Looking Back on 3 Years of COVID-19

March 2023 marked 3 years since COVID-19 changed our lives and the course of history. We reflect on NorthPoint’s response to the pandemic and our role in creating a healthier community:

**March 2020:** The World Health Organization declared the COVID-19 outbreak a pandemic.
- NorthPoint scaled back our operations, and many staff members went remote.
- At first, we had no way of testing for COVID-19, and we were not sure how to best prevent the spread of the virus.

**May 2020:** NorthPoint opened our parking ramp at 1256 Penn to offer drive-up testing.

**December 2020:** NorthPoint began giving COVID-19 vaccinations to our staff.

**January 2021:** NorthPoint began giving COVID-19 vaccinations to community members.

**2022, 2023 and beyond:** NorthPoint continues to respond to COVID-19.
- We have now tested more than 15,000 people.
- We have now vaccinated more than 30,000 people.
- COVID-19 is still a part of our lives, and we continue to learn more about the virus, but we know much more than we did 3 years ago.
- We now know, for certain, that masks and vaccinations work and have saved millions of lives.

**The vaccine still matters!** The [Minnesota Department of Health](https://www.health.state.mn.us) says that people who are vaccinated are less likely to need to go to the hospital if they get COVID-19, and people who are boosted are even less likely.

Visit our [COVID-19 page](https://www.northpointhealth.org) to find out vaccine information. NorthPoint will continue to be here for the community through the pandemic, as we honor our history and create our future.

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**March Drive Continues through April 10**

Join us as we raise awareness about food access and partner with individuals and organizations to create a healthier community!

[Financial gifts](https://www.northpointhealth.org) are the most effective way to support the Food Shelf. We can stretch your dollar to buy perishable items like meat and dairy products!

If you would like to host a nonperishable food drive at your workplace, worship center, etc., check out our [food drive toolkit and guidelines](https://www.northpointhealth.org).

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**Do You Have Medical Assistance (Medicaid) or MinneostaCare?**

Your time to re-apply and renew your health insurance may be soon. Visit the [MN Department of Human Services](https://www.mn.gov) to make sure your address, phone number and email are up to date. If your information is updated, they will be able to contact you when it’s time to renew.
Get Your COVID-19 Shot and Other Vaccines!
Saturday, April 15

Due for a COVID-19 vaccine or booster? Need to get routine vaccines for school, work, or general well-being? NorthPoint is offering vaccine appointments Saturday, April 15, from 8:30 a.m. to noon. Some regular, routine medical appointment times are also available. Appointments are required. Call 612-543-2500 to schedule!

Did You Receive a Good Faith Estimate for your Upcoming Visit?

If you received a Good Faith Estimate (GFE) recently, it may not reflect your newest benefits. Your insurance or Medicaid coverage may have changed or expired.

A GFE is not a bill. You may or may not be charged the full amount listed on the GFE. It lists the items or services that can be reasonably expected for your health care needs, and it shows you how much the items and services will cost. This is based on what we know at the time we make the estimate.

If you have new benefits information or questions, please call us at 612-543-2500 to update us over the phone. You may also update your benefits
Campus Expansion Updates

Campus Expansion Spotlight:
Medical Waiting Rooms

Pictured: Various angles of second-level Medical waiting room

Each month we are highlighting some exciting features of NorthPoint’s campus expansion. This month we highlight the new Medical waiting rooms, which are now open and fully operational. Located on both the first and second levels, our Medical waiting rooms feature bright natural light, spacious seating, a children's play area, and plug-ins for charging your mobile devices while you wait to see your provider.

For the most recent updates to location and parking, please visit our Campus Expansion webpage.
April 23-29 is Medical Lab Professionals Week!

NorthPoint's Lab staff have been here for the community throughout the pandemic, working hard to support COVID-19 testing needs as well as routine medical tests. We celebrate all the work they have done to make health happen in North Minneapolis!

Watch Making Health Happen

Have you checked out *Making Health Happen* yet? In each episode, we interview guests about health and wellness topics important to North Minneapolis. You can now watch every episode on YouTube. And make sure to subscribe to our YouTube channel!

WATCH NOW:

- **Episode 1:** Health Equity & Black History with Stella Whitney-West
- **Episode 2:** Heart Health with Dr. Rahshana Price-Isuk
- **Episode 3:** Nutrition with Karen Blanchard
- **Episode 4:** Colorectal Cancer Awareness with Dr. Rahshana Price-Isuk
- **Episode 5:** Alcohol Awareness with Dr. Helen Thomas and Wendy Nelson, RN
- **Episode 6:** Oral Cancer Awareness with Dr. Michael Brooks
- **Episode 7:** High Blood Pressure Awareness with Dr. Kevin Gilliam
- **Episode 8:** Mental Health Awareness with Carmita McGlory
- **Episode 9:** Kids' Mental Health with Zadok Nampala
- **Episode 10:** Kids Ask Us about COVID
- **Episode 11:** Men's Health with Dr. Kevin Gilliam and Isiah Jones
- **Episode 12:** 2SLGBTQIA+ Pride with Dr. John Gaternmann
- **Episode 13:** Health Screenings with Dr. Janna Carlson
- **Episode 14:** Hepatitis Awareness with Dr. Robin Councilman
- **Episode 15:** Maternal and Child Healthcare with Dr. Lavonne Moore
- **Episode 16:** Immunization Awareness with Dr. Carrie Nedrud and Kathy Kreitzer
- **Episode 17:** Suicide Prevention with Zadok Nampala
- **Episode 18:** Recovery Awareness with Dr. Lolita King
- **Episode 19:** Lung Health Awareness with Dr. Paul Erickson
- **Episode 20:** Breast Health Awareness with Lisa Jonas
- **Episode 21:** Diabetes Awareness with Michelle Kimber
- **Episode 22:** HIV/AIDS Awareness with Dr. Helen Thomas and To the Point
COVID-19 Basics

As we spend more time indoors, here are some important reminders:

GET VACCINATED
FOLLOW VACCINATION GUIDELINES

WEAR A MASK
IN PUBLIC INDOOR SPACES

TEST YOURSELF
IF YOU HAVE SYMPTOMS OR EXPOSURE

Visit northpointhealth.org to find out more about the COVID-19 vaccine.

Please Note:
Due to COVID restrictions, NorthPoint medical, dental and behavioral health services are by appointment only. Call 612-543-2500 to get scheduled.

Masks are still required in all NorthPoint facilities, no matter your vaccination status.

Visit our COVID-19 information page to learn more about the COVID-19 vaccine.

COVID-19 Vaccine
It's easy to get a COVID-19 vaccine at NorthPoint. We provided 21,894 doses in 2021 and 5,630 doses in 2022. Appointments are required. Call for an appointment at 612-348-9000.

COVID-19 Testing
NorthPoint continues to administer COVID-19 tests. We administered 8,756 in 2020, 3,794 in 2021, and 2,665 in 2022. Appointments are required. Call for an appointment at 612-543-2500.
Join the NorthPoint Team

- Employment at Hennepin County
- Employment at NorthPoint Inc.

Quick Access:

- Visit our website
- The Pharmacy App
- Online Bill Pay

Photo Credit: Bill Cooper