

## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

**RE:** Free COVID vaccine clinic scheduled for Cuthbert  
**DATE:** April 2, 2021  
**CONTACT:** Bobby Jenkins, Chairperson Randolph County Democratic Committee, [bjenkins512@windstream.net](mailto:bjenkins512@windstream.net)  
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<https://randolphcodems.com>

### Free COVID Moderna shots come to Cuthbert

Randolph County's "Neighbor 2 Neighbor" vaccination registration program is facilitating a COVID vaccination clinic that will provide up to 600 first doses of the Moderna vaccine on April 10 with 600 second doses to follow on May 8. These doses are being provided by Clay County Medical Center's Dr. Karen Kinsell who is coming to Cuthbert to administer the vaccinations. Using the latest CDC criteria for the Moderna vaccine, these vaccinations are available to all residents 18 years old or older. Pre-registration is required.

**Who:** 18 years old and older

**When:** April 10, 10:00 AM – 1:00 PM and May 8, 10:00 AM – 1:00 PM

**Where:** JB Smith School campus, 90 School Drive, Cuthbert

**What:** Moderna vaccine, first and second doses

**Registration:** Call Bobby Jenkins, (229) 732-1044, or Carolyn Baker (229) 308-7064.

The Neighbor 2 Neighbor program has been assisting residents of Randolph County to register for vaccination appointments with the GA Department of Public Health for several weeks. Neighbor 2 Neighbor was instituted by the Randolph County Democratic Committee (Bobby Jenkins, Chair) in February to enlist their resources for the effort, as Randolph County is one of the counties hardest hit by COVID in the entire country. (<https://www.georgiahealthnews.com/2020/10/race-covid-stark-disparities-rural-georgia/>).

The Democratic Committee has recruited, trained, supervised and paid door-to-door canvassers from their own funds as well as providing the leadership and organization. Neighbor 2 Neighbor's canvassers have been able to contact 563 of the 821 homes they attempted to reach and signed up over 200 residents for vaccinations. Although organized by the Randolph County Democratic Committee, Neighbor 2 Neighbor is nonpartisan and about 30% of residents who have been helped are registered as either Republicans or Independents.

Although the vaccine clinics and Neighbor 2 Neighbor are reaching out to all residents, the Democratic Party connection has been critical to the implementation of the vaccine clinics. Dr. Kinsell said that "People have been so traumatized by the pandemic that they don't trust that they can end it by getting vaccinated as soon as possible. The word needs to get out! There was simply no program in place to respond immediately other than the Neighbor 2 Neighbor program, especially since we have lost three local community

hospitals recently: Calhoun County and Stewart-Webster Hospitals (2013) and SW Georgia Regional Medical Center in Cuthbert (2020).”

The chart below shows that Randolph County has more than three times the death rate of Georgia as a whole. (Source: GA Dept. of Public Health, <https://dph.georgia.gov/covid-19-daily-status-report>)

|                          | As of                          | 4/1/2021   |                 |
|--------------------------|--------------------------------|------------|-----------------|
|                          |                                | TOTAL      | PER 100k PEOPLE |
| <b>Randolph County</b>   | <b>Confirmed deaths</b>        | 32         | 474             |
|                          | <b>Confirmed PCR cases</b>     | 463        | 6,855           |
|                          | <b>Vaccinated - 1 dose</b>     |            |                 |
|                          | <b>Vaccinated - 2 doses</b>    |            |                 |
| <b>Neighbor2Neighbor</b> | <b>Attempts*</b>               | <b>821</b> |                 |
|                          | <b>Canvassed</b>               | <b>563</b> |                 |
|                          | <b>Estimated % scheduled**</b> | <b>35%</b> |                 |
|                          | <b>Estimated scheduled</b>     | <b>198</b> |                 |
| <b>Georgia</b>           | <b>Confirmed deaths</b>        | 16,664     | 154             |
|                          | <b>Confirmed PCR cases</b>     | 853,273    | 7,876           |

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