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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Over 212,000 COVID-19 Vaccine Doses Have Been Administered to DuPage County Residents

DuPage County— As of today, over 212,635 doses of the COVID-19 vaccine have been administered to DuPage County residents and 147,031 residents have received at least one dose of vaccine. Of those vaccinated, 65,604 people, or 7.06 percent, have received second doses and are fully vaccinated. This represents the administration of 48,304 doses of vaccine in the past week to DuPage County residents.

The network of vaccination provider sites in DuPage County, including the DCHD Community Vaccination Clinic, currently has the capacity to administer more than 50,000 doses each week once vaccine supply allows. However, DuPage County only received 8,500 first doses this week. From this allocation, 1,300 doses were distributed to medical practices, 800 doses were distributed to Federally Qualified Health Centers, 4,500 doses were distributed to hospitals, 1,000 doses were distributed to pharmacies, 500 doses were distributed to commercial vaccination providers, 100 doses were distributed to urgent care providers, and 300 doses are supplying the DCHD Community Vaccination Clinic. Additional county-specific vaccine data, including first dose allocations by week and allocations by provider type, are available on the COVID-19 Dashboard at www.dupagehealth.org/covid19data.

Notably, the U.S. Food & Drug Administration (FDA) issued an [Emergency Use Authorization](#) (EUA) for the Janssen vaccine on Saturday, February 27, making it the third COVID-19 vaccine to receive an EUA from the FDA. In clinical trials, all three vaccines were highly efficacious in preventing severe COVID-19 illness, hospitalization, and death. Once Janssen doses are shipped to DuPage County, this vaccine will be distributed to various providers.

“We are thrilled to now have a third safe and effective vaccine available to us in our COVID-19 response toolkit. Each of the vaccines (Pfizer, Moderna and Janssen) can save lives and protect against COVID-19, so we urge

Established in 1945, DuPage County Health Department promotes physical and emotional health; prevents illness injury and disability; protects health from environmental risk factors, and strives to assure the provision of accessible, quality service.

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eligible residents to take advantage of the first available vaccine appointment,” said Karen Ayala, Executive Director of DuPage County Health Department. “While we work to get more people vaccinated, we’re also concerned about an uptick this week in our case activity, so we must all continue following the 3 Ws by wearing a mask, watching our distance, and washing our hands. These public health measures are especially important as new variants of COVID-19 have been identified throughout the country, including here in Illinois and DuPage County.”

Beginning tomorrow, seniors ages 65 and older will be able to schedule an appointment at the United Center mass vaccination site for the COVID-19 vaccine. You do not need to live in Chicago to make an appointment at this site. The United Center site will be offering over 100,000 vaccine appointments. To register for an appointment, please visit www.zocdoc.com/vaccine or call the multilingual hotline (312) 746-4835 from 8 a.m. to 8 p.m. Monday through Saturday and 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. on Sunday. Anyone with family members or neighbors who are seniors are encouraged to help them sign-up or share the phone number for them to call to schedule their appointment.

This week, the DuPage County COVID-19 Health Equity and Access Response Team (HEART) is surveying DuPage County residents to gain a better understanding of questions and concerns that people have about COVID-19 vaccination. While the demand for vaccine far exceeds the supply available, HEART is listening carefully to the concerns expressed by community residents that may be reluctant to sign up for vaccination or may be having a difficult time with current distribution strategies. The survey is available in the seven languages most spoken in DuPage County with a desire to reach as many communities as possible, particularly those disproportionately impacted by COVID-19. The survey will remain open through Mar. 7 and is available at www.surveymonkey.com/r/COVID19VaccineDuPage.

Anyone eligible for COVID-19 vaccination in Phase 1a or 1b and lives or works in DuPage County should register on DCHD’s website to be notified of upcoming appointments at www.dupagehealth.org/covid19vaccine, or call (630) 682-7400 if assistance is needed with registration (i.e., no internet or computer access, language assistance, or have questions). People previously registered to receive the vaccine through DCHD will notice an update to our registration system in the next 24 hours as DCHD ensures we have the most current information from everyone who is registered. The upgrade offers an opportunity to confirm interest in the vaccine, update current contact information, or opt-out from the registration list if they have already been vaccinated. Individuals are also encouraged to contact their primary care doctor or local retail pharmacy for vaccine and appointment availability and explore additional opportunities through other vaccine providers in the area. For a list of available locations compiled by the Illinois Department of Public Health (IDPH), visit <https://coronavirus.illinois.gov/s/vaccination-location>.

Until vaccine supply increases, DuPage County will not be expanding to the Phase 1b Plus group that includes individuals ages 16–64 years with co-morbidities and underlying conditions, as well as individuals with disabilities. The County will expand when vaccine

supply significantly increases, demand in the current group declines, or a significant proportion of the current group is vaccinated. Based on national reports and trends shared from IDPH, DCHD expects the vaccine supply will increase over the next few weeks, and additional new first dose appointments will become more accessible later this month.

As residents wait for vaccine to be available to them, the Health Department urges everyone to do their part in preventing the spread of COVID-19 including the new variants by wearing face masks, physical distancing, avoiding in-person gatherings, washing their hands, and isolating or quarantining when necessary. Everyone, including those who have been vaccinated, should continue using these measures to help end this pandemic as we learn more about how COVID-19 vaccines work in real-world conditions.

Additional COVID-19 vaccine information about County efforts, frequently asked questions, vaccination data, and more is available at www.dupagehealth.org/covid19vaccine.

For general questions about COVID-19 and Illinois' response and guidance, call 1-800-889-3931 or email DPH.SICK@ILLINOIS.GOV.

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