ALLEGAN COUNTY HEALTH DEPARTMENT

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NEWS RELEASEFOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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COVID-19 Vaccination Update for Allegan County

(Allegan, MI)— Allegan County Health Department (ACHD) is providing weekly COVID-19 vaccine updates to the community. During the week of January 10 to January 16, 2021, ACHD had enough vaccine supply to host three vaccine clinics and administered 689 doses to those 65 years of age and older, health care workers, first responders, police officers, jail and prison staff, pre-K through 12 teachers and workers in childcare centers and protective services. A total of 1,577 Allegan County residents were administered vaccine during the week of 1/10 to 1/16.

COVID-19 vaccine supplies remain limited. If you are now eligible for vaccination, it does not mean vaccination is immediately available to you. Over 8,100 individuals living or working in Allegan County that are over the age of 65 have signed up to receive the COVID-19 vaccine; however, the current vaccine supply does not meet this demand. ACHD continues to work on partnerships with other organizations to expand access points for the vaccine. If you are eligible to get the COVID-19 Vaccine and still in need of an appointment, please be sure to check out some partner organizations—Meijer Pharmacy and Spectrum Health Zeeland.

Signing up for a vaccination means that a dose of the vaccine, a time-slot in the schedule, and the staffing to deliver that vaccine are all saved for you. Making vaccine appointments for multiple sites does direct harm to others by delaying their access to the vaccine. ACHD asks that you consider the health of your community when making a vaccination appointment. The fewer resources lost through double booking, the faster everyone in the community can have access to the vaccine.

All individuals living or working in Allegan County and interested in receiving the COVID-19 vaccine should sign up through the "I Want the COVID-19 Vaccine" form on www.allegancounty.org/covid. Once they are signed up, individuals will receive an email from ACHD when they can schedule an appointment. Due to the overwhelming response and limited vaccine availability, eligible individuals may not receive an email for 3-4 weeks. If individuals need confirmation that they are on the registry, please email covidvaccine@allegancounty.org.

Over the past week, ACHD has received over 3,000 calls related to vaccine appointments. Staff are working hard to review messages and schedule vaccine appointments. We are asking individuals to call once. Multiple calls from an individual slows down our response to every individual wanting to make an appointment.

Individuals in need of assistance can call the ACHD COVID-19 Hotline at 269-686-4546 to provide their information. ACHD is following <u>prioritization set by the State of Michigan</u>. For more information, visit <u>www.vaccinatewestmi.com</u> or <u>www.michigan.gov/covidvaccine</u>.