



PRESS RELEASE

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CITY OF SAGINAW HOSTS CENSUS AWARENESS EVENTS THROUGHOUT JULY

July 10, 2020 SAGINAW, MI – The City of Saginaw is urging everyone who calls Saginaw home to take 10 minutes to complete the 2020 U.S. Census. In an effort to encourage and assist residents who wish to complete the census, the City is hosting various “**Census On The Go**” awareness events throughout the month of July.

The Census On The Go Awareness Events are scheduled for the following dates/times:

- **Friday, July 17, 2020 11 am to 1 pm**
First Ward Community Center –1410 N. 12th Street
- **Friday, July 24, 2020 11 am to 1pm**
Saginaw CAC -- 2824 Perkins
- **Friday, July 31, 2020 11am to 1 pm**
Houghton Jones Neighborhood Resource Center—1708 Johnson

At each event, local volunteers and city staff members will be available to assist citizens who wish to complete the online census. Computers will be available for citizens to access the <https://my2020census.gov/> website to complete the census online. While at the event, participants can enjoy a free lunch from favorite food truck vendors. Free giveaways like T-shirts, cups, tote bags and tons more will also be available for everyone who attends. To insure the safety of our staff and citizens, hand sanitizers and

disinfectants will be available for computer use, and participants are asked to wear an appropriate face covering and adhere to social distancing guidelines.

The U.S. Census, a survey conducted every 10 years to determine the number of people living in the United States, decides how millions of federal funding dollars will be distributed. In March 2020, the City of Saginaw was awarded funding from the Michigan Municipal League to support the City's census awareness efforts. Although plans were stalled due to COVID-19 restrictions, the City hopes each event throughout the month of July will ignite awareness with citizens and stress the importance of the 2020 Census for the future of Saginaw.

An accurate census count for the City of Saginaw is vital to obtain funding and distribute resources throughout our community. Census funding impacts almost everything that's important to Saginaw residents. This includes money for healthcare, nutrition assistance, education, roads, housing, and more. The 2020 U.S. Census kicked off in April. The City of Saginaw's response return rate is currently 57%, compared to a 68% return rate for the entire state of Michigan, and 62% nationwide.

"There are many things going on in our world today, but we as citizens cannot forget to do the single most important thing that determines the future of Saginaw," said Mayor Floyd Kloc. "If people really want to make a difference in our city and impact the future, they should take a few minutes to complete the census. The City's Census On The Go events are planned throughout July to remind citizens of the importance of the 2020 U.S. Census and assist all who wish to complete the census online."

One census form is equal to \$5,000 every year in federal money to the City of Saginaw for vital programs like Head Start, WIC, Bridge Card, public transportation and roads, Section 8 Housing Assistance, Medicaid, and Medicare. Each person that is not counted in the 2020 Census could result in Saginaw losing approximately \$1,800 in federal support per person every year for the next ten years. Mayor Pro Tem Brenda

Moore stressed the importance of completing the census, now more than ever, “An undercount, or a low return rate on our census response, could be devastating to our city. At a time like this, our community needs every resource it can get and we all owe it to each other to take the few minutes to respond to the 2020 Census.”

The Census On The Go events are designed to assist and equip citizens with the 2020 U.S. Census. It’s simple, it’s safe, and it’s easy. Complete the 2020 U.S. Census and make a positive change for the future of Saginaw.

To learn more about the Census On The Go awareness events, please contact the City Manager’s Office, (989) 759-1403.

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