



KEY STAKEHOLDER'S NEWSLETTER



Latest News and Updates from MHS

- Special Enrollments and Updates
- COVID-19 Vaccinations
- No One Eats Alone Day
- Crisis Text Line
- SNAP

Special Enrollments and Updates:

Remember, individuals can sign up for Ambetter through the Marketplace through May 15, 2021, due to the Special Enrollment Period.

A Note from Dr. Feldman: COVID-19 Vaccinations

Indiana is on track to vaccinate Hoosiers against COVID-19.

Although we continue to see new cases, hospitalizations and deaths from the virus have decreased dramatically since their recent peak. The incidence of the disease is still quite high.

Vaccination is key to bringing the pandemic under control. There are now three approved vaccines that have received emergency approval by the FDA. These include Pfizer, Moderna, and Johnson & Johnson. All three are effective at preventing severe cases of the virus, as well as hospitalizations and deaths. All are reported safe for adults ages 18 and up.

The reported differences in effectiveness of each vaccine are not scientifically significant, as each vaccine was tested in different populations and countries with different COVID variants.

The best vaccine is the one that is most immediately available to you. Do not put off an opportunity to get vaccinated so that you can get a “more effective” vaccine in the future. Do not mix vaccine types. They are not approved or tested on children just yet. Testing continues to be ongoing. Thus far, the approved vaccines are thought to be effective against the COVID variants currently circulating in the U.S.

Masks are still critically important in bringing the pandemic under control. They work against all variants, present and future. Moreover, it is not known whether the vaccines prevent spread by vaccinated to non-vaccinated individuals.

Partnering with a nonprofit group called [Beyond Differences](#), MHS celebrated this event with schools across the country. No One Eats Alone Day is all about promoting the prevention of bullying and social isolation, while encouraging students to be inclusive and kind.

While our event looked a bit different this year, we prepared a great visual presentation that was shown to students in multiple Indianapolis and Fort Wayne schools. You can take a look at the [video here](#), featuring heartfelt thoughts from the WTHR anchor team, a message from Dr. Sullivan, a performance from the [Young Actors Theatre](#), and even a cameo from Butler Blue IV.

SNAP

At a time when more Hoosiers are experiencing issues with food insecurity, it is becoming increasingly important to have the knowledge and resources to share with those in need. MHS has taken up the responsibility of becoming familiar with the [Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program \(SNAP\)](#) and the benefits that it can provide.

SNAP helps low income people and families buy the food they need to maintain good health. SNAP benefits are preloaded onto an electronic benefits card (EBT) to be used like a debit card to buy food items at approved stores.

In Indiana, SNAP may also be used to [purchase groceries online for pickup or delivery](#) with Amazon and Walmart.

Individuals who wish to apply for the program must fill out an application at their [local DFR office](#) or [online](#). Online applications are strongly encouraged.

For more information about SNAP, [visit online here](#).

issues that may be difficult for them to discuss. Substance abuse is just one example of an uncomfortable topic for a patient to discuss face-to-face.

MHS has partnered with Crisis Text Line to provide another avenue for members to receive the support they need. We can provide quick reference flyers to hang in your office, available by your Provider Partnership Associate. Points of emphasis are that Crisis Text Line is available for 24 hours a day, 7 days a week, and is free, anonymous and completely confidential. MHS will not know who has utilized the service.

The Crisis Text Line is staffed by specially trained Crisis Counselors. It is important to note that Crisis Text Line is not a replacement for therapy. Therapy includes a diagnosis made by a doctor, a treatment plan of action, and a patient/therapist relationship.

Crisis Text Line is intended to help people in moments of crisis. Our member materials encourage members to follow up and discuss any issues with their Primary Care Provider when they feel comfortable.

Members may contact the Crisis Text Line by texting “MHS” to 741741. You can learn more about the program at crisistextline.org.



[Provider Portal](#) | [MHS News](#) | [Provider Forms](#) | [Provider Guides](#)

Thank you for being our partner in care.

This email was sent by: MHS
550 N Meridian St #101, Indianapolis, IN, 46204, USA

[Privacy Policy](#)

[Update Profile](#) [Manage Subscriptions](#) [Unsubscribe](#)