

"Service Above Self"

Muskegon Rotary in Motion

<http://www.muskegonrotary.org>

<p>Mark Meyers, President Jason Piasecki, President-Elect Jane Clingman-Scott, President Nominee Tim Arter, Treasurer Linda Juarez, Past President Kathy Betts, Secretary Orville Crain, Director</p>	<h2>Muskegon Rotary Club</h2> <p>Club 16 (2809) – District 6290, Chartered May 1, 1916 Next Meeting January 28 12:00-1:00pm From Home/Office/Both ReWine Sat Club – Next mtg 2/4 5:15 pm</p>	<p>Mary Anne Gorman, Director Jeff Lewis, Director Ginny Sprague, Director JD Wallace, Sr, Director Doug Wood, Director Lori Weiler, RIM Reporter Susan Besteman, RIM Editor</p>
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THE FOUR WAY TEST THAT ROTARIANS USE IN MAKING ETHICAL DECISIONS:
 Is it the **truth**? Is it **fair** to all concerned? Will it build **goodwill** and better **friendships**? Will it be **beneficial** to all concerned?

Next Meeting--1/28/2021 – DEI Program

A Conversation About Being Black; Stories You Don't Know From Rotarians You Do

This is it: the absolute edge of no return: to turn back now and make home or sail irrevocably on and either find land or plunge over the world's roaring rim" - William Faulkner

MEETER - GREETER

* The short jingle when opening your computer

REFLECTORS

Michael Vogas	1/21
Jane Mountain	1/28

THIS WEEK'S MENU

Any suggestions?

NEXT WEEK'S BIRTHDAYS

Steve Dix	Jan 23
Dan Skoglund	Jan 23

PROGRAMS / EVENTS

1/21 Homeless Continuum of Care
 1/21 **ReWine 5:15 PM**
 1/28 DEI Program
 2/4 COVID-19 Vaccine
 2/11 Pound Buddies

"Everyone has an opportunity to be great because everyone has an opportunity to serve."

-Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Kudos

From President **Mark Meyers** to **Kim Boersema**. With technical difficulties, **Kim** did an amazing job stepping in unexpectedly when president-Elect **Jason Piasecki's** internet failed.

Visiting Rotarians & Guests:

Tom Kapanka, Calvary Christian Schools Principal, with students Bekah Dukes and Andrea Nelson

Thank You:

From Tom Kapanka with Calvary Christian Schools: our two student guests today (Bekah Dukes and Andrea Nelson) had butterflies as they waited to appear in the ZOOM and they shook their sweaty palms when they were done... BUT BEYOND A DOUBT, they felt honored to be included in your lunch



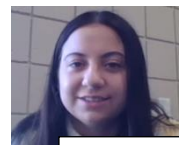
Tom Kapanka

session. These are two very sharp young ladies, and such experiences will not be soon forgotten. It would be so easy to just let moments like this pass forgotten. But that's not the Rotarian way.

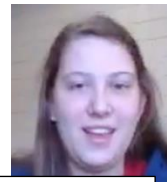
It was a privilege to hear you do the Pledge of Allegiance and conduct your meeting as best you can under these remote circumstances. Life is made up of rhythms and routines that we don't fully appreciate until they are gone for months at a time.

CCS has spent over \$70,000 to make our facility an exemplary place to have in-person instruction and "outdoor education" beginning on day one. As you well know, it is very difficult to keep the "rhythms" of institutional organizations going when you cannot meet in person...

BUT THANK YOU, ROTARY, FOR DOING SO.



Bekah Dukes



Andrea Nelson

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If you missed today's meeting, want to watch it again, or share with someone who may be interested in learning more about our Rotary club, [you can view this link:](#)



New Rotary member **Mary Boyd** was inducted today, sponsored by **MaryAnne Gorman**. Mary returned to Norton Shores and has worked for Mercy Health Trinity Services for almost three decades. She is wrapping up her career and transitioning into other exciting projects including getting "reinvolved" in our community. **Mary's** community involvement includes serving on a number of boards: Child Abuse Council, Muskegon Economic Growth Alliance, Red Cross, United Way, Board of Regions Baker College, Michigan Health and Hospital Associations. She is a member of St Francis De Sales Church and a recipient of numerous community awards. Welcome back, **Mary!**

Chili Kits



For the ReWine Club, February usually bring our annual Chili Cook-off, but with COVID-19, things are going to be a little different this year.

In lieu of raising funds for International trips, students from 5 InterAct Clubs in Muskegon have decided to put the funds toward providing chili kits to families that could use a little extra help this year. Kits will contain the makings for a nice family-of-four pot of chili in one bag delivered through a local pantry of students' choosing.

The cost to sponsor a kit is \$10 and will include all the fixings to create a hearty, warm pot of chili to feed a family.

If you are interested in donating to the cause, you can contact **Kaytie Drake** at kaytieely@aol.com, or any other ReWine member/InterAct student. More information will follow in regards to a distribution date and a total number of families we hope to impact.

As of this RIM edition, some really nice pledges were received from all five Interact clubs.

20 Brave Rotarians

Leaving the library this week were **Kathy Moore** and **Christine Robere**. Congratulations to the winners: **Ed Hendrickson** and **Scott Timmer!**

WEEKLY COVID REPORT

Kathy Moore reported our positive test rates are near the state's numbers. We are still doing good and new cases per million numbers are better than any other comparison counties with 107.

The big topic of discussion is our vaccine status. For more detailed information, watch the full report from Kathy Moore recorded at this week's Rotary zoom meeting or check out our Muskegon County Public Health's website at

<https://www.co.muskegon.mi.us/1611/Coronavirus> for more information.

Muskegon County numbers do include Mercy Health.

NOTE: Please look for Kathy's graphs on the [last page](#) of this RIM.

Doses Administered

Region 6 of Michigan [Source: As reported by MDHHS as of 1/20/2021]
 Received: 157,900
 Administered: 96,243

Muskegon County
 Received: 12,450
 Administered: 10,018



Michigan is entering the next phase of vaccines!

Beginning Monday, Jan. 11 MDHHS is moving forward with vaccination of:

65+
 Michiganders age 65 and older

Frontline essential workers
 (firefighters, police, corrections workers, inspectors)

Child care and pre-K through high school staff

Congregate Care Facilities
 (homeless shelter, juvenile justice, child care staff)

Vaccinations are ongoing for the previous groups:

Health care workers

Long term care workers and staff

Christine Robere, United Way of the Lakeshore, reported they have been helping with vaccination scheduling. Please consider volunteering to help if you are interested.

In addition, the 5-day equity challenge is up this week or check in on some of the 21-day challenges.

Short Video Recording Options!

Mike Vogas shared:

1. Video Recording Methods
2. How Your Committee Can Use These Services
 - a. Get it produced to tell your story
 - b. The Program Committee initiates the main program for each meeting but shorter video stories/updates can be initiated by anyone in the club Please email Mike and let him know what you would like to share
 - c. Mike will work with you to create a flawless message in a 2 Minute Talk Show
3. If you have a story that you think we could benefit from sharing, please contact [Mike Vogas](#).
4. Click this link for the [detailed video from Mike](#):



Interact Insider

An update from **John Noling**-

A very successful program from students at Orchard View & Oakridge resulted in 240 appreciation gift bags to Mercy Health, Poppen House, Hackley Community Care, and frontline workers at Health West. As a result, Reeths Puffer & North Muskegon kids want to do it too with a focus on nursing homes. Let **John Noling** know if you would consider working with or contributing to those two clubs. They will also be including thank you notes as part of this package.

We are still trying to send relief to two rotary clubs in San Pedro Sula, Honduras, and have just been informed by **Tim Arter**, Treasurer, that we found another \$75 donated from **Rabbi Alpert**, along with other Rotarians who have raised \$2,675 from our club including a \$1,250 match from World Community Services Committee.

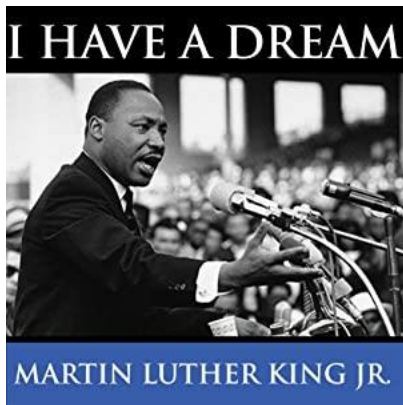
Kudos to **Dave Alexander**! Life Leadership has been meeting via Zoom which usually only results in about half attendance. The kids wanted to hear **Dave** speak about downtown. Instead, he reflected on events of COVID and the January 6 Capital riots and suggested, "why don't we talk about your year in review with all of this chaos in your life?" They had a fabulous Zoom

meeting with Dave on the lessons they learned from both of those topics. John kept his mouth shut, took five pages of notes and was in awe of their mature caring and thinking. Big shout out to Dave and everyone involved with that project and tuning in to these great students from five different schools. Our Life Leadership Committee is trying to keep them on the hook in the hopes that they can still attend some type of conference in June. Thanks to all Rotary members to support these clubs and our Honduras efforts. Your deeds are positive and noticed.

Awe! Another Thank you!

Hackley Community Care would like to thank the Muskegon Rotary Club as well as the Oakridge and Orchard View Rotary Interact Club members for the thoughtful and much appreciated gift bags provided for our employees. Our staff continues to be committed to caring for our patients and community through COVID and beyond and your gift bags made their day a lot brighter! While it's not always an easy task, knowing that our community, including Rotary members, appreciate our efforts gives us one more reason to keep pushing forward and doing our best to meet the unique challenges of the current pandemic.

We would also like to take this time to thank the Muskegon Rotary Club for the positive and lasting impact you continue to make in our community. Please know that we recognize and appreciate the difference you are making every day in the lives of our community members. We wish you all a blessed, happy, and healthy 2021!



Rich Berry-- I dream of a world where everyone works together to assure that everyone achieves success.

Darlene Collet--I dream of a world where all people are treated with respect and love, regardless of their economic status.

Rané Garcia--I dream a world where fear of difference is replaced with awe for the beauty of learning about new cultures, religions and customs.

Ed Hendrickson--I dream a world when we don't have to remind each other to do what's right.

Bill Johanson-- I dream a world where unconditional love's not an exception but the norm
Where understanding's revered and practiced, whatever its form
Where fear, disease and world hunger are not allowed to prevail
And success as God wants for us all means none of his people will fail.

Bill Loxterman--I dream of a world where anger and hatred do not form the basis for public discourse, and where people of differing political views can agree to disagree without resorting to labeling and name-calling.

Joanie Smith--I dream of a world where **all children** can experience a quality education that includes not only academics but also habits of mind and qualities of kindness, mindfulness, fairness, respect, and service to others.

I dream of a world where all children have enough food, good shelter, and the opportunity for an excellent education.

Doug Wood-- I dream a world where young people of all colors, gender identification, and socio-economics can look to their future with hope.

Ana Ivanov (Mona Shores Rotary Interact and RYLA/LLC student)--I dream of a world where the pursuit for the good of all and selflessness will outweigh personal greed and corruption.

Matt Holwerda (MHS RYLA/LLC student)-- I dream of a world where beliefs do not end in violence but understanding.

Georgette Kersman (President, North Muskegon Rotary Interact)--"I dream of a world where people's differences are celebrated instead of condemned."

Devin Wilson (MHS RYLA/LLC student)-
- I dream of a world where kids aren't failing and

Our teens aren't sailing towards drugs and alcohol for comfort

I dream of a world where our high schooler can lead and depression isn't the one thing guaranteed

I dream of a world where our young women aren't raped and defeated but praised and motivated

I dream of a world where young men aren't led by a stereotype but learn it's okay to type

The world I dream is neglected not accepted but with you me and Rotary we can make it happen



Olivia Woodring (RYLA/LLC student, Ravenna High School)--"I dream of a world in which human rights, equality, environmental sustainability, and combatting poverty are the highest priorities. "

THIS WEEK'S PROGRAM: The Muskegon County Homeless Continuum of Care Network -What Is It, How It Works and Why It Matters

Reporter: **Lori Weiler**

Presented by: Judy Kell, Michael Ramsey, and Jana Route

Judy began the presentation with a history lesson. In the 1990s the



Department of Housing & Urban Development (HUD) developed guidelines for Community Care initially to prevent continued duplication of funding for services. From there it evolved into a much bigger program. They found more and more federal regulations continued to be pushed down to them. For example, a homeless person would ask for a housing voucher that one of three agencies had. The feds would then develop a coordinated assessment process which determined if they had a need using the prioritization tool. The reason they did this was to prevent the rush of what used to happen. When agencies got money on October 1, they found people were standing in long lines and the money was gone within 15 days. If you had a need later in the year you were stuck.

They are now charged with developing that process so anybody seeking those housing units goes through a process. Federal dollars have targeted a very specific population like veterans. Every week a committee meets and goes through the list of homeless vets to coordinate if a vet has been housed: if not, what do they need, and how to move them into permanent housing. Judy also mentioned they have been seeing an increase in seniors being homeless. They send people out to count our homeless population. Typically they receive about \$300K from the Michigan State Housing and Development Authority (MSHDA) but because of COVID-19 that number has increased dramatically. It is this group that writes the Community Application and has to insure everything is met and in order for the local agency to be funded. If the Community Application doesn't meet the scoring criteria, none of it gets funded.



Michael Ramsey, Ward 3 City Commissioner--City of Muskegon, serves as the nonprofit Director of Homeless Services and Director for Community Health.

Since July \$900,000 has been gifted from the effects of COVID through rental assistance. That allocation of money has been split into different areas. When you receive 25-30 application per day, \$780,000 doesn't go very far. Michael went back to MSHDA and the State and asked, "how can you help?" They doubled our award and sent another \$1M! Between July 12 and December 31 they have spent \$1.75M in rental assistance in Muskegon County alone. They have been internally working on

how to streamline programs while COVID is still here and people impacted by unemployment and also were very intentional with working with local landlords and property managers with eviction programs. It didn't take long to exhaust that money which ended effective December 31, and now they need to finesse other money to continue to help people. MSHDA said, "hey Muskegon County--great work with first round. We are going to give another \$11.5M for your community to help pay for rental arrears." Along with immediate needs, they need to make sure as they are moving through these dollars that they are also helping our community rise up to a better place.

Over next 45 days they will have to 'build the plane, fly it and land it.' You can get involved by showing up and being part of those efforts. Just reach out to anyone on their team or the United Way, doing things that are purposeful and intentional and helpful.



Jana Route is an avid volunteer who sees the perspective of those they're serving and the work that they're doing. When COVID hit our county last spring, they did not have a whole lot of time to prepare. They needed to think about those who might fall through gaps. One of those groups was the COVID-positive homeless community. Where would we send them? They can't stay at shelters. After multiple phone calls and no answers, she reached out to Public Health and Mercy and realized they needed to immediately put together a task force to make tough decisions on what to

do. Judy Kell is a mastermind of putting procedures together, so they got strategies in place and made a lot of phone calls to identify who would be willing to work with them. Many need extra help while isolated and may not have means to provide their own food, personal care items, etc. What about cleaning after they stayed? They ran into a lot of challenges, couldn't find any local motels, hotels or organizations that had that kind of space able to accommodate this need. But finally one did come through. They were so thankful one stepped up and said 'whatever you need us to do, let us know, we will make it happen.' It was not easy with a lot of hoop-jumping, trials and errors, but they have arrived at a place where when they get a call from Mercy or Pine Rest or the HUB asking for a homeless individual they know exactly what to do. This agency stepped up with care packages, blankets, pillows, personal care, and hot meals delivered to rooms safely.

The program is not only strong enough to care for them, but has been expanded to a point where they are able to provide somewhat-affordable housing for families who are not going to meet the guidelines set forth to get help through programs and money from other funding sources. With MSHDA or HARA they may not have scored high enough on that system to receive help for rent. Some are in a situation if they had a past eviction but are working. Maybe they ran into difficult situation but now are homeless and it's impossible to find housing now. There's the option of shelters, but working families have children. If they don't have affordable child care then they are at risk of losing their job. You can't leave children at a shelter while you work. When there are hundreds applying to

landlords they are going to take the top ones with no poor credit history. The program is hoping to expand. They have funds coming in managed by the local United Way with each phase to help working families with mortgage, rental assistance, utilities and food along with filling in a lot of gaps. This Unified Intake is going to be huge in this community when you have people constantly being sent to different agencies to complete an application and intakes. These people are already vulnerable, maybe don't have transportation or have to lug children along. Or they have jobs and aren't able to take time off. One intake can be used and meet the needs of all agencies. They are also in the process of working on a shared case management platform in this county that will allow our agencies to work together on all of the different family cases. So if Mission for Area People receives them they will go into that system and all of our partner agencies can go into see what MAP is working on with that individual family. Then other agencies can come in and provide resources to fill in gaps.

Thank you Judy, Michael, and Jana for your time and wonderful presentation!

"The Hill We Climb"

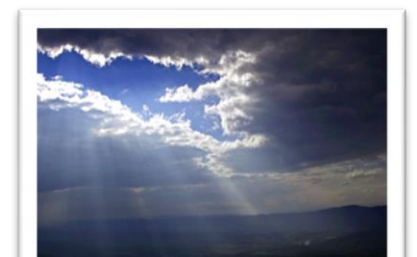
Poem by
Amanda
Gorman



When day comes, we ask ourselves,
where can we find light in this never-
ending shade?
The loss we carry. A sea we must
wade.
We braved the belly of the beast.
We've learned that quiet isn't always
peace, and the norms and notions of
what "just" is isn't always justice.

And yet the dawn is ours before we
knew it.
Somehow we do it.
Somehow we weathered and
witnessed a nation that isn't broken,
but simply unfinished.
We, the successors of a country and a
time where a skinny Black girl
descended from slaves and raised by a
single mother can dream of becoming
president, only to find herself reciting
for one.
And, yes, we are far from polished, far
from pristine, but that doesn't mean we
are striving to form a union that is
perfect.
We are striving to forge our union with
purpose.
To compose a country committed to all
cultures, colors, characters and
conditions of man.
And so we lift our gaze, not to what
stands between us, but what stands
before us.
We close the divide because we know
to put our future first, we must first put
our differences aside.
We lay down our arms so we can reach
out our arms to one another.
We seek harm to none and harmony
for all.
Let the globe, if nothing else, say this is
true.
That even as we grieved, we grew.
That even as we hurt, we hoped.
That even as we tired, we tried.
That we'll forever be tied together,
victorious.
Not because we will never again know
defeat, but because we will never again
sow division.
Scripture tells us to envision that
everyone shall sit under their own vine
and fig tree, and no one shall make
them afraid.
If we're to live up to our own time, then
victory won't lie in the blade, but in all
the bridges we've made.
That is the promise to glade, the hill we
climb, if only we dare.
It's because being American is more
than a pride we inherit.
It's the past we step into and how we
repair it.
We've seen a force that would shatter
our nation, rather than share it.
Would destroy our country if it meant
delaying democracy.
And this effort very nearly succeeded.

But while democracy can be
periodically delayed, it can never be
permanently defeated.
In this truth, in this faith we trust, for
while we have our eyes on the future,
history has its eyes on us.
This is the era of just redemption.
We feared at its inception.
We did not feel prepared to be the
heirs of such a terrifying hour.
But within it we found the power to
author a new chapter, to offer hope and
laughter to ourselves.
So, while once we asked, how could
we possibly prevail over catastrophe,
now we assert, how could catastrophe
possibly prevail over us?
We will not march back to what was,
but move to what shall be: a country
that is bruised but whole, benevolent
but bold, fierce and free.
We will not be turned around or
interrupted by intimidation because we
know our inaction and inertia will be the
inheritance of the next generation,
become the future.
Our blunders become their burdens.
But one thing is certain.
If we merge mercy with might, and
might with right, then love becomes our
legacy and change our children's
birthright.
So let us leave behind a country better
than the one we were left.
Every breath from my bronze-pounded
chest, we will raise this wounded world
into a wondrous one.
We will rise from the golden hills of the
West.
We will rise from the windswept
Northeast where our forefathers first
realized revolution.
We will rise from the lake-rimmed cities
of the Midwestern states.
We will rise from the sun-baked South.
We will rebuild, reconcile, and recover.
And every known nook of our nation
and every corner called our country,
our people diverse and beautiful, will
emerge battered and beautiful.
When day comes, we step out of the
shade of flame and unafraid.
The new dawn balloons as we free it.
For there is always light, if only we're
brave enough to see it.
If only we're brave enough to be it.





Public Health
Prevent. Promote. Protect.
Muskegon County

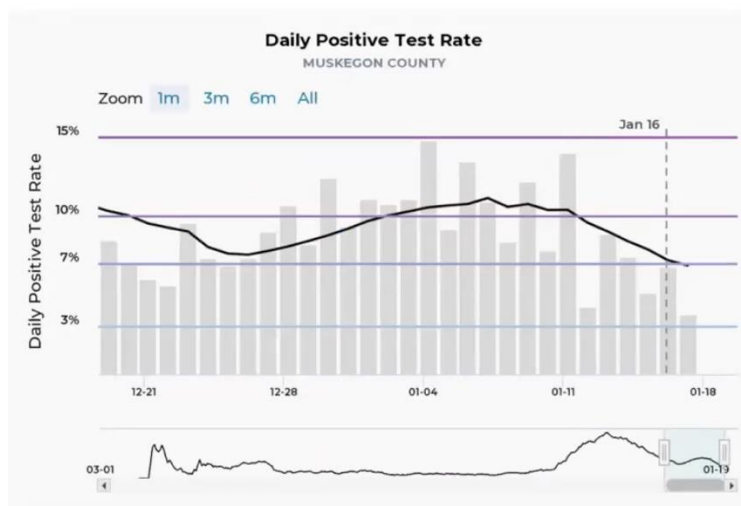
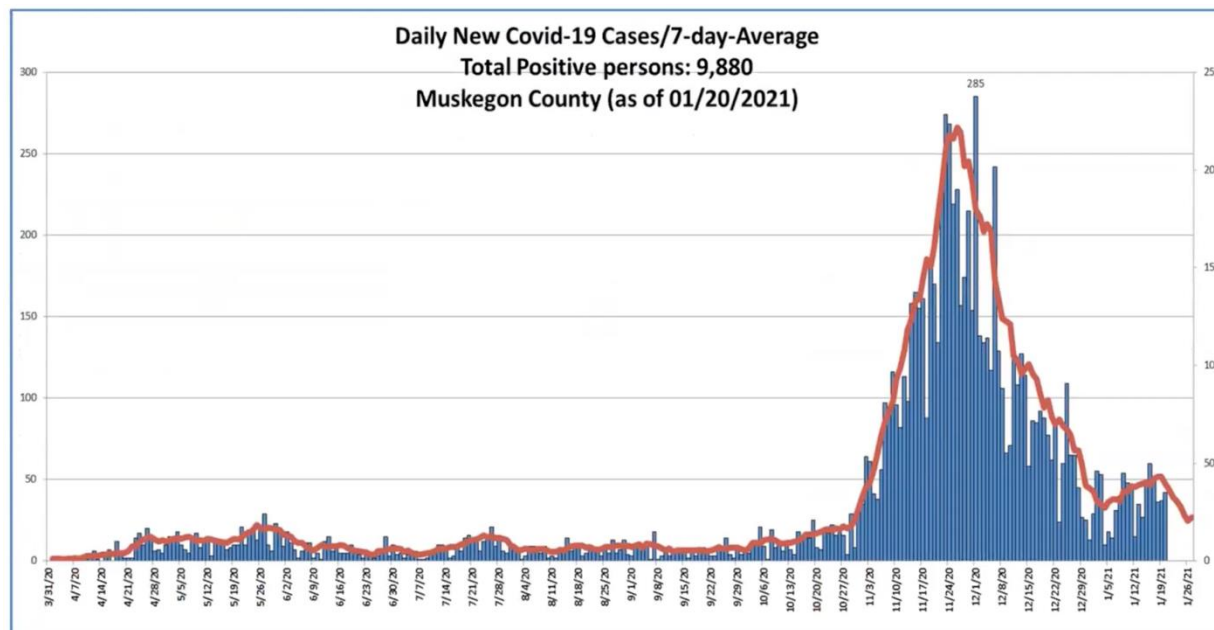
As of January 20, 2021

Total positive cases to date: 9,890

Total negatives: 137,984

Total deaths to date: 277

Total recovery: 8, 526



7 Day Average Positive Test Rate

Lowest 1.6 % on 9/19/20

Highest 24.9% on 11/18/20

Current 7.2% on 1/16/21

Mi Safe Start Map: Epidemic Spread		
Excluding probable cases		
7-Day Average	Positive Tests as of 1/16/2021	New Cases per Million as of 1/16/2021
Michigan	6.9%	146
Local (GR) Region	7.4%	160
Muskegon	7.2%	107
Kent	7.6%	177
Ottawa	8.4%	205

DateTime	Daily Positive Rate	7-Day Average of Positive Rate
1/10/2021 5:00	7.9%	10.4%
1/11/2021 5:00	14.1%	10.4%
1/12/2021 5:00	4.3%	9.6%
1/13/2021 5:00	8.9%	9.1%
1/14/2021 5:00	7.5%	8.4%
1/15/2021 5:00	5.2%	7.9%
1/16/2021 5:00	6.8%	7.2%

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