

CareSouth Carolina COVID-19 Vaccine Schedule Announced



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CareSouth Carolina, serving your local area since 1980.

MARCH 2021

CareSouth Carolina Provides \$90.2 Million Impact to Pee Dee Community

CareSouth Carolina provided more than \$90.2 million in total economic impact in the Pee Dee area, according to the latest Value & Impact Report from Capital Link.

Capital Link is a non-profit organization that has worked with hundreds of health centers and primary care associates for over 20 years to plan for sustainability and growth, access capital, improve and optimize operations and financial management, and articulate value. Capital Link maintains a database of almost 12,000 health centers nationally in any given year. "As one goes about the day to day work of CareSouth Carolina, it is easy to lose sight of the economic impact the organization is making on our communities," CareSouth Carolina CEO Ann Lewis said. "As a health care provider whose mission it is to improve health and wellbeing for everyone, we are also reminded with this study that our impact is not only on health but also on the economic wellbeing of the communities and people we serve."

According to the report, CareSouth Carolina provided 24 percent lower costs for health center Medicaid patients, resulting in \$28 million in savings to Medicaid and \$62 million in savings to the overall health system. The organization served more than 38,631 patients with 198,411 patient visits, which is a 13.5 percent growth in the past four years. Of the patients CareSouth Carolina serves, 68.3 percent of patients are low income, 10,537 of patients are children & adolescents and 62.2 percent of patients identify as ethnic or racial minorities. Veterans make up 2.8 percent of the patient population and 1.2 percent are agricultural workers.

Of the \$90.2 million in total economic impact, \$50.2 million is direct health care spending and \$40.0 million is community spending.

Since 2019, CareSouth Carolina has opened several new facilities, including standalone CSC Community Pharmacies in Society Hill and Hartsville, state-of-the-art medical centers in McColl and Chesterfield, and a Pediatric Dental Office in Bishopville.

MEDICAL LOCATIONS:

Hartsville • Society Hill • Bennettsville • Bishopville • Cheraw • Chesterfield • Dillon • Lake View • Latta • McColl

PHARMACY LOCATIONS:

Hartsville • Society Hill • Bennettsville • Bishopville • Cheraw • Latta • McColl

To make an appointment, please call 866.498.0399.

www.caresouth-carolina.com

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CareSouth Carolina is scheduling appointments to administer vaccines to those in Phase 1A now and Phase 1B (Please visit our website for details on Phase 1B) beginning Monday, March 8. You do NOT need to be a patient of CareSouth Carolina. Walk-ins are NOT allowed at this time.

To make an appointment, you will need to contact one of the offices below by phone to schedule a day and time.

***Ongoing and moving forward, vaccine schedule will be as follows:

Monday:

- CareSouth Carolina Bishopville: 803.484.5317 (545 Sumter Hwy, Bishopville SC 29010)

Tuesday:

- CareSouth Carolina McColl Health & Wellness Center: 843.523.5751 (3080 Highway 15-401 E, McColl, SC)
- CareSouth Carolina Chesterfield: 843.623.5080 (204 Perry Wiley Way, Chesterfield, SC)

Wednesday:

- CareSouth Carolina Hartsville: 843.332.3422 (1268 South Fourth St, Hartsville SC 29550)
- CareSouth Carolina Latta: 843.627.6252 (122 Latimer Street, Latta SC)

Thursday:

- CareSouth Carolina McColl Health & Wellness Center: 843.523.5751 (3080 Highway 15-401 E, McColl, SC)
- CareSouth Carolina Chesterfield: 843.623.5080 (204 Perry Wiley Way, Chesterfield, SC)

Friday:

- CareSouth Carolina Latta: 843.627.6252 (122 Latimer Street, Latta SC)
- CareSouth Carolina McColl Health & Wellness Center: 843.523.5751 (3080 Highway 15-401 E, McColl, SC)
- CareSouth Carolina Chesterfield: 843.623.5080 (204 Perry Wiley Way, Chesterfield, SC)

Appointments are available based on vaccine allocation & staffing availability.

We are committed to serving our communities and thank you for your patience and understanding during this time.

Dr. Leon E. Hunt Celebrates Retirement After 18 Years With CareSouth Carolina



Leon E. Hunt, MD

CareSouth Carolina celebrated the career of Dr. Leon E. Hunt Friday, Feb. 26 at CSC Hunt's Family Practice office in Bishopville. After 59 years of service in Lee County, Dr. Hunt will be retiring.

Dr. Hunt transferred the deed to the office over to CareSouth Carolina and the location - at 104 Hospital Square- will be closing. Dr. Hunt served as a provider with CareSouth Carolina for 18 years.

"Getting to know Dr. Hunt over the years, I have been continually amazed by him," CareSouth Carolina CEO Ann Lewis said. "His dedication and commitment to the people of our community shines in all of his work. He has brought to us not only his gifts as an

amazing physician but also as a gentleman, generous of heart, kind of soul and loving in spirit. It has been a privilege to work with him."

Patients who have been going to Hunt's Family Practice can find a provider at CareSouth Carolina's Bishopville office (545 Sumter Hwy), which has five providers who offer family medicine and behavioral health services.

Dr. Hunt said the partnership with CareSouth Carolina and CEO Ann Lewis was something he will always cherish. "Medicine, to me, gives me an opportunity to talk and show people the love of Jesus," Dr. Hunt said. "Over the years, people have come back and they say 'I remember you because we talked about the Lord.' Helping people and seeing people get well. You just can't put that into words."

As Dr. Hunt retires, he said he wants to thank his patients and is grateful for the support of all his staff members through the years. He is looking forward to spending more time with his wife and children- who live in the Pee Dee area- as well as fishing and golfing.

March is National Colorectal Cancer Awareness Month

Colorectal cancer is the second-most common cause of cancer-related deaths in the United States. It's expected to cause about 52,980 deaths during 2021.

The American Cancer Society estimates that there will be 104,270 new cases of colon cancer and 45,230 new cases of rectal cancer in 2021.

Symptoms:

In many cases, colorectal cancer has been known as a "silent killer," not showing any symptoms until the disease is much farther along.

- Changes in bowel movements, including constipation and diarrhea
- Bleeding or cramping in your rectum
- Feeling like you can't empty your bowels completely or urgently need to have a bowel movement
- Persistent pain in your abdomen, such as cramps, gas or pain
- Dark patches of blood in your stool
- Discomfort or bloating in your belly
- Unexplained fatigue; loss of appetite and weight loss
- Pelvic pain

Prevention

The most effective way to reduce your risk of colorectal cancer is to get screened routinely beginning at age 50, though sometimes it should be earlier depending on your family history and risk.

Making lifestyle changes can help reduce the risk of Colorectal Cancer. Eating a variety of fruits, vegetables and whole grains; drinking alcohol in moderation, if at all; not smoking; frequent exercise; and maintaining a healthy weight can reduce your risk, as well.

To make an appointment for a screening, please call one of our CareSouth Carolina locations.

