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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Taney County Health Department Announces COVID-19 Vaccination Plan January 14, 2021

The Taney County Health Department (TCHD) is notifying the public of an expansion in the qualifying categories for COVID-19 vaccination. This expansion follows Governor Parson's announcement today that local public health agencies may begin vaccinating these additional groups in the order outlined below. Vaccinations of individuals in these groups will occur as soon as TCHD receives vaccine. TCHD is expecting to receive its first doses of the vaccine next week.

Effective immediately, non-patient facing public health infrastructure, first responders, emergency management and public works, and emergency services sector are eligible for vaccination. This category includes all employees working in law enforcement, fire and rescue services, emergency medical services, emergency management, and public works.

High-risk individuals in the following categories become eligible beginning Monday, January 18th:

Anyone aged 65 and older

Adults with the following conditions:

- Cancer
- Chronic Kidney Disease
- COPD (Chronic Obstructive Pulmonary Disease)
- Intellectual and/or developmental disabilities such as Down syndrome
- Heart Conditions such as heart failure, CAD (coronary artery disease) or cardiomyopathies
- Immunocompromised state from solid organ transplant
- Severe Obesity (BMI >40kg/m²)
- Pregnancy
- Sickle Cell Disease
- Type 2 Diabetes Mellitus

Individuals interested in receiving the vaccine can submit their information on the TCHD website at www.taneycohealth.org. The link is also available on TCHD's Facebook page. After completing the form, individuals will be contacted for further information and to schedule an appointment.

TCHD is currently expecting to receive the Pfizer vaccine, which requires two doses, 21-days apart. Pfizer's published data states that the vaccine reaches 95% immunity seven-days after the second dose is administered.

"We are excited to bring this vaccine to our residents," states Lisa Marshall, Director of the Taney County Health Department. "Something of this magnitude has never been done before, and we continue to ask for your patience and understanding."

For more information contact the Taney County Health Department at 417-334-4544, visit our website at www.taneycohealth.org, or like our FaceBook, Instagram and Pinterest pages.

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The Taney County Health Department envisions a community of healthy people. Every day, we work to achieve this vision through leadership, collaboration, education and service. We value integrity, learning, teamwork, positive communication, quality improvement and dedicated service. Please visit our website <http://www.taneycohealth.org> to learn more about our services.