Coronavirus (COVID-19) Testing, Tracing and Treating Primer

By: Terry Sanders, Communications Manager, City of Clarkston

In the fight against the Coronavirus (COVID-19), Testing leads to Contact Tracing with Contact Tracing believed to be vital to identifying and effectively Treating those with COVID-19. All of these interdependencies with associated processes, research, trials and errors are all necessary steps that are and have been proven to be effective in combating, preventing the spread, and to treating viruses globally and nationally.

Testing: Unlike others in the country, Clarkston residents are fortunate to have many testing location options that are readily available in or near the City. Ethne Health, Clarkston Community Health Center, DeKalb County Board of Health, and International Rescue Committee (IRC), continue to provide Coronavirus (COVID-19) drive-thru and walk-up testing.

The following provides an overview on testing, contract tracing, and treatment:

Types of Tests: Two types of COVID-19 tests are regularly administered by healthcare professionals. A viral test, also called diagnostic tests, identifies the presence of COVID-19. Molecular and antigen are the two most common types of viral tests. Viral tests check samples taken from the respiratory system via a swab inserted into the nasal canal. These tests tell whether or not if the person being tested currently has the virus that causes COVID-19.

An antibody test tells if someone previously had an infection with SARS-CoV-2, the virus that causes COVID-19. This type of test is also called a serological test because it checks blood samples to look for antibodies, which may tell if you had a past infection of the virus that causes COVID-19. Antibodies are proteins that help fight off infections and can provide protection against getting that disease again (immunity). Antibodies are disease specific. For example, measles antibodies will protect you from getting measles if exposed to it again, but they won’t protect from getting mumps if never exposed.
Although a nasal and throat swab are the preferred specimen for detecting the virus, PCR (Polymerase Chain Reaction analysis is a laboratory technique) testing on saliva has recently been suggested as an alternative method. Several studies demonstrate the feasibility of this approach. However, a recent meta-analysis (not yet peer-reviewed) has shown detection from saliva is less sensitive than a nasal swab, because a lower concentration of the virus is detected in saliva compared to swabs. Meaning saliva testing is likely to miss some cases of COVID-19.

The latest testing strategy is **Pool Testing.** This testing method combines samples from multiple people in order to conduct one batch testing on a group. Samples can be collected from hot spot communities, settings---e.g., schools, college campuses, churches, etc.,---and environments---e.g., residential, workplaces, social areas, etc.,---to determine which individual sample is infected. After a positive result is given, Pool Testing then moves into a second phase by breaking down the pool into smaller samples to identify the infected individual(s).

It is believed that Pool Testing has many advantages including being more cost effective as it increases laboratories productivity and efficiency that weeds out a large number of people who are not infected. Like most COVID-19 related methods and methodologies, pool testing effectiveness will be determined with time and by trial and error.
**What do test results mean?**

**If you test positive:**
- A positive test result shows you may have antibodies from an infection with the virus that causes COVID-19. However, there is a chance a positive result means that you have antibodies from an infection with a virus from the same family of viruses (called coronaviruses), such as the one that causes the common cold.
- Having antibodies to the virus that causes COVID-19 may provide protection from getting infected again. However it is not known how much protection the antibodies may provide or how long this protection may last.
- Speak with your healthcare provider about your test result and the type of test you took to understand what your result means. Your provider may suggest taking a second type of antibody test to confirm if the first test was accurate.
- You should continue to protect yourself and others since you could get infected with the virus again.
  - If you work in a job where you wear personal protective equipment (PPE), continue wearing PPE.
- You may test positive for antibodies even if you have never had symptoms of COVID-19. This can happen if you had an infection without symptoms, which is called an asymptomatic infection.

**If you test negative:**
- You may not have ever had COVID-19. Speak with your healthcare provider about your test result and the type of test you took to understand what your result means.
- You could still have a current infection.
- The test may be negative because it typically takes 1–3 weeks after infection for your body to make antibodies. It’s possible you could still get sick if you have been exposed to the virus recently. This means you could still spread the virus.
- Some people may take even longer to develop antibodies, and some people who are infected may not ever develop antibodies.
- If you get symptoms after the antibody test, you might need a viral test.
- Regardless of whether you test positive or negative, the results do not confirm whether or not you are able to spread the virus that causes COVID-19, as many are, at the time of testing, asymptomatic. It is with that acknowledgement that all are required to continue to take steps to protect yourself and others.

**Contact Tracing:** In general, contact tracing involves identifying people who have an infectious disease (cases) and people who they came in contact with (contacts) and working with all of them to interrupt disease spread. This includes asking people with COVID-19 to isolate and their contacts to quarantine voluntarily.

Contrary to some beliefs, contact tracing is not new; it has been used since the 1930s to combat the spread of many contagious diseases including measles, HIV, tuberculosis, and now COVID-19.
From the outset of COVID-19, Georgia has utilized 250 tracers dedicated to contain the spread of all infectious diseases. And initially, state health officials projected the hiring of up to 750 additional tracers. Experts have stated that the state needs to ramp up hiring thousands, not hundreds of tracers to quickly catch up to a virus that continues to sicken, on average, 500-700 Georgians daily.

Georgia officials face a steep set of challenges: (1.) gaining the trust of people contacted, (2.) not having enough tracers to get the job done and (3.) due to current surges and existing number of cases, Georgia contact tracers might not catch up with the rapid spread of the Coronavirus.

Contact tracing is more than an epidemiologic activity, it is extremely necessary in the battle against the spread of COVID-19.

| Treatment: | Research, studies, and trials continue to be developed for viable vaccines and treatments. Currently, there are three vaccines being touted for showing promise and are moving into human testing phases. |
| Moderna Therapeutics and the National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Diseases (NIAID) announced on Monday, July 27th, that researchers had injected the first volunteer in the first U.S. coronavirus vaccine to reach the final, phase 3 stage of testing. Some 30,000 Americans will receive shots to conduct the biggest experimental human testing in pursuit of a vaccine to treat COVID-19. |
| Oxford University scientists say their experimental Coronavirus vaccine, now in final trials, is proving to prompt duel protective immune responses — producing antibodies to block infection and causing a reaction in the body’s T-cells which helps to fight off the Coronavirus. In people receiving the vaccine, aged 18 to 55, immunity appears to last at least two months after they were immunized. British researchers began testing on 1,000 humans in April. Reported minor side effects include fever, chills and muscle pain. |
| CoronaVac is China’s SinoVac’s COVID-19 vaccine that recently began Phase 3 trials involving 9,000 volunteers in Brazil. (A phase 1 trial involves small groups of patients to check a vaccine for negative side effects, and a phase two trial usually tests for a combination of safety and efficacy, while a phase 3 trial is like a phase 2 but involving many more participants.) |
| Healthcare experts and scientists anticipate having multiple viable vaccines either at the end of this year or in the first quarter of 2021. |
Reopening Clarkston

As other cities grapple with reopening and reversals, Clarkston’s reopenings have gone comparatively smoother. Of the more than 320 reported businesses in Clarkston most have reopened in accordance to state applied guidelines.

Opened restaurants in Clarkston continue to provide take-out services. Many don’t have outdoor dining space, but are complying with the state’s mandated indoor capacity limits and are abiding by reopening safety guidelines—wearing masks, sanitizing between seatings, and adhering to social distancing requirements.

While the City of Clarkston remains closed to the public, it continues to provide daily public safety services, public works maintenance and operations, recording and reporting city financial data, and day-to-day administrative duties and responsibilities. These include, but are not limited to implementing COVID-19 assistance programs, construction projects oversight, code enforcement, conducting virtual public meetings, timely communications, and participation in community based projects.

Due to COVID-19, Friendship Forest parking lot and Milam Park parking lot and pool, as a precaution to prevent large gatherings, will remain closed until further notice. However, individuals and families may walk, jog, and/or take a run in all of the City’s parks and designated spaces.

After much deliberation and debate, DeKalb County Schools will reopen virtually on August 17, 2020. The District is continuing to address the technology needs of every student by providing Chrome Notebooks, Wi-Fi/Internet services and regularly supplying food. How all of this will work is still being determined; re-evaluation of the district’s remote, virtual learning implementation will take place, as of now, on September 17, 2020, to make necessary adjustments.

The City of Clarkston strongly encourages wearing a mask, washing hands frequently for at least 20 seconds, and social distancing at all times. Please continue to Be Safe, Be Careful, and Stay Well!
During the July 7, 2020, virtual City Council Meeting, City Manager, Robin Gomez and Finance Director, Dan Defnall gave council and attendees a six month mid-year 2020 Fiscal Year Budget update.

As expected due to COVID-19 impacts, the City’s 2020 revenues are down by one-third when compared to 2019. It was noted, that property taxes that comprise 60%, a little over 2 million dollars, of the the City’s General Funds Revenue are collected the last three months of the end of the year. To date, even though city courts are closed, they have generated $152,000 in court fines, fees and forfeitures this fiscal year.

Thus far, the City has spent about 40% of its 2020 FY Budget; the majority of these expenditures are in staffing, personnel salaries plus benefits. Currently all departments are below budgeted expenditures. And there are four positions---three in the Clarkston Police Department and one in Planning & Development---vacant positions.

“It is my position to continue with current staffing levels for 2020 and into 2021,” said Robin Gomez, Clarkston City Manager. “Not planning on making any personnel changes, nor furloughing city employees or eliminating positions.”

Other related reporting included:

- The City is hoping to be reimbursed by DeKalb County’s CARES Act funding for all COVID-19 related expenditures
- To date, the City has processed building permit payments in the amount of $129,000
- Court revenues has generated $152,000
- The City has collected just over $950,000, and expects to amend its 2020 FY Budget to make adjustments in October
- Expected SPLOST revenue for June to be between April and May funds. The SPLOST revenue received in June for May’s revenue was 96% of the City’s budgeted amount for that month. SPLOST revenue received in the amount of $143,537 was 20% more of what was received in April which was just under $119,000.
- So far the City has spent just over $209,000 on COVID-19 related expenditures that include purchases of food, PPEs including masks, attorney fees, barricades, traffic cones and the 5% hazard pay for police and public works employees.

“As a whole, the City is in a pretty good financial position and is solvent. We anticipate being okay for the rest of 2020 with current cash on hand of $700,000 and with approval for the requested $600,000 in a Tax Anticipation Note,” said Gomez.
Diversified Housing Options in Clarkston

By: Shawanna N. Qawiy, Director, Planning & Economic Development

As the City of Clarkston becomes a popular destination to create jobs, work, live, and play, there has been an increase in requests to construct a diversity of housing options. According to the Clarkston 2040 Comprehensive Plan much of Clarkston’s housing stock is aging with 84% being built in the 1970’s and 1980’s. Very few buildings have been added to the City’s inventory in the past 23 years, with just 23% of Clarkston’s housing units being single family homes.

Keeping up with the need of changing families that may include individuals or family groups, the request to expand the housing options, has created a number of housing projects underway that will benefit the City. With the first (tiny) cottage home development, a new apartment community, single family attached and detached homes and a senior living community, the City’s vision to upgrade its housing stock is underway.

Current Housing Developments in Clarkston:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Glendale/Rowes A</th>
<th>Gardens of East Avenue B</th>
<th>Starnes Senior Living Facility C</th>
<th>The Cottages on Vaughan D</th>
<th>Peachtree on Ponce E</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Location:</strong> 3449 Church Street</td>
<td><strong>Location:</strong> 3809 East Avenue</td>
<td><strong>Location:</strong> 3543 Clarkston Industrial Boulevard</td>
<td><strong>Location:</strong> 1160 Vaughan Street</td>
<td><strong>Location:</strong> 4692 East Ponce de Leon Avenue</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Development Type:</strong> Townhomes</td>
<td><strong>Development Type:</strong> Single Family Cottage Style homes</td>
<td><strong>Development Type:</strong> Multifamily</td>
<td><strong>Development Type:</strong> PUD Cottage Homes</td>
<td><strong>Development Type:</strong> Multifamily Apartments</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Cost:</strong> Mid $300,000 (plus)</td>
<td><strong>Cost:</strong> Starting at low $300,000</td>
<td><strong>Cost:</strong> Unit cost will be based on HUD rent limits and household income</td>
<td><strong>Cost:</strong> 1-Cottage home: 247 SF 7-Cottage Homes -492 SF</td>
<td><strong>Cost:</strong> Based on rent limits and household income</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Number of Units:</strong> 60</td>
<td><strong>Number of Units:</strong> 128</td>
<td><strong>Number of Units:</strong> 8</td>
<td><strong>Number of Units:</strong> 188</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Estimated Value of Development:</strong> $21 Million</td>
<td><strong>Estimated Value of Development:</strong> $6 Million</td>
<td><strong>Estimated Value of Development:</strong> $17.4 Million</td>
<td><strong>Estimated Value of Development:</strong> $625,000</td>
<td><strong>Estimated Value of Development:</strong> $18 Million</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Estimated Completion Date:</strong> Spring 2021</td>
<td><strong>Estimated Completion Date:</strong> Summer 2021</td>
<td><strong>Estimated Completion Date:</strong> February 5, 2021</td>
<td><strong>Estimated Completion Date:</strong> December 2020</td>
<td><strong>Estimated Completion Date:</strong> Fall 2021 Spring 2022</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
The Clarkston Police Department has noticed an uptick in motor vehicle thefts and entering auto’s over the past 2 years. In 2019, we had 53 vehicles stolen and through June 30, 2020, we have had 26 vehicles stolen from our Clarkston citizens.

Reducing Motor Vehicle Theft

In 2017, more than three-quarters of a million vehicles have been stolen in the United States—and nearly half of those thefts were due to driver error. Vehicle theft is a multi-billion-dollar crime, with the cost of stolen vehicles coming in at nearly $6 billion in 2017 alone. 75.4% of those vehicles were automobiles. Summers prove to be the worst season for vehicle theft. So, to help drivers keep their vehicles safe, the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration is continuing its annual Vehicle Theft Prevention Campaign during July—National Vehicle Theft Prevention Month.

A few tips to reduce the risk of theft. Use common sense when parking and exiting your vehicle:

- Take your key; do not leave it in the ignition or in plain sight.
- Close and lock all windows and doors when you park.
- Park in well-lit areas when possible.
- Never leave valuables in your vehicle, especially if they are visible from outside the vehicle.

Thieves want vehicle parts and valuable items: Radios and wheel covers are not the only popular stolen vehicle parts thieves take. They want whatever sells; from mandated labeled parts to those that are not. Some of the most popular vehicle parts or valuable items stolen from vehicles include doors, engines, transmissions, air bags, radios, GPS units, cell phones, iPads, laptops, and purses.
Protect Your Ride: There are numerous antitheft systems and devices designed to make vehicles difficult to steal or easier to trace and recover. Audible and Visible Devices: These devices, such as a horn alarm, deter theft by bringing attention to an unauthorized attempt to steal or enter a vehicle. Visible devices create a visual threat/warning/deterrence, such as the use of steering-wheel locks, as well as theft-deterrent decals, flashing lights, and window etching.

Immobilizing-Type Devices: These prevent thieves from bypassing a vehicle’s ignition system and hot-wiring the vehicle. Some incorporate computer chips in ignition keys or disable the flow of electricity or fuel to the engine.
Vehicle Recovery Systems: These devices use electronic transmission technology that help law enforcement reveal the location of stolen vehicles—and possibly catch the thief in the act.

The Clarkston Police Department would like to remind our citizens the importance of seat belt use. We want our citizens to buckle up and arrive safe.

One of the safest choices drivers and passengers can make is to buckle up. Many Americans understand the lifesaving value of the seat belt— the national use rate was at 90.7% in 2019. Seat belt use in passenger vehicles saved an estimated 14,955 lives in 2017. Understand the potentially fatal consequences of not wearing a seat belt and learn what you can do to make sure you and your family are buckled up.

1. Buckling up helps keep you safe and secure inside your vehicle. Not buckling up can result in being ejected from the vehicle in a crash, which is usually deadly.
2. Air bags are not enough to protect you. In fact, the force of an air bag can seriously injure or even kill you if you are not buckled up.
3. Improperly wearing a seat belt, such as putting the strap below your arm, puts you and your children at risk in a crash.

Georgia’s Hands-Free Law Took Effect July 1, 2018:
- Drivers cannot have a phone in their hand or touching any part of their body while talking on their phone while driving.
- Even with hands-free technology, drivers cannot write, read or send text messages, e-mails, social media content and other internet data while on the road. (Voice to text is allowed)
- Drivers cannot watch videos when they are on the road. (Navigational/GPS videos are allowed)
- Drivers cannot use their phones or electronic devices to record video when they are on the road. (Continuously running dash cams are allowed)
- Drivers may listen to streaming music that does not include videos on the screen of their phone or device while driving but cannot touch their phones while on the road to activate or program any music-streaming app. Streaming music that is controlled by and listened through the vehicle’s radio is allowed. Drivers who need to touch their phones to activate/program their music streaming apps must do so before getting on the road
- The fine for a first conviction is $50.00 and 1 point assessed against the driver’s license. The fine is $100.00 and 2 points for a second conviction and $150.00 and 3 points for a third or more conviction. The fines for a 2nd or third offense only apply when date of a 2nd or third conviction takes place within 24 months of the date of the first conviction. First time offenders can have the charge dropped by showing the court they have obtained a device that allows them to talk on a phone with hands-free technology or devices.
City Reminds All to Wear Face Masks

At a Special Call City Council Meeting held on Tuesday, July 21, 2020 the Clarkston City Council adopted a resolution requiring the use of face coverings or masks in public during this continued COVID-19 (Pandemic) time. The State of Georgia continues under a Public Health State of Emergency as declared by the governor until at least Sept 10, 2020. With over 200,000 of positive infections of COVID-19, over 3,900 deaths, and over 19,000 hospitalizations, it is exceedingly important that we all take the continued necessary precautions to stay well and healthy:

**SOCIAL DISTANCE** – maintain at least a six (6) feet distance from others

**AVOID LARGE GATHERINGS** - no groups greater than 10

**WEAR FACE COVERINGS/MASKS** – when in public especially when entering a building

**WASH HANDS OFTEN**—AVOID TOUCHING EYES/FACE

The City’s resolution requires the use of face coverings/masks in all of the following instances:

- While indoors at a restaurant, retail store, grocery store, and all other public places/accommodations;
- While outdoors in a location/environment where people who do not reside in the same household cannot maintain at least six (6) feet of physical distance from one another;

Some exceptions to the face covering/mask requirement:

- Children under the age of five (5)
- Those who cannot wear face coverings due to documented medical or behavioral conditions
- While eating or drinking
- When complying with the directions of a law enforcement officer (police) of for the purpose of verifying a person’s identity

It is the City’s intent to inform, educate, and advocate for all to continue to wear face coverings/masks until further notice.

Clarkston City Manager
City Thanks the Clarkston COVID-19 Community Task Force and Volunteers for their efforts in Providing Masks to Various Apartment Complexes

The purpose of the Clarkston Mask Distribution Project is to reduce the spread of COVID-19 infections and deaths by providing residents, particularly those who live in apartments, with resources such as masks, hand sanitizer and safety information.
The task force’s goal is to provide masks, hand sanitizers and educational material to more than 6,000 residents.

Thank you, Thank you to all Involved !!
COVID-19, Clarkston and Community Engagement

Rolling up their sleeves, lending a helping hand, showing and proving compassion is nothing new to Clarkston residents, the City’s Community Partners, and the City of Clarkston. City of Clarkston Community Partners have supplied/are supplying free COVID-19 testing, food, hand sanitizers and masks to those in need living in Clarkston:

“Currently, in partnership with DeKalb County, the City has 600 boxes of food designated for Clarkston coming in twice a month, to feed Clarkston families,” said Councilwoman Debra Johnson who spearheaded this food distribution partnership with the county, Atlanta Community Food Bank, Clarkston Community Center, and Christ Community Clarkston.

An estimated amount of 2,400 boxes of food has been distributed to families in Clarkston during the four food drives held.

With many businesses eliminating jobs, furloughing employees, cutting hours or shutting down altogether, the coronavirus pandemic has left many families across metro Atlanta and the country in dire straits. The Atlanta Community Food Bank estimates that there’s been a 30 to 40% increase in the number of people getting food from food drives and other emergency sources since mid-March.

Amani Women Center (AWC) and its Amani Sewing Academy (ASA) partnered with Loving Hut of Norcross to deliver free meals, diapers, Amani made face masks, and other supplies directly to refugee communities in Clarkston.

The role AWC and ASA are playing to address COVID-19: Producing masks that can be supplied to hospitals, nursing homes, and the community at large as preventive tools. In these uncertain times, we have an emergency fund to support the basic needs of refugee women and their families. They are able to sew medical masks from their homes to help support frontline medical providers.
“A BIG THANK YOU to all that Supported, came to Volunteer, and shared the information. Women Watch Afrika Community Census Count & COVID19 Support Day Outdoor Event was a HUGE SUCCESS! The turnout was fantastic and beyond expectations. Thank you all for supporting, participating, sharing, volunteering, etc. It was a wonderful event, and many families were touched and assisted!

A special shout out to @LFCGeorgia, Center for Pan Asian Community Services, #ProGeorgia, #AidtheJourney, and Clarkston's Acting Mayor, Awet Eyasu. Thank you all for going the extra mile to support the event!” ---Glory Kilanko, Director & CEO, Women Watch Afrika, Inc.

We will be giving away:
• Disposable Masks
• Food Items
• Other Household Essentials

Date: Saturday, June 27th
Time: 12 p.m. - 2:00 p.m.
964 North Indian Creek Drive, Ste A2
Clarkston, GA 30021
*First Come. First Served*

PEOPLE & PLACES

World Refugee Celebration Honored COVID-19 Frontline Refugees & Immigrants

Contributor: Darlene C. Lynch, Head of External Relations, The Center for Victims of Torture
Photos: New American Pathways

World Refugee Day is an international day created by the United Nations to honor refugees around the world. Held on June 20, it celebrates the strength and courage of people who have been forced to flee their home country to escape conflict or persecution.

In years past, hundreds of Georgians have gathered in Clarkston on World Refugee Day to enjoy live performances, shop with local vendors, share good food and coffee, and send the message that “Georgia Loves Refugees.” This year, the COVID-19 pandemic made this kind of gathering impossible, but it didn’t change the love and appreciation of Georgians for their refugee and immigrant neighbors.

So, the 21-member Coalition of Refugee Service Agencies put together the first-ever DIY World Refugee Day Celebration in Clarkston. The event featured a mini, socially-distant parade and drive-thru, free take-home World Refugee Day Kits, the launch of a new mural at Refuge Coffee, and plenty of sidewalk chalk for guests to write messages of welcome once back at home. About 200 people came from across the Atlanta metro area and beyond to enjoy the activities and show support.
The theme of this year’s celebration – Refugees & Immigrants Are Essential – reflected the unique role that refugees and immigrants are playing during the COVID-19 crisis. Today, Georgia refugees and immigrants are working in great numbers on the frontlines, filling essential roles in hospitals and nursing facilities, in food processing plants and restaurants, in warehouses and delivery services, for the good of all in Georgia. CRSA is committed to helping them receive the protection and support they need and deserve.

RECOGNITIONS

Dr. Heval Kelli Awarded Center for Victims of Torture’s 2020 Eclipse Award

The Center for Victims of Torture (CVT) awarded Dr. Heval Kelli its annual Eclipse Award. This award is given each year to a person or organization that goes above and beyond to support survivors of torture, including many refugee survivors in the U.S. CVT, In the past, has given it to the UN Special Rapporteur on Torture and other international leaders.

In 2020 it was a great pleasure to recognize and honor a local hero that epitomizes having the strength, courage and integrity to triumphally overcome the many struggles, challenges and barriers experienced by immigrants and refugees.

(L-R) Dr. Kelli joined CVT’s Darlene Lynch at a meeting with former US Senator Johnny Isakson

Clarkston High School Class of 2020 Like No Other

The 254 seniors that made up the Class of 2020 at Clarkston High School (CHS) proved their resilience, toughness and tenacity to accomplish one of life’s most enriching milestones---high school graduation.

Tewodros Fisseha
CHS Class of 2020 Valedictorian

Najma Noor
CHS Class of 2020 Salutatorian
“I know this final year of your academic high school career has not been what you planned. You’ve had to learn some hard lessons. There were no final senior activities, no official senior skip day, no prom, no club, no state competition, cancelled Spring sports, no Senior Day, no final exams. Instead you’ve had virtual learning days, Zoom conferences, self-quarantining, taking care of yourself if you were sick, taking care of sick family members and getting a job to help with household financial responsibilities and lots and lots of Tik Tok videos,” said Patti Lemelle, Principal, Clarkston High School.

“Class of 2020 life may look a little different right now, but you still have purpose. Always give your best; and remember we are Clarkston united and stronger together.”

2020 School Crashers recipient: Jolly Elementary School - Clarkston, GA

Jolly Elementary is a Title 1 school that serves Clarkston's refugee community and has an incredibly diverse student population. Their playground needs updates and repairs to maximize safety and fun for these students as they adapt to public schools in the U.S. The 10-foot-tall monkey bars need a new ladder and only a small portion of the playground is covered in protective wood chips. The rest is a sandy, grassy field that easily floods. It takes several days to dry, making the playground inaccessible even on sunny days. School Crashers will work with Jolly Elementary to update their playground to an accessible, safe area.

School Crashers 2020: Each year, the Georgia United Foundation partners with Georgia United Credit Union to offer its School Crashers program to K-12 schools in Georgia. Each spring, deserving schools can apply for a facility makeover that will be delivered over the summer by Georgia United team members, community volunteers and business partners.
# FOR YOUR INFORMATION

## CORONAVIRUS (COVID-19) RESOURCES GUIDE

### Healthcare & Information Sources

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>ORGANIZATION</th>
<th>WEBSITES</th>
<th>TELEPHONE</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>ethne health</td>
<td><a href="https://www.ethnehealth.org/">https://www.ethnehealth.org/</a></td>
<td>(470) 799-0044</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CDC</td>
<td><a href="https://www.cdc.gov">https://www.cdc.gov</a></td>
<td>(800) 232-4636</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>DEKALB COUNTY BOARD OF HEALTH</td>
<td><a href="https://www.dekalbhealth.net/">https://www.dekalbhealth.net/</a></td>
<td>COVID-19 Call Center: 404.294.3700</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NATIONAL INSTITUTES OF HEALTH</td>
<td><a href="https://www.nih.gov">https://www.nih.gov</a></td>
<td>(301) 496-4000</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Testing Locations

Department of Public Health: Testing Now Available to all Georgians
Effective immediately, testing is available to all Georgians who need it, whether they have symptoms or not.
- Healthcare providers
  - Emory University Hospital... 404-778-5000
  - Grady Health System... 404-712-6700
- Local health departments
  - DeKalb County Department of Health... 404-294-3700
- Hospital systems
  - Emory Healthcare... 404-778-5000
- Community health centers
  - Clarkston Community Health Center... 770-721-1882
- Opioid treatment providers
  - Behavioral Health Association of Georgia... 800-780-9559

Department of Public Health COVID-19 Hotline: 404-432-2021
**Please continue to wear your mask, wash your hands and stay home if you feel sick**
Healthcare Reminders

CORONAVIRUS RECOMMENDATIONS (updated 3/19/20)
Ethne Health

Coronavirus is extremely serious and spreading very quickly.
Coronavirus is in Clarkston.
This virus is 10x more fatal than the flu and even worse for those with medical problems or those over 50 years old.
We have to make these changes NOW for everyone’s safety.

1. All religious and non-religious congregations (churches, mosques, temples, etc.) MUST NOT meet together for at least the next 2 months.
2. Any non-essential events and groups MUST be postponed for at least the next 2 months- even small group meetings should be postponed.
3. EVERYONE should stay home as much as possible; do not visit friends; only go out as needed for work and to buy food and supplies.
4. Assume anyone can have Coronavirus. Stay 6 feet away from people, wash your hands frequently (either with hand sanitizer or under warm water with soap for 20 seconds)
5. ANYONE with ANY symptoms (i.e. cough or fever) MUST stay home and only go out if absolutely necessary; if they must go out (i.e. to go to the hospital), they should wear a mask if able and follow proper respiratory etiquette (cough into elbow or shoulder), additionally they should use hand sanitizer frequently and avoid all people (staying a minimum of 6 feet away)
6. Cook at home rather than going out to eat. If you decide to go out to eat, do takeout or delivery.
7. PLEASE DO NOT go to work if you are coughing or have fever. Please wait at least 3 days after you are completely recovered before going back to work.
8. Those that are at higher risk - people with chronic illnesses (diabetes, lung disease, heart disease, age over 60 years old) - should STAY HOME and NOT GO OUT AT ALL. We MUST support these people as much as possible with food, toiletries, services, or anything else we can provide to help.

COVID-19 (CORONAVIRUS) REMINDERS!
(updated 3/19/20)

1. SOCIAL DISTANCING
   - Stay home if you can. Stay home if you need to.
   - If you need food or need to go to the doctor stay 6 feet away from others.
   - Do not go to places with more than 10 people (church, mosque, temple, gym, churches, restaurants, etc.)

2. STAY CLEAN!
   - Wash Your Hands: Wash for 30 seconds many times each day.
   - Cough in your elbow. Try not to touch your face.

3. CORONAVIRUS SYMPTOMS
   - Call the Georgia COVID-19 Hotline: 1-844-423-2341
   - If they tell you to call a doctor.

CALL YOUR DOCTOR
- Don’t ignore a doctor
- Call Ethne Health
- CALL ETHNE HEALTH CLINIC
- 470-799-5544
- 470-799-0048
- 1429 W. Avenue in Clarkston, GA 30003

STAY HOME, IF YOU CAN.

MASK UP, IF YOU CAN’T!
“No Wrong Door” Program Seeks Qualified Seniors Referrals

“No Wrong Door” Program Seeks Qualified Seniors Referrals

During the Coronavirus (COVID-19) crisis, the Division of Aging Services is offering the “No Wrong Door” program to supplementally help seniors diagnosed with Dementia living in their communities. This program grants qualified seniors $600 per month for Consumer Directed Care.

Your referral for this program must live in Georgia and cannot reside in a nursing home facility. The program ends on August 31, 2020. To apply for funds, call 866-552-4464 or contact the Area Agencies on Aging in your county.

The Division of Aging Services is offering the "No Wrong Door" program to supplementally help seniors diagnosed with Dementia living in their communities. This program grants qualified seniors $600 per month for Consumer Directed Care.
Clarkston Library Parking Lots Free Wi-Fi Access

While the Clarkston Library is currently closed due to COVID-19, if you are in need of accessing free Wi-Fi, Clarkston Library has you covered. In continuing its multiple services offerings, the library is providing Wi-Fi connection in its parking lots from the safe distance of your car.

So drive to the library, 951 N Indian Creek Dr, Clarkston, GA 30021, park and then connect to the library’s Wi-Fi for free, using these login credentials: Network-dcpl, Password-w1f1@dcpl

The Library does not have any devices available for checkout so patrons must use their own device.
CITY OF CLARKSTON PROVIDES RENTAL PAYMENT ASSISTANCE PROGRAM

At the June 2, 2020, City Council meeting the Clarkston City Council adopted a Resolution to allocate up to $100,000.00 from its Affordable Housing Trust Fund to provide for temporary RENT PAYMENT ASSISTANCE to Clarkston residents impacted by the COVID-19 economic crisis.

Due to the virus’ impact resulting in massive job loss and related financial hardships including the inability to make rent payments, Clarkston Residents may file an application: https://www.clarkston ga.gov/city-clarkston-rental-payment-assistance-program, to receive help to pay up to 50% of their monthly rent, for no more than three (3) months per year.

Applicants must live in the City limits of Clarkston, have a current/valid lease/rental agreement, and submit various documentation, listed on the application, to the City of Clarkston to process the application.

For information please call 678-409-9683 or email, rgomez@cityofclarkston.com

In its first 7 weeks, the Clarkston Temporary Rental Payment Assistance Program made:

192 payments totaling $99,927.25
Clarkston is Counting on You!

Are you curious about how many people in your community are responding to the 2020 Census? Stay up to date with a map of self-response rates from across the United States.

Track Response Rates:

Georgia State University Recruits Participants for Virtual Parenting Interview

Georgia State University is recruiting parents of children 0-8 years of age, who may be interested in participating in a virtual interview on parenting.

What will be discussed during the interview?
The interview questions ask about caregiving responsibilities among family members, rules and discipline strategies, and cultural differences in parenting after moving to the U.S. The feedback from participants will be used in adapting the SafeCare program to better support Clarkston's parents and their families.

How long is the interview?
1 hour

Where?
Due to current social distancing requirements, all interviews will be held virtually via Zoom.

Will I be paid to participate?
If you are selected, and complete the interview, you will be sent $25 for participating.

Interested in participating?
1. To Apply, Visit: https://gsu.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV_a30YcCBTHnld7TL.
2. Email Erin Weeks at: eweeks@gsu.edu.
Want to Know How You Can Protect Our Streams?

Read, the latest edition of the City of Clarkston’s quarterly Stormwater Management newsletter; produced in partnership with the City’s infrastructure contractor, Collaborative Infrastructure Services, Inc.

This July 2020 edition spotlights what you need to know about and do for Stream Protection.

**Stormwater Management Fact Sheet**

**STREAM PROTECTION**

Property owners with streams or open channels (drainage ditches) are faced with many, often unexpected challenges and responsibilities such as maintenance, bank erosion, and pollution prevention concerns. Major tasks for these owners are to maintain the buffer of vegetation along the stream and to remove litter or debris before it affects the downstream community. Taking these actions lessens the adverse impact of polluted runoff to the downstream neighbors and our waterways.

**Activities that can IMPROVE stream health:**
- Allow stream buffer to grow naturally
- Plant additional vegetation along the stream
- Pick up animal waste and other litter
- Apply lawn and post control chemicals at appropriate times at correct volumes
- Use a mulching mower, and let clippings fall instead of bagging

**Activities that can NEGATIVELY impact stream health:**
- Dumping of yard debris, concrete or rocks on stream banks and in streams
- Disturbing land within the stream buffer
- Dumping root or large runoff directly into the streams
- Vitaplaying
- Removing native vegetation within stream buffer
- Over-applying chemicals on lawns, and flavor salts
- Altering the normal course of the stream channel
- Building structures in the stream channel

**What Can You Do?**
Be vigilant for anything that does not appear to belong in the storm drain system or streams. If it does not look or smell like natural rain water, it probably isn’t. If you see suspicious discharges, please report them to Public Works Department at 404-295-0459.
PRESCRIPTION MEDICATIONS DISPOSAL

Dispose of unused, expired and unwanted prescription drugs in Rx drop boxes in Clarkston!

HOW to DISPOSE of Your MEDICATIONS

DeKalb County

EVERY SINGLE DAY:

■ Over 1,000 people are treated in emergency rooms for misusing prescription opioids. (DCI)
■ More than 46 people die from overdoses involving opioids. (DCI)

2/3 of teens who misused prescription pain relievers report they got them from family and friends, including their home’s medicine cabinets. (DEA, 2016)

Police departments
Pharmacies
College campuses

Many locations have drop boxes where unused & unwanted prescriptions can be disposed (excluding liquids, inhalants and needles).

CAN'T GET TO A DROP BOX? FOLLOW THESE STEPS:

Mix drugs with a substance such as dirt, cat litter or coffee grounds.
Place the mixture into a disposal container with a lid or a sealable plastic bag.
Throw away the sealed mixture in your household trash.
Scratch out all personal information from the prescription container's label before recycling or disposing of it.

Prescription Drug Disposal Drop Box Locations in DeKalb County (By City)

Atlanta
Brookhaven Police Department
2665 Buford Highway NE
Atlanta, GA 30324
Phone: 404-637-0600

Chamblee
Chamblee Police Department
3338 Broad Street
Chamblee, GA 30341
Phone: 770-986-5005

Clarkston
Clarkston Police Department
3921 Church Street
Clarkston, GA 30021
Phone: 404-291-9465

Georgia State University,
Perimeter College
G Building, Room 1180
555 North Indian Creek Drive
Clarkston, GA 30021
Phone: 678-891-3944

Decatur
Decatur Police Department
400 West Trinity Place
Decatur, GA 30030
Phone: 404-373-6551

Georgia State University,
Decatur Campus
9A Building, 1st Floor
328 Panhersville Road
Decatur, GA 30034
Phone: 678-891-2678

Doraville
Doraville Police Department
375 Park Avenue
Doraville, GA 30340
Phone: 770-455-1000
CITY OF CLARKSTON POLICE WANT YOU TO PROTECT & SERVE!

Be Part of a Growing Dynamic Community
CITY OF CLARKSTON
POLICE DEPARTMENT

Looking to make a Difference and serve in a Long Honored Profession - Start your Career

Great Benefits
No Cost - Single Health Insurance
Defined Benefit Retirement Program - No Required Employee Contribution
Competitive Salary
Take Home Cars - Plus a Signing Bonus!!

The Clarkston Police Department is seeking team-oriented, community focused individuals to be one of the Clarkston Police Department’s Finest.
Always Recruiting for New Police Officers

Must have the minimum qualifications to apply:
- H. S. Diploma or GED Equivalent
- 21 years of age
- Valid Driver’s License
- Preference will be given for POST Certified Applicants

$37,440 — Entry/POST Academy Training
$45,000 — POST Academy Completion/11.5 Diploma
$3,000 Signing Bonus for Georgia Certified Officers
$1,000 Signing Bonus for Non-Certified Applicants

For more information please contact SGT Trumble at 404-292-9465 or email gtrumble@clarkstonpd.com

To download the application visit www.clarkstonga.gov

This Could be YOUR New Office in 2019