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NEWS RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE January 28, 2021

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COVID-19 Vaccination Plan for People 65 Years of Age and Older

(Eastern Idaho) – The COVID-19 vaccine rollout for Priority Group 2.2, adults age 65 and older, is finally here with vaccinations starting in our health district on Monday, February 1. We want people to understand this priority group (approximately 30,000 in our health district) is very large and we anticipate a large percentage of these individuals will want to be vaccinated. Therefore, with limited vaccine available (approximately 2100 doses/week for the 8-county region), many people in this priority group will not have access to the vaccine for weeks. We anticipate continuing to receive weekly shipments of vaccine, distributing it to the 40 healthcare partners in the health district, and administering it to this priority group throughout the month of February. If more vaccine is allocated to our health district, more appointments will become available. We request continual patience and understanding as we undertake this monumental task of administering the COVID-19 vaccine to adults 65 and older in our health district, which includes the following counties: Bonneville, Clark, Custer, Fremont, Jefferson, Lemhi, Madison, and Teton.

If you are 65 years of age and older and would like to receive the COVID-19 vaccine, please go to our website (<u>www.EIPH.Idaho.gov</u>) on **Saturday, January 30 at 9:00 a.m.** to see what appointment options are available in your county of residence, including options though public health, pharmacies, and private providers.

If you do not have access to the internet, you can call our offices (numbers below), starting **Saturday, January 30 at 9:00 a.m.,** to schedule an appointment for an Eastern Idaho Public Health (EIPH) clinic in your county of residence. The phone lines will be closed once all appointments are filled.

- Bonneville, Clark, Fremont, Jefferson, Madison, and Teton: 208-533-3235
- Custer County: 208-879-2504

If you live in Teton County, in addition to vaccine appointments offered through EIPH, there will be a community-based vaccination clinic each week for the foreseeable future sponsored by Broulims Pharmacy, Corner Drug, Teton County, and Teton Valley Health. For more information on these clinics, please go to <u>https://coronavirus-response-tetonidaho.hub.arcgis.com/</u>.

If you live in Lemhi County, there will be a different process in place for scheduling vaccine appointments. Please go to our website for more information: <u>www.EIPH.Idaho.gov</u>.

Due to COVID safety precautions, vaccine appointments are required. We will not be accepting any walk-in appointments. When you come to your vaccine appointment, please bring identification documenting your age or employment status. We are asking for this to avoid people who are not yet eligible for the vaccine attempting to receive a dose before their priority group has been opened. Also, please wear a shirt that makes your upper arm accessible as this is the injection site for the vaccine. In addition, please wear a mask to protect yourself and the clinic staff. Lastly, we ask everyone to make every effort to keep their scheduled vaccine appointment and if not able to do so, please contact us to cancel. This will ensure timely distribution of the vaccine and will reduce that chance of wasted doses.

We receive shipments of both the Pfizer and Moderna vaccine and EIPH is using both vaccines in our health district. The vaccine being used at each clinic is pre-determined and individuals are not able to request one over another.

More information on the COVID-19 vaccine:

Moderna COVID-19 Vaccine

Pfizer COVID-19 Vaccine

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