

Dear MVCDC Families,

**We have 3 new COVID-19 cases to report this week:**

- 1 case involved a non-classroom staff member at **Town & Country** in Clark County. No one needed to quarantine.
- 1 case involved a classroom staff member at the **Early Childhood Education Center** in Clark County. No one needed to quarantine.
- 1 case involved a classroom staff member at **St. Joseph's** in Clark County, resulting in 3 additional staff and 32 children needing to quarantine. Two classrooms were closed.

There is a lot of misinformation circulating about **COVID-19 vaccines**. MVCDC's Director of Health and Nutrition has organized a **COVID-19 vaccine Q&A session with Dr. Alonzo Patterson, a highly respected doctor and pediatric specialist**, to get answers to questions that staff members are asking.

Dr. Patterson practices at PriMed Wright Dunbar Pediatrics and is a recipient of the annual Award in Humanism in Medicine, sponsored by the American Association of Medical Colleges and Pfizer, Inc. **The Q&A session will be recorded February 24 at 8 a.m. and will be shared with you.**

**Additionally, the Ohio Department of Health has scheduled four virtual town halls to address different populations regarding vaccine safety and misinformation.** Medical experts, community leaders and public health professionals will join the livestreams. Tune in on [Facebook](#), [YouTube](#) or at the [Ohio Department of Health's website](#). This will be another great opportunity to ask questions.

**The virtual town hall dates are:**

- Monday, Feb. 22, at 6:30 p.m. – African-American Ohioans
- Tuesday, Feb. 23, at 6:30 p.m. – Hispanic/Latino Ohioans
- Monday, March 1, at 6:30 p.m. – Asian-American and Pacific-Islander Ohioans
- Tuesday, March 2, at 6:30 p.m. – Rural Ohioans

Just a reminder that the **UPSTART program is recruiting families until February 24. UPSTART is a FREE five-month Kindergarten Readiness program offered by the Waterford Institute.** Click [HERE](#) to register your child or call -1-888-982-9898 for more information. On average, children who graduate from Waterford UPSTART enter kindergarten **reading at nearly a first-grade level!**

Have a great weekend!

Gratefully,

