

VACCINE TALKING POINTS

- 1. The COVID-19 vaccine and other immunizations are a PUBLIC HEALTH ISSUE, not a liberty issue.
- **2.** Vaccines are one of the most **convenient and safest** preventive care measures available.
- **3.** The impact of COVID-19 vaccines on the pandemic will depend on **EVERYONE** receiving the vaccine.

4. Vaccine-preventable diseases have not gone away

The viruses and bacteria that cause illness and death still exist and can be passed on to those who are not protected by vaccines.

5. Vaccines will help keep you healthy

The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) recommends vaccinations throughout your life to protect against many infections. When you skip vaccines, you leave yourself vulnerable to illnesses.

6. Vaccines are as important to your overall health as diet and exercise

Like eating healthy foods, exercising, and getting regular check-ups, vaccines play a vital role in keeping you healthy.

7. Vaccination can mean the difference between life and death

Vaccine-preventable infections can be deadly. Every year in the US, prior to the COVID-19 pandemic, approximately 50,000 adults died from vaccine-preventable diseases.

8. Vaccines are safe

The US has a robust approval process to ensure that all licensed vaccines are safe. Potential side effects associated with vaccines are uncommon and much less severe than the diseases they prevent.

9. Vaccines will not cause the diseases they are designed to prevent

Vaccines contain either killed or weakened viruses, making it impossible to get the disease from the vaccine.

10. Young and healthy people can get very sick, too

Infants and older adults are at increased risk for serious infections and complications, but vaccine-preventable diseases can strike anyone.

11. Vaccine-preventable diseases are expensive

Diseases not only have a direct impact on individuals and their families, but also carry a high price tag for society as a whole, exceeding \$10 billion per year.

12. When you get sick, your children, grandchildren, and parents may be at risk, too Adults are the most common source of pertussis infection in infants which can be deadly for babies. When you get vaccinated, you are protecting yourself, family, and community.

13. Your family and co-workers need you

In the US each year, millions of adults get sick from vaccine-preventable diseases, causing them to miss work and leaving them unable to care for those who depend on them.