FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: 01/08/2021 LICKING COUNTY, OHIO –

On Thursday, Governor DeWine announced more details about phase 1B of the state’s COVID-19 Vaccine Distribution Program.

The Licking County Health Department (LCHD) is still currently offering COVID-19 vaccinations to individuals who are eligible in Phase 1A of the state’s COVID-19 Vaccination Program. This includes those working on the frontlines during the pandemic response such as EMS personnel and healthcare workers who care for COVID patients. See who qualifies for the vaccine first in priority group 1A here.

As Licking County completes vaccinating most portions of Phase 1A, Phase 1B of the COVID-19 Vaccination Program will begin.
Governor DeWine announced that beginning the week of Tuesday, January 19, COVID-19 vaccines will be available to those 80+ years old of the general population (not living in assisted living facilities or nursing homes).

There are 420,000 individuals in this age range in Ohio. Governor DeWine reported that Ohio is expected to receive 100,000 doses of vaccine per week. This means not everyone age 80+ will be able to get the vaccine in the first week, but rather this is the date Phase 1B will begin.

**LCHD’s goal is to vaccinate eligible individuals who choose to receive the vaccine as quickly as possible, but the number of vaccines distributed in Licking County will depend on the number of vaccines received by the state.**

Phase 1B planning continues during the week of January 25 when Ohioans age 75+ will be eligible to receive the COVID-19 vaccine. The week of February 1, phase 1B eligibility opens to ages 70+ in Ohio. During the week of February 8, vaccine eligibility opens to age 65+ in Ohio.

Please remember, this will take time. The number of vaccines distributed in Licking County will depend on the number of vaccines received by the state.

Group 1B of the Vaccine Distribution Program is around 2.2 million people in Ohio. When a new age range opens, it doesn’t mean that the previous age group will be completed, it simply means the program continues on as vaccine availability increases.

The Ohio Department of Health (ODH) is actively adding vaccine providers who will be able to give vaccines in addition to the health department. This could include hospitals,
physicians, home health providers, and retail pharmacies. ODH has approximately 1,700 providers registered to distribute vaccines.

Phase 1B also includes individuals with severe congenital, developmental, or early-onset medical disorders that make them particularly vulnerable. This group only includes individuals with the following illnesses; type 1 diabetes; inherited metabolic disorders; severe neurologic disorders including epilepsy; severe genetic disorders including Down Syndrome, Fragile X, Prader Willi Syndrome, Turner Syndrome; severe lung disease including cystic fibrosis and severe asthma; sickle cell anemia; and alpha- and beta-thalassemia. The Governor will announce who is eligible in this group in the next few days and how they will receive the vaccine if they choose beginning the week of January 25.

During the week of February 1, Governor DeWine announced that vaccinations will be available for personnel in Ohio schools.

See more about Ohio's Phased Approach to COVID-19 Vaccination here.

LCHD is currently coordinating a registration system and will notify the public with vaccination clinic details by partnering with our local media, through our website, social media platforms, and email newsletters.
Ohio's Vaccination Program
– A Phased Approach

During Phase 1 vaccine supply will be limited.

Vaccine administration will be focused on reaching critical groups.

PHASE 1A

- Health care workers and personnel, who are routinely involved in the care of COVID-19 patients
- Residents and staff at nursing homes
- Residents and staff at assisted living facilities
- Patients and staff at state psychiatric hospitals
- People with intellectual disabilities and those with mental illness, who live in group homes or centers and staff at those locations
- Residents and staff at our Ohio veterans homes
- EMS responders

All available vaccines will be administered to those who choose to receive it.

Ohio’s Vaccination Program
– A Phased Approach

During Phase 1 vaccine supply will be limited.

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PHASE 1B

GOAL: Save Lives
- Ohioans age 65 and older
- Those living with severe congenital, developmental, or early-onset medical disorders

GOAL: In-Person School by March 1st
- Adults who work in schools

All available vaccines will be administered to those who choose to receive it.
LCHD's Daily COVID-19 Report

Today, there are 169 new COVID-19 cases in the Licking County Health Jurisdiction.

LCHD is reporting 7,923 cumulative confirmed COVID-19 cases in the Licking County Health Jurisdiction. In addition, there are 2,462 cumulative probable cases, 8,856 recovered and closed cases, and 127 COVID-19 deaths. The average age of all COVID-19 deaths in the Licking County Health Jurisdiction is 78 and ranges from 34-102.

There are 1,402 total active cases and 26 current hospitalizations.

View updated daily posts on our [website](#), or by visiting our [Facebook](#) page or [Twitter](#) feed.
“The Licking County Health Department serves more than 170,000 citizens in the Licking County General Health District by preventing disease, protecting the environment and promoting healthy lifestyles with a vision of healthy people living in healthy communities.”