

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE March 19, 2021

CONTACT: Joseph Krebsbach, Door County Health and Human Services Director Email: <u>ikrebsbach@co.door.wi.us</u> Telephone: 920-746-7155

Door County continues to make excellent progress in the COVID-19 vaccination of Door County residents. We are currently ahead of the curve in the state. Individuals who have received the vaccine have done so through Door County Medical Center, Door County Public Health, local pharmacies and some have gone out of the county. The state data shows that we have 73.5% of individuals 65 and older have received at least their first dose of vaccine. More information about state vaccine progress can be found at: <u>COVID-19</u>: Vaccine Data | Wisconsin Department of Health Services

The state Department of Health Services has identified a new eligibility group beginning March 22, 2021. This includes individuals with underlying health conditions. A full list can be found here: <u>Groups Now</u> <u>Eligible for the COVID-19 Vaccine | Wisconsin Department of Health Services</u>

As eligibility groups broaden, we believe our allotment of vaccine will continue to increase. As a result, we are once again shifting strategies for vaccine scheduling. As our allocation of vaccine increases it has been challenging to schedule all appointments by phone. Currently we have an existing waiting list of individuals who were in the previous eligibility groups. We will work to schedule those individuals over the next two weeks. As of yesterday, we are no longer adding individuals to this list.

This change will allow us to transition to an online scheduling option. At some point next week, we will open our online scheduling system. We will provide a limited number of appointments weekly ahead of time for scheduling at our Sturgeon Bay site. As we learn our allotment of doses each week, we may open additional appointments for registration. We will also continue to do some scheduling by phone for those without internet access or those who have trouble with the system. We will put out another update with a link to this scheduling option when it is available.

We will continue to provide a clinic in Sturgeon Bay weekly. This week, we vaccinated 678 individuals. We will also be providing a clinic on Washington Island for island residents next week, and are planning a clinic in Northern Door (date to be determined) for those who have difficulty traveling to Sturgeon Bay.

We will continue to provide updates through the local media, the Door County website <u>Door County</u>, <u>WI Official Website</u>, and Door County Public Health Facebook Page at <u>Door County Public Health |</u> <u>Facebook</u>.

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