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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Health Department Receives Bringing Care to the Community Mobile Clinic Van

DuPage County—DuPage County Health Department (DCHD) today announced the arrival of their Bringing Care to the Community Mobile Clinic van, which will provide a wide range of health care services, including COVID-19 vaccinations to vulnerable communities. The mobile clinic is DCHD’s latest strategy to expand access to quality health care opportunities to at-risk populations throughout DuPage County.

“Our Bringing Care to the Community mobile clinic van is the latest example of our commitment to getting resources to the communities we serve in innovative and practical ways that meet the evolving needs of residents,” said Karen Ayala, Executive Director of DuPage County Health Department. “As we continue making progress in vaccinating eligible residents against COVID-19, we also have the opportunity to utilize this mobile clinic to take COVID-19 vaccines into some of the most impacted communities and provide them with protection against this deadly virus.”

The new mobile clinic will offer a targeted “on the ground” approach to providing family and adult health services, health screenings, education, and outreach to at-risk and vulnerable community members. Services will include STD testing and education, HIV testing and education, Women, Infants, and Children (WIC) Supplemental Nutrition services, childhood immunizations, health insurance eligibility and enrollment, as well as COVID-19 vaccinations. Any DuPage County municipalities or community-based organizations interested in requesting an on-site mobile vaccination clinic for their community should complete this form or visit www.dupagehealth.org/covid19vaccinemobile.

The customized mobile clinic includes a treatment room equipped with clinical supplies and equipment found in a typical doctor’s office, including:

- A full patient exam table that can accommodate adults and adolescents. Refrigeration and freezer space for storage of vaccines, including the COVID-19 vaccine.

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• Technology and connectivity required to securely record data and support health visits.
• Pediatric and adult weight scales.
• Privacy curtains and window tinting to protect client privacy.
• Prominent custom graphics that show area residents Bringing Care to the Community resources are available.

The unit will be staffed by a combination of nurses, community health workers, and other team members, including advanced practice providers such as nurse practitioners. The composition of the staff on board will be customized each day to support the services that will be provided.

“Beyond the impact of COVID-19 within vulnerable populations, we saw alarming trends of people deferring care for health issues, and it was clear we needed to take a targeted outreach approach to meet the community’s health and social service needs,” said Andrea Gargani, DuPage County Health Department Director of Public Health Services.

The Bringing Care to the Community mobile clinic is an extension of ongoing population health efforts in DuPage County to address unmet needs in neighborhoods where residents often face multiple barriers to health care. Funding for this effort were provided through existing DuPage County Health Department resources, with the approval of the DuPage County Board of Health.

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