



Department of Health

ANDREW M. CUOMO
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Commissioner

LISA J. PINO, M.A., J.D.
Executive Deputy Commissioner

December 21, 2020

John Kowalczyk
President
The Arc New York
29 British American Boulevard, Second Floor
Latham, New York 12110

Dear Dr. Kowalczyk:

Thank you for your recent correspondence regarding New York State's (NYS) COVID-19 vaccine planning, in which you provided recommendations regarding New York State's plan for COVID-19 vaccine distribution. Thank you for sharing your comments and concerns with us.

Governor Andrew M. Cuomo has stated his commitment to an equitable distribution vaccine program that prioritizes recipients based on science, clinical expertise, and protecting the public health. The draft New York State COVID-19 Vaccination Administration Program plan is available at: https://www.governor.ny.gov/sites/governor.ny.gov/files/atoms/files/NYS_COVID_Vaccination_Program_Book_10.16.20_FINAL.pdf, and was developed in consultation with leading clinical and public health experts. This plan was designed to be flexible and account for multiple variables and scenarios regarding vaccine availability, timeline for vaccine approval, delineation of federal and state responsibilities, funding, supply chain needs, and allocation requirements. You can find updates regarding the State's vaccine distribution efforts at: <https://forward.ny.gov/covid-19-vaccine-distribution>.

Thank you for your partnership in this challenging effort. Should you have additional concerns, please contact Covid19Vaccine@health.ny.gov.

Sincerely,

Adrienne Mazeau
Deputy Director
Office of Public Health