Forward Together Update, September 8, 2021

University of Northern Iowa
Dear Panther Community,

The Iowa Department of Public Health recently released a new COVID-19 dashboard that will be updated three times a week. According to the IDPH, those not fully vaccinated account for:

- **90.3%** of COVID-19 Patients in the ICU
- **82.4%** of COVID-19 Patients Hospitalized

We strongly encourage everyone to get vaccinated. It’s your strongest line of defense against COVID-19. The vaccines are readily available, including at the Student Health Clinic. Students who are fully vaccinated can receive a $25 UNI Bookstore gift card. If you are looking for a vaccine off-campus, search [vaccines.gov](http://vaccines.gov), text your ZIP code to 438829, or call 1-800-232-0233 to find locations near you.

### Mental Health

It is understandable at times to feel stressed, nervous and anxious. Students, don’t forget about the [resources available](#) on campus through the Counseling Center.

Employees may use their employee assistance program (EAP) benefits to help manage any anxiety or any uncertainty they are experiencing related to Coronavirus (COVID-19). To access EAP call 800-327-4692. UNI’s EAP vendor has created a [tip sheet](#) to help employees stay connected to their emotions during a time of uncertainty. Additional information can be found on the [HRS Supporting Services webpage](http://hrs.supporting.services) and from the [CDC](https://www.cdc.gov).

### Panther Health Survey

The university is continuing to use the [Panther Health Survey](#) to assist those who are:

- Experiencing symptoms of COVID-19 (regardless of vaccination status);
- Have been exposed to COVID-19 and are unvaccinated; or
- Need to access COVID-19 leave.

If you fall into any of these categories please complete the survey as it helps provide relevant campus support services to those impacted by COVID-19, supports our cleaning and disinfecting efforts, and allows students to receive alternative class assignments.
If you have a question, please visit forwardtogether.uni.edu or email it to forwardtogether@uni.edu. Thanks for all that you do to keep yourself, your family and the Panther community safe.

Stay Well,

John Vallentine,
Associate Provost for Faculty

Joseph Rayzor,
Director of Risk Management, Environmental Health and Safety