

## **Prevent Misinformation About COVID-19**

In light of the COVID-19 pandemic, the City of Columbus is taking every precautionary measure to inform and educate all of our residents, including our New American communities, about the risk of exposure and best practices to prevent the spread of the COVID-19. It is of the utmost importance that our residents take the necessary precautions to slow and ultimately stop the spread of the virus.

This is a unique situation that is changing daily. As new information becomes available, we want to ensure that the information being shared is fact based and accurate. Therefore, to prevent the spread of misinformation, we ask the public to do the following:

Learn the facts about COVID-19 from trusted official sources. Please avoid posting/sharing unverified information that targets the diverse communities in our city. It is important that we be responsible, informed consumers of information, whether it comes from a neighbor or social media.

For accurate and current information in various languages go to these websites:

*Columbus Public Health* https://www.columbus.gov/publichealth/programs/Emergency-Preparedness/Coronavirus-Outbreak-2019/

Franklin County Public Health <a href="https://covid-19.myfcph.org/">https://covid-19.myfcph.org/</a>
Ohio Department of Health <a href="https://coronavirus.ohio.gov/wps/portal/gov/covid-19/">https://coronavirus.ohio.gov/wps/portal/gov/covid-19/</a>

Centers for Disease Control & Prevention (CDC) <a href="https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/index.html">https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/index.html</a>

Fight stigma by understanding that you cannot tell if someone is at risk for spreading COVID-19 based on how they look. Viruses do not target people from specific populations, ethnicities or racial backgrounds.

As we continue to monitor the situation, we will provide accurate information through appropriate channels including official briefings, legitimate media outlets, and respected community stakeholders.

This is the time for all of us to unite in the fight against this pandemic and treat everyone with compassion, kindness and respect.

