Message Regarding Covid-19

ISU Extension and Outreach, Polk County is working to adhere to local, state and national recommendations to reduce the spread of COVID-19. Our priority is the health and safety of our staff, volunteers and program participants.

Volunteer guidance in accordance with ISU:

- **ISU Extension and Outreach no longer has a face covering or social distancing mandate.**
  - Whether someone is wearing a face covering – or is not wearing a face-covering – should not be used as an indication of their vaccination status. A person who is vaccinated may choose to continue wearing a face covering for other health or personal reasons. We ask all members of the ISU Extension community to be respectful and supportive of others’ right to wear a face covering, and to not ask others about their vaccination status.

- **Prepared food restrictions have been lifted.** Safe food handling is still a priority for ISU Extension and Outreach.
  - We have returned to our pre-COVID policies regarding food/hospitality.
  - Yes, this means that potlucks can return!
  - Please refer to the Food Safety for County Offices document dated May 4, 2021, from Human Sciences, for food handling safety procedures and expectations for extension staff and volunteers.

- The latest information can be found on the Open for Iowa website.

ISU Extension and Outreach in Polk County is committed to sharing pertinent information from the Polk County Health Department regarding the COVID-19 vaccine. Check out the Polk County Health Department website (available in Spanish here) or their Facebook page (@polkohealth) for the latest information.

Additionally, for seniors 65 and over in Polk County without a computer or internet access OR for our non-English speakers, Polk County Health has opened a help-line, (515) 323-5221, to answer questions regarding how to schedule a vaccine appointment.