

Dear Friends in Christ,

As we continue to work towards the health and safety of our nation, not only is it morally permissible for people of faith to receive the vaccine, but it is also at the urging of Bishop Olson. He has asked us to reach out to you to see if you will be willing to open up your parish to be a COVID-19 vaccination site. With language barriers, confusion in the media, and general lack of knowledge or accessibility, we believe the parishes have a unique and trusted opportunity to offer this service to our communities.

Catholic Charities has established relationships with health officials willing to provide this service to parishes free of charge for persons age 12 and older. In order to minimize barriers for vulnerable populations to access vaccines, providers are not requiring registration (walk-ins allowed), and are minimizing identification requirements. In addition, vaccine providers will offer end-to-end management of the event logistics, making it as easy as possible.

In order to host a vaccination site, a parish just needs to be able to provide:

1. Preferred Point(s) of Contact at the Parish to communicate with the vaccine provider
2. Facilities: This could be an indoor space (preferable) or outdoor space/parking lot.
3. Schedule: Days/times that the facilities will be available (weekends welcome)
4. Sharing the message: Vaccine providers will help provide/share marketing materials.

Once you have determined that your parish can serve as a vaccination site, we encourage you to communicate vaccination information with your parishioners so that they will consider the benefits of getting vaccinated.

#### [Key Things to Know About COVID-19 Vaccines:](#)

- **COVID-19 vaccines are safe and effective at preventing COVID-19 disease, especially severe illness and death.**
- **COVID-19 vaccines reduce the risk of people spreading the virus that causes COVID-19.**
- **You may have side effects after vaccination. These are normal and should go away in a few days.**
- **It typically takes 2 weeks after vaccination for the body to build protection (immunity) against the virus that causes COVID-19. You are not fully vaccinated until 2 weeks after the second dose of a 2-dose vaccine or 2 weeks after a single-dose vaccine.**
- **After you are fully vaccinated, you can resume activities that you did before the pandemic.**

Parishes wishing to host a vaccination event may contact Kasey Whitley, Director of Parish Social Ministry at [kwhitley@ccdofw.org](mailto:kwhitley@ccdofw.org) or 817.289.3889 for more information or to initiate planning.

Respectfully, Yours in Christ,



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