WI Department of Health Services Announces New Eligible Groups for COVID-19 Vaccine Tentatively Beginning March 1

Today, the Wisconsin Department of Health Services (DHS) announced groups eligible for COVID-19 vaccinations <u>tentatively</u> beginning March 1. To check if you are eligible, visit <u>DHS'</u> <u>vaccine eligibility webpage</u>. Those in Green Lake County can get the vaccine by either checking with their healthcare provider, calling their local public health department or watching for local pharmacies who will be vaccinating.

Decisions on which groups are eligible for vaccine are determined by DHS based on recommendations provided by the <u>State Disaster Medical Advisory Committee (SDMAC)</u>. The SDMAC is Wisconsin's advisory committee and is made up of medical experts and practitioners. Due to the limited availability of vaccine doses, specific populations that are higher risk for exposure or more likely to develop severe symptoms are prioritized for vaccinations.

Once the federal government allocates more vaccine doses to Wisconsin, more Wisconsinites will have the opportunity to get vaccinated. In the meantime, the COVID-19 virus is still spreading in Green Lake County. Even once you are fully vaccinated, it is important to continue to stay home as much as possible, wear a mask, wash your hands, and keep physical distance from other.

"As more vaccine is distributed to Green Lake County Public Health, we will continue to work closely with vaccine providers, clinics, hospitals, and employers to ensure everyone in our county will be able to get vaccinated against COVID-19. Right now we are getting very limited doses and it we are not able to vaccinate everyone who wishes to get vaccinated at this time. This will definitely be an exercise in patience. We are doing the best we can with the vaccine that gets delivered to us each week," said Kathy Munsey, Green Lake County Health Officer.

Find the latest information on COVID-19 and vaccinations on the Green Lake County website (<u>www.co.green-lake.wi.us</u>).

For information, resources, and data related to Wisconsin's COVID-19 vaccination program, <u>visit</u> the DHS COVID-19 vaccine page.

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