



This message is going to all residents and family members who have opted to receive email communications.

Dear Residents & Family Members,

Just 32 days ago, the first Asbury associates and residents received the COVID-19 vaccine to officially mark the turn to an exciting new chapter in our efforts to combat the coronavirus.

Over the past 5 weeks, I'm happy to share that each of Asbury's eight communities, in line with the priority groups set by the CDC and state and local health departments, have had at least the first dose of the vaccine administered, and some have now had both doses. All told, as of today 1,283 residents and 859 associates have received at least one dose. By the first week of February, we expect that we will have vaccinated another 900 residents or more with their first dose as well.

Our important work continues so that we can help facilitate getting the vaccine to as many individuals as possible in our organization. Our immediate and long-range objective is to facilitate the vaccination of every resident and associate on every Asbury campus. Coordinating multiple clinics across three states and eight communities has required robust communication and partnerships both internally with our leadership teams as well as with our external partners like CVS and others. While supplies of vaccines have been distributed on a limited basis, Asbury continues to pursue every avenue possible to bridge any gaps in availability. We're exhaustive in our efforts to partner with outside agencies to get the vaccine to our locations and to provide awareness on how to receive it off-site

if that opportunity is presented.

In early December, we established a COVID-19 Vaccine Workgroup, which includes associate team leads from each community and our Asbury Communities Clinical Team. It's been an honor to lead this team and to work alongside so many great minds as we have established best practices to plan and successfully launch highly efficient and successful vaccine events. We are currently on the trajectory to complete nearly 80 clinic events by the end of March. Our success would not be what it is without associates from across each community participating in this effort, from creating awareness to handling sign-ups and consent forms to simply being available to lend a helping hand during a community vaccine event, it's been all hands-on deck and it's inspiring to see!

All early indicators of the vaccine's effectiveness in preventing COVID-19 appear very promising however, we must not lessen our vigilance around all the transmission-based precautions. This means we will continue to focus on excellent hand hygiene, wearing a mask and practicing appropriate physical distancing as we have been. COVID-19 positivity rates, while they vary from state to state, are a concern as they remain consistently high across the country. Please remember that the community screening process remains in effect, visitation opportunities are tied to local or state health departments and that we must be patient with the different phases of any community reopenings. We must keep in mind that while those who live and work at Asbury's communities are in the early priority groups for the vaccine, much of the general public is not.

Here are a few more important items I want to share:

- Currently, we have been offering two vaccines approved for Emergency Use Authorization (EUA) by the FDA.
- Both are offered in two doses. It is critical that you schedule your second dose for the vaccine to work effectively.

- Pfizer vaccine is given 21 days apart
- Moderna vaccine is given 28 days apart
- If for any reason you miss the date of your second dose reach out to your community leader for additional information as some second doses may be given later than originally thought. The preferred dosing is to follow the precise 21 or 28 days between doses as best practice.
  
- **Once you receive your second dose, you still may carry or transmit the coronavirus.** It's important to note that these vaccines may take several weeks to begin to trigger the building of immunization. It could take a few weeks or more for your immune system to learn from vaccines and to be able to protect you. You may still develop COVID-19 illnesses in the time immediately following either of the two shots.
  
- **Also keep in mind that while the vaccine protects against becoming symptomatic with COVID-19, there is still the chance you could transmit the virus to others even after you've been vaccinated.** This means you shouldn't stop wearing masks, physically distancing, or washing your hands!
  
- We want you to be informed about the vaccine, how it will help in our overall fight to keep our community safe, and what you can expect. [Please click here to view a webpage](#) with detailed information, including Frequently Asked Questions.

Just like we've done since the pandemic first hit 11 months ago, we must continue to pull together. We are closer now than ever to getting through this challenge. Every action we take matters – from getting the vaccine to following health and safety protocols – and I know that we can count on each other ... we are #AsburyStrong!

Sincerely,



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Vice President of Clinical Excellence



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