

From: Modie Jonathan N
Subject: RE: St. Timothy's Episcopal Church
Date: September 7, 2021 at 4:02:42 PM PDT
To: Lori Stoddard

Hi Lori. Here's OHA's statement on the letter to Brookings:

Oregon Health Authority works to ensure equitable, statewide access to essential public health services such as COVID-19 testing and vaccinations. This is particularly important now as COVID-19 cases, hospitalizations and deaths are surging in Curry County and across Oregon due to the prevalence of the highly transmissible Delta variant. As Dr. Sidelinger's Aug. 30, 2021, letter to the City of Brookings states, the notion that a local partner such as St. Timothy's Episcopal Church could be asked to shut down or move its critically important COVID-19-related work in the midst of this surge is deeply troubling, and such an interruption could harm the citizens of Brookings and Curry County. What's more, we understand that many of the people that St. Timothy's serves have little or no resources, such as housing, making them particularly vulnerable to acquiring and spreading the disease without the interventions that the church provides. As Curry County's public health services provider, OHA believes it's vitally important that communities around the county, including Brookings, continue supporting the important COVID-19 prevention work that community-based organizations such as St. Timothy's provide, and help the statewide effort to bring this devastating pandemic to an end.

Thanks for the opportunity to comment.

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