COUNTY OF SAN LUIS OBISPO
Wade Horton *County Administrative Officer*

COVID-19 Key Messages & Talking Points

02/17/2021 5:00 p.m.

More COVID-19 vaccine first-dose appointments for next week will be available tomorrow; second dose appointments for next week are available online now.

- SLO County residents age 65 and older are now eligible to get a vaccine, but vaccines are limited due to supply shortages. Please bear with us as we wait for larger shipments.
- Next week at our COVID-19 Vaccine Clinic in San Luis Obispo, the County plans to administer 1,000 doses per day, Monday through Friday. This is the only clinic that will be offering first dose appointments.
- Next week, our COVID-19 Vaccine Clinic in Arroyo Grande will administer more than 600 second doses per day Monday through Wednesday.
- Next week, our COVID-19 Vaccine Clinic in Paso Robles will administer more than 600 second doses per day Tuesday through Thursday.

Vaccine will continue to arrive week after week, and you will not be left behind.

- We continue to receive more shipments every week and make appointments available based on our available supply.
- We've been able to vaccinate almost 15% of our county's population in the past 8 weeks, with almost 23,000 people vaccinated by Public Health as of last week (and a total of 44,500 doses provided countywide if we include the work done by our vaccine partners).
- We are able to provide second doses to everyone who needs one within 6 weeks of receiving their first dose, per CDC guidelines. We will notify you by email or text when it is time to schedule your appointment for your second dose.

The State has issued a projected date to begin vaccinating those age 16-64 with underlying conditions, but this will depend on vaccine supply.

- On Friday, Dr. Mark Ghaly announced a projection that by March 15, those ages 16-64 with certain health conditions and disabilities will be eligible to receive vaccine.
- We share concern for this group and will work with the State in the hopes of making this possible, but ultimately this move will be based on vaccine supply.

While SLO County will not move forward to the Red Tier in the State's Blueprint for a Safer Economy this week, our COVID-19 case rate continues to decline.

- While both our adjusted case rate and countywide test positivity rate improved, our health equity metric unfortunately increased from 4.8% to 5.9%, making us unable to qualify for the Red Tier. We will remain in the Purple Tier for at least another two weeks.
- We continue to work hard to improve test positivity across SLO County and among more vulnerable communities here, but we need everyone's help to slow the spread of this disease in order to move to the Red Tier.