

STAND UP FOR YOUR BUSINESS SHUT DOWN COVID

Dear Business Owners, Restaurateurs, and Event/Conference Space Managers,

There is no doubt that the last year and a half has been incredibly stressful and difficult on our community in so many ways including significant impacts to businesses and our local economy. Thank you for the steps that you have taken in the last 18 months to protect the community and those you serve.

For a few weeks, the burden of COVID-19 in our community was lighter and it seemed we were heading into brighter days thanks to our community's commitment to fighting back against COVID-19. More than 52% of our total population is fully vaccinated. However, that leaves almost one out of every two of us still unvaccinated and now with the highly transmissible Delta variant widely circulating throughout communities in North Carolina, we are seeing substantial viral transmission and significant increases in new cases in Buncombe County. The level of transmission is rising not only in Buncombe County but all around us.

As business owners, there are things you can do to help stop the spread of COVID-19 right now. Layering and implementing these infection prevention measures can protect your patrons, reduce the risk of exposure to your employees, and help decrease the chances you experience an outbreak associated with your business or events.

Public Health strongly recommends you to consider these measures to protect your business, your patrons, the community and our economy. These are actions you can take as a business owner regardless of what statewide Executive Orders may be in place. Take action now, stand up for your business by shutting down COVID-19.

Thank you for your commitment and partnership throughout this pandemic.

Sincerely,



Stacie Turpin Saunders, MPH
Public Health Director
Buncombe County Health & Human Services

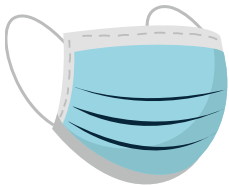
JULY 29, 2021

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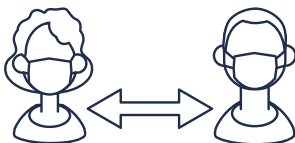
STRONGLY RECOMMEND VACCINATION OF YOUR EMPLOYEES

Some businesses are requiring vaccination of their employees. Safe and effective vaccines are available throughout the community. Call (828) 419-0095 or visit buncombeready.org to learn more about vaccine opportunities in Buncombe County.



STRONGLY RECOMMEND FACE COVERINGS WITHIN YOUR BUSINESS REGARDLESS OF VACCINATION STATUS

The CDC is now recommending face coverings for everyone in public indoor settings with substantial to high transmission. Buncombe County has substantial viral transmission and increasing cases.



STRONGLY RECOMMEND SOCIAL DISTANCING WITHIN YOUR SPACES

Keeping patrons 6 feet apart will limit the spread of the virus. Events and conference spaces should consider limiting capacity while local transmission rates are increasing.



ESTABLISH HAND WASHING OR HAND SANITIZING STATIONS IN AND THROUGHOUT YOUR LOCATION

Handwashing is an effective way to limit viral spread.



ENCOURAGE EMPLOYEES TO GET COVID-19 TESTING IF SYMPTOMATIC OR IF THEY BELIEVE THEY HAVE BEEN EXPOSED TO A PERSON WITH COVID-19

FOR MORE INFORMATION CALL (828) 419-0095
OR VISIT BUNCOMBEREADY.ORG

