

January 21, 2021, 11:30 a.m.

Dear Residents of RiverWoods Durham, RiverWoods Exeter, and Birch Hill,

As you know from my earlier updates, we have been in contact with several leaders at the State's Department of Public Health working to develop a plan to deliver vaccinations to all Independent Living (IL) residents; not only at our communities, but at all CCRC's in the State.

All nine CCRC's in NH partnered with either CVS or Walgreens to administer the vaccines to our healthcare residents and staff. Our "partner" has been CVS, and while we are still hoping they will be a partner to vaccinate our IL residents, through multiple discussions they remain uncertain and vague in their ability to vaccinate residents in Independent Congregate Living. They will likely not be part of the solution, which leaves us with two paths for you to receive **both doses** of your vaccines:

Receive Vaccine through the State's Fixed Site

- The State portal will open tomorrow (Friday, January 22) for all NH residents age 65+ to register for a vaccine date at one of the State's fixed sites. www.vaccines.nh.gov.
- This portal is the way to sign up to receive your vaccination at one of the State's fixed sites.
- To use the portal for sign up, a unique email address and phone number are required for each person receiving the vaccine (i.e. you cannot share an e-mail address or phone number with your spouse).
- You could also use the State's 211 number as a sign-up option. Expect a long wait time on the phone
- Currently the State is allocated 17,000 doses per week from the Federal Government for everyone who is eligible (Phase 1A and 1B = approximately 300,000 people), so your appointment date will be based on the availability of vaccine doses.
 - The portal would then e-mail you an appointment confirmation for your first vaccination date somewhere from January 26 through later March.
 - Your second dose would be at the same site, 3-4 weeks later.

- This state portal will open at **8 AM on Friday, January 22**. That will be the first time that any of us see it. We have no further information on what will be required to sign up.
- It is also unknown where your fixed site location will be and how long you would need to wait, outside in a tent, to receive your shot.

Receive Vaccine Onsite at Your Community

- The vaccinations at this clinic would be administered by our own healthcare staff.
- In the next week we will have signups for this so that we know the number of doses to obtain from the State.
- We have not yet received confirmation of when we would be allocated doses from the State but it is our expectation/goal that your onsite vaccine clinics would begin by February 15th.
- Getting the vaccine onsite would eliminate the need for you to drive or wait in possible inclement weather for your vaccine. It also ensures you have clinical staff onsite 24 hours to monitor and observe for any possible reactions or side effects. This is longer than the 15 minutes the State will “monitor” you while you wait in your car to leave the fixed site.

My suggestion? Receive your vaccination onsite. That way, we can ensure that all of our residents receive both doses in a safe and timely manner. However, if you are anxious about waiting for the full details of our plan, you have the option to sign up for vaccination at the state sites on Friday, through the portal. If it happens that our clinic dates are sooner than your state assigned date, you can always cancel your appointment with the State and receive the vaccine here.

Please know that we have been working on this every day, around the clock. For those of you who know me, you know I love control, but this remains a work in progress, with multiple moving parts!

I know it is frustrating to not have all the answers up front. Patience is still required, but science has caught up, we just have to let it get to us!

We have a meeting with the State this afternoon. Expect an additional memo later today with more information. Stay healthy my friends.


Justine Vogel, TRWG CEO