

WILCOX COUNTY COMMUNITY IN ACTION

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https://blackbeltcommunitiesinaction.org



Be Smart. Be Sober. Be Safe. Travel Alcohol & Drug Free!

Public Messages

The Time is Right for Social Work



Social Work Month in March is a time to celebrate the great profession of social work. The theme for Social Work Month 2022 is **The Time is Right for Social Work**. During Social Work Month take time to learn more about the many positive contributions of the profession and use the items in our toolkit to celebrate all the social workers you know.

For more information on the toolkit, email media@socialworkers.org.

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

<u>March 2, 9. 16, 23, 30</u> Lenten Luncheons-Camden UMC - 12:00 p.m.

<u>March 1, 8, 15, 22, 24</u> Tai Chi (Virtual) Tuesday's & Thursday's 10:00 a.m.

<u>March 20</u> United Women in Faith 2:00 p.m.

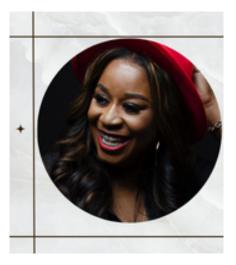
<u>March 23</u> Speaking Engagement Dynamic Educational Services, Inc. (DESI) 9:00 a.m.

> <u>March 25-26</u> Tour of Homes & The Gallery Exhibit 10:00 a.m. – 6:00 p.m.

<u>March 28</u> Wesley Foundation Foundation-University of West Alabama-Food Pantry & Supper 1:00 p.m.

COMMUNITY-BASED PROCESSES

The Wilcox County Coalition in Action hosted Monthly Meeting



The Wilcox County Coalition in Action hosted their regular monthly meeting, via Zoom, on March 8, 2022. Brenda Autry, the Prevention Coalition Coordinator began the meeting with a centering moment followed by a welcome. Mrs. Autry introduced the speaker, Kanisha Caldwell, Caldwell is a native of Wilcox County and a graduate of Wilcox Central High School, an accomplished graduate of Alabama A&M University where she earned a degree in Family and Consumer Sciences. Mrs. Caldwell has more than 10 years of field experience ranging from Adult and Adolescent substance abuse to Home and Community Waiver services for the Elderly and Disabled. She is the daughter of Clarence and Ethel Johnson of Camden. Mrs. Caldwell spoke on several health issues that have affected the world, socially, economically, and mentally. Coalition members concluded the meeting with affirmations and repeating the Watch Word.

For Your Information (FYI).....

Free N95 masks are now available at more pharmacies and retailers—here's where to find them

Last month, President Biden announced that Americans could <u>start receiving N95</u> <u>masks</u> at no charge from retailers and health centers starting Jan. 23, but most retailers at that time were still waiting for shipments of these free masks to arrive.

Since then, however, more of the 400 million N95 masks have been distributed to pharmacies and retailers and are now available to consumers.

To receive the masks, you have to pick them up in-store or at a participating community health center. Search for one near you <u>here</u>.

However, not all health centers are giving out N95s and some are prioritizing distribution for underserved communities, so you might want to start with pharmacies and other retailers first.

Most of the pharmacies that are part of the <u>federal pharmacy vaccine program</u> will distribute the masks, but not all of them. Major chains that are handing out N95s include:

- <u>Acme</u>
- <u>Costco</u>
- <u>CVS</u>
- Fred Meyer
- Health Mart
- <u>Hy-Vee</u>
- Kroger
- <u>Meijer</u>
- Publix

- <u>Rite Aid</u>
- <u>Safeway</u>
- Sam's Club
- Shop Rite
- <u>Stop & Shop</u>
- <u>Target</u>
- Walmart
- Walgreens (Duane Reade)
- <u>Wegmans</u>
- Winn-Dixie

These masks are in high demand, so you'll also want to call your local retailer first, and confirm whether masks are actually in stock.

Also, be aware that many retailers will have their masks behind the counter, so you'll likely have to request the masks directly with an employee. There's a limit of three masks per person, and guidance on mask usage is <u>available from the CDC</u>.

The CDC updated its <u>mask guidance</u> last month and now recommends high-filtration masks over cloth-based masks. While the CDC doesn't explicitly recommend N95s, they do say that they offer the "highest level of protection," followed by similar respirator masks like the KN95 and KF94 or well-fitting disposable surgical masks. Cloth masks offer the "least amount of protection," according to the CDC.