



# WisCon Words of Wisdom

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## WI COVID-19 by the Numbers

Total Positive Cases	1,565,215
Total Deaths	13,222

[DHS's Wisconsin Summary Data](#)

\*Numbers Updated 07/29/2022

## WI Vaccine Distribution by the Number of Doses

Total Administered	10,008,045
Johnson & Johnson	344,690
Moderna	3,777,222
Pfizer	5,556,133

Check out the [latest data about Wisconsin's progress!](#)

## Upcoming Webinar Topics

COVID-19 Update	8/1
Involving Your Employees In Hazard Detection Activities	8/8
Access To Employee Exposure and Medical Records	8/15
SHMS: Management	8/22
HazCom: Secondary Labeling	8/29

Sign up [here](#) for weekly webinar reminders! Click [here](#) to view previous webinars!

## Safe + Sound Week — August 15-21

OSHA's Safe + Sound is an ongoing, year-round campaign with a goal to encourage every workplace to develop and maintain a safety and health program.

Safety and health programs help businesses:

- Prevent workplace injuries and illnesses,
- Improve compliance with laws and regulations,
- Reduce costs, including significant reductions in workers' compensation premiums,
- Engage workers,
- Enhance social responsibility goals, and
- Increase productivity and enhance overall business operations.



Last year, more than 5,300 businesses participated in Safe + Sound week. This year, Safe + Sound week is August 15-21 2022. All organizations who are looking for an opportunity to recognize their commitment to safety are encouraged to participate. Register your event or look for others participating in your neck of the woods [HERE!](#)

Additionally, to stimulate Safe + Sound activities, WisCon is making the topics of the August weekly webinars ways to promote the Safety and Health Management System at your workplace.

## Spotlight Corner—Claire Koerschner

Claire joined WisCon as a health-focused consultant in April 2022. Claire has a Master of Public Health degree from the Colorado School of Public Health in Environmental and Occupational Health. Before she joined WisCon Claire spent time working as a COVID-19 contact tracer and working in clinical research. In her spare time, Claire enjoys baking and spending time outdoors with her dog Ripley. Request services for a health-focused visit and maybe you'll be lucky enough to get Claire as your consultant.



## SHARP Success: The Legacy at St. Joseph's

The Legacy at St. Joseph's, an assisted living facility in Kenosha, Wisconsin providing care for residents with dementia, physical and sensory disabilities, and frailty due to advanced age, is a non-profit facility owned and operated by the Carmelite Sisters for over 100 years.

The Legacy at St. Joseph's discovered [WisCon, OSHA's On-Site Consultation Program](#) in Wisconsin in 2012 when they were notified by OSHA that their Days Away Restricted or Transferred (DART) rate was high, which could lead to a site-specific targeting inspection. One of OSHA's suggestions to address their high DART rate was to contact WisCon.

Working in the health care industry, the staff at The Legacy at St. Joseph's are always thinking about patient safety but they were not confident when it came to developing a safety and health plan for their staff. Also, some workplace hazards were taken for granted as "just part of the job." After receiving the letter from OSHA, the administrators realized that assistance was needed.

The Legacy at St. Joseph's received their first On-Site Consultation visit in October 2012. The WisCon consultant pointed out the facility's strengths and weaknesses. The consultant observed that the facility was doing well when it came to bloodborne pathogens and other health related issues but struggled with safety issues like machine guarding, electrical safety, and workplace violence. WisCon's consultants provided educational materials and advice that helped them correct all identified hazards and strengthen their safety and health plan.

Throughout the years that helpful relationship has continued

and flourished, allowing The Legacy at St. Joseph's to realize that OSHA exists to keep workers safe, not to penalize them. After working on their safety and health plan, the facility applied for and received initial Safety and Health Achievement Recognition Program (SHARP) approval in 2013 and received their most recent renewal in September 2021. SHARP acknowledges small and medium-sized businesses that have used OSHA On-Site Consultation Services and operate exemplary workplace safety and health programs. Small businesses that achieve SHARP status receive a deferral from OSHA or State Plan programmed inspections for the period that the SHARP designation is valid. Acceptance of a worksite into SHARP is an achievement that identifies the employer as a model for occupational safety and health among its business peers.

Because of their efforts to improve their safety and health program, The Legacy at St. Joseph's 2020 DART rate was *half* the national average for their industry, a far cry from 2012 when they received the letter from OSHA. This can be attributed to WisCon, whose consultants not only perform the SHARP recertification on-site visit every three years but have also become a valued resource to the facility, giving assistance between those visits. The Legacy at St. Joseph's said the consultants were especially helpful as they adapted their COVID-19 plan to follow the new COVID-19 Healthcare ETS (Emergency Temporary Standard.) They no longer think workplace hazards are "just part of the job" but look at safety as an ongoing process that involves every staff member, every day.

The Legacy at St. Joseph's success story was recently published on OSHA's webpage. For other success stories like this one, visit [osha.gov/successstories](https://www.osha.gov/successstories).

## COVID-19 Update

### At Home Testing

As COVID cases continue to rise with BA.5 you can continue to order free at-home tests from [covid.gov/tests](https://covid.gov/tests) or call 1-800-232-0233 if you need extra help placing an order. Every home in the U.S. is eligible to order a 3<sup>rd</sup> round of free at-home tests.

The tests available for order:

- Are rapid antigen at-home tests, not PCR
- Can be taken anywhere
- Give results within 30 minutes (no lab drop-off required)
- Are also referred to as self-tests or over-the-counter (OTC) tests

When to take an at-home test:

- If you begin having COVID-19 symptoms such as fever, sore throat, runny nose, or loss of taste or smell, or
- If you come into close contact with someone with COVID-19,

or

- When you're going to gather with a group of people, especially those who are at risk of severe disease

### Novavax Receives FDA Emergency Use Authorization

The Novavax COVID-19 vaccine is a 2 dose series for people who are 18 years and older. For individuals who are not immunocompromised, the second dose should be administered 3-8 weeks after first dose. However, for immunocompromised individuals it should be administered 3 weeks after first dose.

This is the first COVID-19 protein subunit vaccine recommended for use in the United States that is built on a familiar type of vaccine technology. Protein subunit vaccines have been used for more than 30 years in the United States, including vaccines for hepatitis B, HPV, and acellular pertussis (whooping cough). Unlike Moderna and Pfizer, the Novavax vaccine should not be mixed with others.

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