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Governor Ron DeSantis, City of Jacksonville Mayor Lenny Curry and the Governor's Pediatrician, Dr. Bonnie White, held a press conference on today, May 22nd.

Governor's Remarks

- Visited Dolphin Pointe with HHS Secretary Alex Azar
- **Announcing today, effective immediately Florida will be lifting all restrictions on youth activities**
 - DOH will put some FAQ's and best practices, but will not put in place too many restrictions
 - Will trust parents to choose what is best for them
- Observations
 - More Covid fatalities over 90 than under 65 combined
 - Have had zero fatalities under 25
 - Concern about kids
 - It was known that kids would have less clinical significance
 - Main concern was kids as vectors of transmission
 - Now, the data is clear that kids are not getting infected at same rates as others
 - CDC said kids are less likely to be infected than at certain points with the general flu
 - Studies have shown that adults are infecting kids not necessarily the other way around
 - We didn't close childcare centers and we didn't see any major problems with the centers
 - We can look around the country and in Europe, we didn't see many issues at childcare centers
- Looking forward
 - Ultimately, we are putting the decision in the hands of the parents
- Data
 - Over last five days, 3.17%, 1.87%, .63%, 2.44%, 2.8% positivity rate
 - Most cases center around long-term care facilities
 - Since entering Phase One, hospitalizations has declined 26% and decline of generators down 34%
 - 815,000 test results received
 - PPE- 27 million masks, 11 million gloves, 1.7 million face shields, one million shoe covers, hand sanitizer and gloves
 - Screened 80,000 travelers who left hot zones
 - Florida was number one destination of people who left the hot zones



Mayor Lenny Curry

- This announcement today is consistent in that it reflects a collaboration between the state and city
- Youth sports is really important as we move to re-opening
 - Have had parents reach out expressing the importance of summer camps and athletics
- Remember that the virus is still with us, we will see hospitalizations, but we can't live in a perpetual lockdown

Dr. Bonnie White, Governor's Pediatrician

- This is a unique time in our lives, but I think we are becoming focus
- We are seeing less impact than other states, as we re-open, it is imperative we think about the children
- Important that we get children socializing again
- If summer camps and sports camps open this summer, they need to follow hand washing, temperature checks, possibly masks
 - A lot is on the parents, if your children is sick, keep them home
- Lots of kids are coming in with anxiety issues and depression, it is important to get them socialized
- Important to keep following evidenced-based processes

Dialogue

- Governor DeSantis- can you talk about importance of immunizations?
 - Dr. White- With the fear of coming in, many patients have not come into the office, which raises concern about the herd immunity we have developed as a society. Well-child check-ups and immunizations are crucial.
- Gov. DeSantis- can you talk about the importance to parents?
 - Mayor Curry- I have heard from constituents that I know personally and those I don't that have expressed the yearning for getting kids back into these social environments.

Governor's Press Questions

- Concern about kids getting the virus and the youth-specific impact that manifests weeks later
 - DOH has put out advisory on that.
 - Dr. White- it is very rare

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- Lifting restrictions, is it statewide, will there be protocols in place?
 - Lifting state restrictions, I am not pre-empting locals, but they can decide. Important to get the information out on the CDC and DOH website, and let parents choose what they want for their kids.
- Heard from hundreds of people who have not yet received unemployment
 - Now paid out \$2.8 billion in last ten weeks, we're close to a million applicants paid. There have been some people who have had issues with applications. I am looking at what will happen in the next federal bill, may want to consider letting people take lump sum and then let people go back to work. That can create a good incentive to get people back to work.
- 12.9% unemployment rate, do you think this is the peak?
 - We knew it would be really difficult. What we have to do is get people back to work and get people's confidence back in the community. The theme parks alone are over 100,000 jobs. There is a path to get people back to work and that's why we need to follow the step-by-step plan to recovery. We will be working on other small-business aid. My hope is that states like Florida and Texas can lead the way. I hope this is the peak. I think a lot of people are itching to get back to work. Things like pools do not foster transmission, per the CDC, so there is a pathway to re-open certain things. I wanted a lighter touch in terms of restrictions and without them, the numbers would be much worse.
- Plan for monitoring data in the roll-out of the recovery
 - We monitor the numbers every day, we understand many are long-term care facilities. We've had hundreds of prison upticks. Taking testing into rural areas. Seeing lots of data dumps, so it is important to look under the high-level data. Some of the states that did draconian restrictions had much higher fatality rates. We have the ability to contact trace on the local level when it is needed. The media is acknowledging the success of our plan to keep Covid positive patients out of nursing homes.