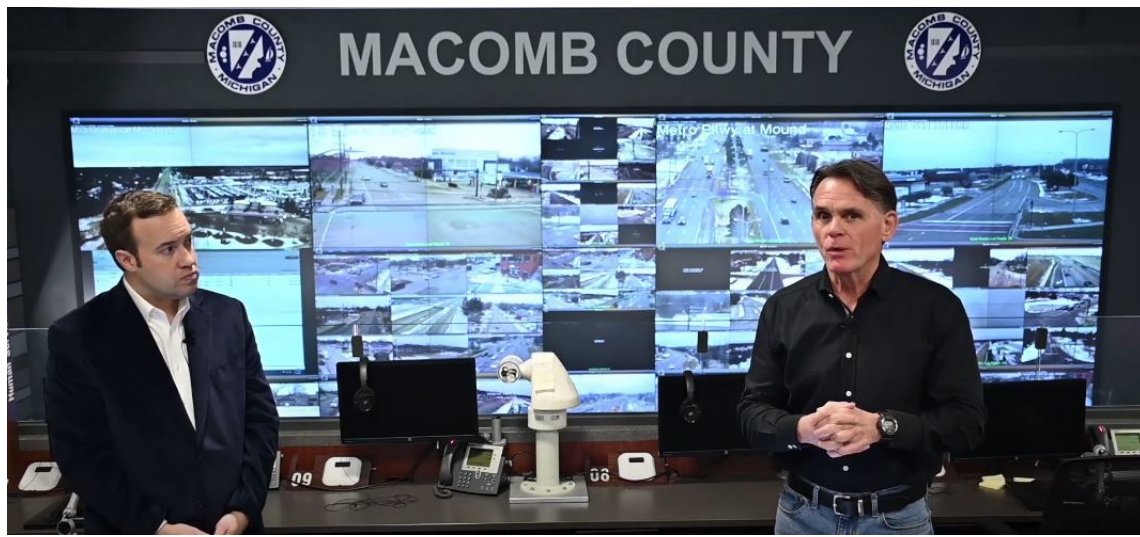
- Macomb County leaders and personnel have been on the ground responding to the COVID-19 crisis since mid-March. Here's what has been accomplished so far:

MACOMB COUNTY RESPONSE TO COVID-19

March 11 - November 30, 2020



Executive Mark Hackel has been regularly sharing video updates with Macomb County residents on YouTube and social media. Click on the link below for the latest updates.



- [COVID-19 Update with Executive Mark Hackel - January 4](#)
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In the News

- CDC updates COVID-19 vaccine guidelines. [Read more.](#)
 - CDC releases updated report on highly-contagious new strain of COVID-19. [Read more.](#)
 - Sterling Heights to host Forgotten Harvest Mobile Pantry every Thursday in January. [Read more.](#)
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Helpful Information and Resources

The Macomb County Emergency Operations Center and Department of Health continue to lead local efforts to respond to the ever-evolving nature of COVID-19 pandemic. For the latest COVID-19 data, news and information, click on the buttons below for helpful resources available to you.



Stay Informed

If you have questions about COVID-19, please call the Macomb County Health Department helpline at 586-463-3750. The helpline is open 8:30 a.m. to 5 p.m. For the latest information from Macomb County regarding COVID-19, please visit macombgov.org/covid19.

