

## **Chaffee County Public Health**

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For immediate release:

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Colorado to Open Up COVID-19 Vaccination Clinics to General Public on Friday, April 2<sup>nd</sup>

Chaffee County, CO- Governor Jared Polis announced today in a press conference that starting on Friday, April 2<sup>nd</sup>, Colorado can move onto Phase 2 of its COVID-19 vaccination distribution which is the general public ages 16 and older. Chaffee County Public Health (CCPH) has available appointments for the general public at this Friday's vaccination clinic at the Chaffee County Fairgrounds, 10165 County Rd 120 in Salida. Register at www.chaffeecounty.rsvpify.com. Pfizer will be the vaccine distributed which is authorized for ages 16 and older. People registering must be able to return for the second dose on Friday, April 23<sup>rd</sup>. The Moderna and Johnson & Johnson vaccines are authorized for ages 18 and older, so it is important to know which vaccine will be given ahead of time. In the upcoming days, the general public in Chaffee County should see additional vaccination clinics and appointments by numerous providers to meet local demand. Large-scale vaccination sites are also scheduled throughout the state, including El Paso and Pueblo Counties.

"If ever there was a time to consider getting fully vaccinated, it's now. While our state and local COVID-19 incidence, hospitalizations, and deaths have plateaued, we are seeing pockets of resurgence in other counties, some of which have moved to a less protective environment prematurely. In addition, we have witnessed plenty of out of county and state visitors take advantage of the ease getting a vaccine is in our county. Our intent is to ensure that everyone aged 16 and older in Chaffee County gets vaccinated as soon as possible, so registering when there are clinics scheduled and appointments available with any local provider is critical. This welcomed announcement is a sign that we are closer to getting our lives back after more than a year of sacrifices. However, the key to this is full vaccination," states Andrea Carlstrom, CCPH Director and local COVID-19 Incident Commander.

In the meantime, it is imperative that we protect our county's investment by continuing to wear a mask, physical distance, and stay home when symptomatic.

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