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Legacy Clinics in Fifth Ward, Southwest Houston Launch New Way to Test Sick Kids during Pandemic

Patients Must Complete Tele-visit Before Accessing Drive-Thru Visits

HOUSTON (April 9, 2020) – [Legacy Community Health](https://www.legacycommunityhealth.org) clinics in Southwest Houston (6441 High Star) and Fifth Ward (3811 Lyons Ave.) have redesigned operations for younger patients ages 17 and under who fall ill. After seeing a provider through Legacy’s recently launched Virtual Pediatric Clinic, some patients may require in-person testing for situations such as a rapid flu test or strep throat swab. Rather than coming inside a clinic, the parents can now take their sick children to the clinic through a drive-thru set up to do these tests without getting out of their car.

“Through this new way of seeing sick pediatric patients, our clinic staff can focus on diagnosing our patients to help them get better while maintaining the health of our well patients and staff,” says Dr. Vian Nguyen, chief medical officer for Legacy Community Health. “We are consistently improving the way we see patients due to the current pandemic, and this is one of the ideas that seemed to be a win-win.”

To set up an appointment through Legacy’s Virtual Pediatric Clinic, new or established patients can call **(832) 548-5000** and follow instructions to see a provider. If the provider deems it necessary, they will direct the patient to a site for further testing or evaluation. Providers and on-site staff who speak Spanish or other languages are available.

Legacy also continues to offer adult and pediatric primary care and sick visits, HIV/AIDS care, OB/GYN and maternity, vaccination, immunization, free HIV and pregnancy testing, and telehealth visits for pediatrics, behavioral health and some adult primary care services. Locations and their hours of operation may change, but are always updated at www.legacycommunityhealth.org. Patients can also call **832-548-5000** with questions or to make an appointment.

Legacy accepts most HMOs/PPOs, Medicaid and CHIP. Legacy also utilizes a sliding scale fee to lower the cost of services for uninsured patients.

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About Legacy Community Health

Legacy Community Health (Legacy) is a full-service network of community medical clinics offering primary and specialty care to in the Texas Gulf Coast region. Services include adult primary care, pediatrics, dental care, vision services, behavioral health services, OB/GYN and maternity, vaccinations and immunizations, health promotion and community outreach, wellness and nutrition, and comprehensive HIV/AIDS care. With 35 locations across Houston, Baytown, Deer Park, and Beaumont, Legacy is the largest Federally Qualified Health Center (FQHC) in Texas. Legacy has been a United Way-affiliated agency since 1990. To learn more, visit www.legacycommunityhealth.org.