



## Media Information:

**For immediate release:** October 15, 2021

## **Community COVID-19 testing site relocating Monday**

**Billings, MT** – Free drive-through community COVID-19 testing will be available starting Monday, Oct. 18, in the St. Vincent Healthcare parking lot at the corner of 11<sup>th</sup> Avenue North and North Broadway, in Parking Lot M.

Testing will be offered to people age 5 and older who have possible symptoms of COVID-19 illness or who have been identified as close contacts of someone who has tested positive for COVID-19.

Drivers will enter the testing site from North Broadway. Look for signs in the 1100 block of North Broadway. Hours of service will be 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. Monday through Friday. A maximum of 200 tests will be offered each day. People who have health coverage should bring their insurance card.

The community testing site has been located in RiverStone Health Clinic with 40 tests available by appointment every weekday morning. The continuing surge of COVID-19 cases in Yellowstone County has increased demand for testing. To help meet that demand, RiverStone Health and St. Vincent Healthcare are partnering to offer the convenience of free, drive-through service. No appointments will be made. Testing will be on a first-come, first-served basis.

The PCR COVID-19 tests provided at the new drive-through site will be processed at the St. Vincent Healthcare lab in Billings, so most people will get their test results within 24-48 hours.

People driving in for COVID-19 tests will be given a special swab to twirl gently inside each nostril. A testing site staff member will instruct them on how to use the swab. After the swab is collected, people will leave the testing site and be notified by phone or text as soon as their results are available.

Billings Clinic is providing COVID-19 testing in its viral triage unit with physician orders.

More COVID-19 testing information is posted at covid.riverstonehealth.org.