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Dec. 21, 2020

To: ODDS Stakeholders (Case Management Entities: please share widely, including with providers. Providers are notified based on emails entered into eXPRS)

From: Lilia Teninty, Director, Office of Developmental Disabilities Services

Subject: Phase 1 COVID-19 Vaccine

The Governor's office and Oregon Health Authority (OHA) recently released the [Phase 1a Distribution and Sequencing Plan](#) for the COVID-19 vaccine.

The arrival of vaccine in Oregon marks the turning of a corner, as we are all hopeful to stop the spread of COVID-19. Because the vaccine is in short supply, Oregon has taken a phased approach to distribution. Group 1a is the first to receive the vaccine in Oregon and includes hospital workers, long term care facilities, small congregate settings and other people at high-risk of adverse outcomes from COVID-19.

People with intellectual and developmental disabilities (I/DD) and their providers are included in Phase 1a. Within Phase 1a, there are four groups. People with I/DD who live in congregate care settings (group homes and foster homes) and workers in those settings are in the second group in Phase 1a. Other people with I/DD, as well as parents/guardians of medically fragile children and support workers for in-home settings (including Personal Support Workers) are in the third group of Phase 1a. Note that the current COVID-19 vaccines have not been approved for children.

However, Oregon has not received enough vaccine to administer to all potential recipients of Phase 1a. OHA is developing plans as more vaccine

arrives over the coming months. Hospital workers, skilled nursing and memory care facilities are the first to receive the vaccine in Oregon.

Vaccination gives us hope that the pandemic will end, but in the meantime, we need to continue safety measures to keep the virus from spreading: wear a mask, physically distance from others, wash your hands, avoid gatherings and stay home when you're sick.

We do not yet know a date when people with I/DD, their families and providers will receive the vaccine. ODDS will keep stakeholders, case management entities and providers informed as we learn more regarding vaccine distribution and timelines.

OHA's general COVID-19 vaccine web page (subscribe for updates) is: <https://covidvaccine.oregon.gov/> and the provider-specific vaccine web page is: <https://www.oregon.gov/oha/PH/PREVENTIONWELLNESS/VACCINESIMMUNIZATION/IMMUNIZATIONPROVIDERRESOURCES/Pages/COVIDvaccine.aspx>

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Lilia". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a large loop at the beginning.

Lilia Teninty
Director
Office of Developmental Disabilities Services

Previous Director's Messages are available at
<http://www.oregon.gov/DHS/SENIORS-DISABILITIES/DD/Pages/messages.aspx>

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