



Advocating for Local Measures to Protect Your Community from Covid-19 Loving our Neighbor

Find your County Website [HERE](#)

Why advocate on a county level?

Counties and municipalities can create their own set of safety guidelines to counter the spread of COVID-19. Lifting our voices locally, while continuing to contact our state legislators, can be a powerful way to advocate.

When the pandemic began, Governor Evers issued a safer-at-home Executive Order, following the Wisconsin Department of Health Services (DHS) recommendations. After the Wisconsin Supreme Court struck down most of that order, some counties put their own rules into place.

We are already a COVID epicenter. If the courts or legislature stop current or future statewide protective mandates that are based on science, our state's already large number of COVID cases could grow exponentially. Without the Wisconsin State Legislature offering a healthy plan, counties and cities will shoulder the burden of protecting their communities. ***If attempts to challenge statewide mandates are successful, will your county be ready?***

What can I do to help?

Please pray and take action as you learn about where your county stands. You can search your county website (see link at the top of this page) or call or email your county officials. Ask if they have rules that follow DHS recommendations or a specific rule you are concerned about in place. Don't be shy about being in touch more than once as circumstances change.

If your county has rules based on DHS recommendations, please thank your county officials and offer your continued support for their leadership in protecting your community. Note that many officials received hate mail simply for issuing a mask mandate before a statewide mandate was ordered. This is all the more reason for offering support for solid leadership!

If there are no current rules protecting the spread of COVID in your county, please advocate for your local leaders to create rules following DHS recommendations.

Who are my County Officials?

Counties either have a County Supervisor or a County Manager. There are also County Board Supervisors. Some counties may say that decisions about how to protect people from COVID are left to county health departments. If that is the case, after still voicing your concern to your county official/s, ask how to contact the correct health officer to repeat your message.

Again, you can find your county's website at the top of this page. **Sample messages are on the next page.** Also, please feel free to share any experiences you have with us.

Thank you for your prayers and advocacy!

Email Template for County Officials

Dear [Name of Official],

My name is [Name], a resident of [County Name]. As a person of faith, who believes in loving my neighbor, and as one of your constituents, I strongly urge you to adopt a county-wide Covid-19 Public Health Order to protect our county from the spread of Covid-19.

Medical and public health experts have agreed that wearing a mask, limiting public gatherings, and other precautionary measures can drastically reduce the spread of Covid-19, and dozens of studies have proven this to be so. I hope we can agree that the safety of our community should not be a partisan issue, and I am asking you to step up and consider a county-wide order. In the unfortunate event that current or future protective statewide orders are struck down, I want an existing county-wide mandate to protect my family, neighborhood, and community.

[Insert personal narrative or story, or list personal reasons for why a county-wide Order would help you, your community, or your family]

As the state of Wisconsin continues to struggle with the Covid-19 pandemic, I implore state, county, and municipal governments all step up and act to slow the spread. Issuing a county-wide Covid-19 Public Health Order and vocally supporting any statewide Executive Orders that are science based are an outstanding way to protect our county and your constituents.

Thank you,

[Name]

[Address] (always include your address even in an email)

[Email] (optional if you use snail mail but this can make responding more convenient)

Note: The above type of letter could also be used for **City Officials**.

Sample Message about one Protective Measure

Using format above: My name is [Name], a resident of [County Name]. As a person of faith, who believes in loving my neighbor, and as one of your constituents, I urge you to make and enforce a rule requiring masks in all indoor facilities and businesses in [County Name]. This is crucial for protecting our safety in the midst of a pandemic in which numbers of COVID cases are rising in our state. I ask [Name of County] leaders to take this critical step to protect the health of this community.

Sincerely,

Address and Email

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