

Hunterdon Vaccination Clinic Ready For Daily Operation Once State Supplies More Vaccine

Hunterdon County's Health Department is prepared to operate the County's vaccination clinic on a daily basis for residents, once there is a guarantee of greater vaccine quantities from the state, County Commissioner Shaun C. Van Doren reported at the January 19th Board meeting.

Van Doren, the Board's Health Department liaison, reported, "While vaccine quantities are limited at this time, the County's Health Department is fully prepared to operate the vaccination clinic on a daily basis, at the Route 12 complex drive through clinic, when an increased level vaccine is provided."

Health Department Director Karen DeMarco has announced, "The state has authorized the following groups as eligible for vaccination; Community Healthcare Workers; First Responders; Individuals aged 65 and above; and Individuals aged 18-64 with specific chronic conditions.

The County Health Department can only allow vaccination appointments for the quantity of vaccine on hand or that has been authorized for delivery by the state. We encourage residents to check the County website, co.hunterdon.nj.us and social media often for updates on available vaccination appointments."

Hunterdon County's Health Department is receiving the Moderna vaccine which requires two vaccinations about one month apart, for those 18 years of age and older, according to DeMarco.

Van Doren pointed out, "On January 13th the Governor announced the expansion of those eligible to individuals 65 and over and those who are younger with certain chronic conditions. According to reports that is over 4 million people in the state. At the same time the media reports the state was only receiving 100,000 doses per week from the federal government."

The Commissioner noted that vaccination operations at ShopRite, CVS, and medical providers are facing the same limit on vaccine doses right now.

Commissioner Van Doren also reported, "We are concerned about those older residents who may not be able to access the drive thru clinic. The County's Health

and Human Services Departments are working together to devise a program to assist those seniors in gaining vaccinations, when the quantities increase. More information on that plan will be communicated through the County's Senior Citizen Services Division."