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FAYETTE VACCINE TASKFORCE MARKS PROGRESS, ANNOUNCES NEW GOALS

Uniontown, PA – The Fayette County COVID-19 Vaccine Taskforce has made significant progress with its homebound vaccination initiative, since launching only weeks ago.

Created with guidance from the Pennsylvania Department of Health and Centers for Diseases Control and Prevention, the new system allows the Fayette County Emergency Management Agency, as well as various EMS partner providers and WVU Medicine Uniontown Hospital, to provide homebound residents with vaccinations.

A homebound resident is defined as someone who is unable to leave their home due to illness.

EMS will travel to residents' locations to administer both first and second doses of secured Moderna vaccine via appointment, vastly expanding the county's successful vaccination program.

Task Force Co-chair Muriel Nuttall said there are already more than 100 residents on the homebound vaccination list, and members are in the process of identifying more.

"We're trying to make our appointment list as comprehensive and complete as possible, before we begin administering any homebound vaccinations," Nuttall said.

Those who are homebound, or caregivers of homebound residents, are encouraged to call the Fayette County Vaccine Scheduling Center at 724-430-3900; or register the individual at www.fayettecountypa.org.

Once on the website, select the yellow COVID-19 tab and "Individual Registration" from the dropdown menu. On the registration form, there is now an option to select if you are homebound.

After providing the entity with all necessary information, the Fayette County COVID-19 Taskforce will then contact you to schedule your appointment.

Additionally, if you are physically able to travel but do not have transportation, you may contact the Fayette Area Coordinated Transportation (FACT) office to arrange for transportation to one of the county task force clinics. Call FACT at 724-628-7433 for more information, as the cost of transportation can be covered in many cases.

Please note that there is no charge for the vaccine.

Earlier this month, Pennsylvania Gov. Tom Wolf announced all Pennsylvania adults would be eligible to schedule appointments to receive the COVID-19 vaccine beginning April 13. The state decision mirrored a federal decision to accelerate the vaccination timetable for citizens in Phases 1B, 1C and 2.

As a result, the Fayette County COVID-19 Vaccine Taskforce has set a new goal of vaccinating all county residents who wish to receive the vaccine by May 31.

The task force's partner providers have updated their clinical schedules to now include after-hours appointments. Additionally, the task force will specifically target the working population and younger people, ages 16 to 18, encouraging them to get vaccinated.

For more information about the Fayette County COVID-19 Vaccine Taskforce, its homebound initiative or latest eligibility expansion details, visit www.fayettecountypa.org.

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