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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

More than 74 Percent of DuPage County Adults Have Received at Least One COVID-19 Vaccine Dose

DuPage County—With more than 74 percent of DuPage County adults over 18 years old vaccinated with at least one COVID-19 vaccine dose, DuPage County is pleased to join the state in reaching President Biden’s vaccination goal before the July 4 target date. Still, the DuPage County Health Department urges residents who have not been vaccinated against COVID-19 to get vaccinated at the earliest opportunity as new and more transmissible variants spread throughout the country.

Based on data from the Illinois Department of Public Health, more than 55 percent, or 512,496, of all DuPage County residents have been fully vaccinated against COVID-19 as of June 23. Of the DuPage County residents 12 years and older who are currently eligible to be vaccinated, 72 percent have received at least one COVID-19 vaccine dose, and 65 percent have been fully vaccinated. Additionally, 91 percent of DuPage County residents ages 65 years and older have received at least one COVID-19 vaccine dose, and 89 percent are fully vaccinated. In the past week, more than 15,000 vaccine doses were administered into the arms of DuPage County residents for a total of 1,053,772 doses administered to date.

“While we have made great progress, with more than 72 percent of our eligible county residents having received at least one vaccine dose, we continue to strongly encourage eligible adults and adolescents to get vaccinated as soon as possible against this deadly virus,” said Karen Ayala, Executive Director of DuPage County Health Department. “If you are eligible, but not yet vaccinated, please visit your nearest vaccine clinic and get vaccinated against COVID-19 or talk to your doctor about any questions or concerns you may have. This is Our Shot to end this pandemic, but we need everyone to do their part.”

Parents of school-aged children 12 years and older are encouraged to get their children fully vaccinated against COVID-19 before the beginning of the new school year. For students to be fully vaccinated before the school year begins, they have until July 4 to get their first vaccine dose. Students who are fully

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vaccinated by the beginning of the school year will not be required to quarantine if exposed to someone with COVID-19, leading to fewer disruptions to their ability to attend school, participate in sports, or spend time with their friends. With more than 250 vaccination sites in DuPage County, there are many options and opportunities to get vaccinated. To find a COVID-19 vaccine provider near you, visit www.vaccines.gov, text your ZIP code to 438829 (GETVAX), or call 1-800-232-0233.

Additionally, through the State’s “All In for the Win” promotion, Illinois residents who have been vaccinated against COVID-19 will automatically be entered for a chance to win one of several lotteries or scholarships. To be entered in every draw and have the most chances to win a cash prize, including the first million-dollar top prize on July 8, residents are encouraged to get vaccinated before July 1.

The DuPage COVID-19 Community Vaccination Clinic at the DuPage County Fairgrounds in Wheaton continues to welcome walk-ins during operating hours, Thursday through Saturday. Everyone 12 years and older is welcome, but youth aged 12 to 17 years old must be accompanied by a parent or legal guardian. Visitors are encouraged to save time by pre-registering. To view the clinic hours or learn more, visit www.dupagehealth.org/covid19vaccineclinic.

This week, COVID-19 community transmission in DuPage County decreased to a “low” level as case numbers, percent positivity, and deaths related to COVID-19 continue to decline. However, individuals who are not fully vaccinated against COVID-19 are now at greater risk of contracting the more transmissible variants, some of which are more likely to lead to severe outcomes. As the more dangerous Delta variant is rapidly spreading in the United States and Illinois, there is an increasing urgency for people to get vaccinated against COVID-19 to help protect themselves and others.

Importantly, in DuPage County, more than 99 percent of COVID-19 cases, hospitalizations, and deaths reported since December 15, 2020 have occurred in residents who were not fully vaccinated against COVID-19. These findings confirm getting fully vaccinated provides the best protection from this deadly virus.

DCHD reminds residents who are not fully vaccinated or who are immunocompromised to continue practicing preventive measures to stay safe. In addition, to help interrupt community spread, persons with COVID-19 infection need to self-isolate (e.g., stay home except for medical care) and their close contacts need to self-quarantine unless they have been fully vaccinated against COVID-19 or have had COVID-19 infection within three months of exposure. Updated recommendations on masking based on vaccination status

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DCHD continues to support mobile vaccination efforts that take COVID-19 vaccines into neighborhoods to reach people who may have limited ability or time to get to a vaccination site. DuPage County municipalities, businesses, and community-based organizations interested in requesting an on-site mobile vaccination clinic for their community should complete this DCHD form or learn more at www.dupagehealth.org/covid19vaccinemobile. DuPage County residents who are homebound or who cannot safely leave their residence to visit a vaccination clinic are eligible to be vaccinated through our homebound vaccination program and should register at www.dupagehealth.org/covid19vaccineregistration, or call (630) 682-7400 for assistance.

Additional COVID-19 vaccine information about local 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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