

# COVID-19 UPDATE & VACCINE NEWS

January 10, 2021

Dear Residents of The Mather,

We wanted to inform you that we learned yesterday, January 9, 2021, that **an employee of The Mather Life Centre tested positive for COVID-19 based on routine testing.** The Mather is interviewing this individual to determine if he/she was in close contact with residents and/or employees (meaning within 6 feet of anyone for more than 15 minutes). Individuals who have been in close contact will be notified. We wish the individual a speedy recovery.

Last week, The Mather vaccinated some employees and residents within The Mather Life Centre. It was a great day and a step in stopping the spread of COVID-19.

## **VACCINE DATES FOR INDEPENDENT LIVING RESIDENTS AND EMPLOYEES:**

Great news! **The Mather has finalized clinic dates with Walgreens to provide COVID-19 vaccines to all Independent Living residents and employees.** Please read this information carefully as there are actions items you need to take in order to secure your vaccination.

## **CLINIC DATES: YOU MUST BE AVAILABLE FOR BOTH DATES**

**Clinic 1: Wednesday, January 27**

**Clinic 2: Wednesday, February 17**

The Mather will be receiving the Pfizer vaccine, which is a two-step vaccination. **You must be available for BOTH Clinic 1 and 2 dates. Please plan accordingly.**

## **HOW TO REGISTER: COMPLETE BY FRIDAY, JANUARY 15**

To be eligible for the vaccine, you **MUST** register by completing the Vaccine Administration Record (VAR) and returning it the Concierge no later than Friday, January 15. Once you have returned your VAR, **you will be assigned a time for your vaccine. This assigned appointment time for your vaccine can not be changed.** **Vaccine clinic dates and times are controlled by Walgreens.** We thank you for your patience as we work to vaccinate hundreds of individuals. *Please note, we will keep your private information secure and it will be shared with only those that need to know.*

## **FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS**

**Q: If I don't register, can I get the vaccine?**

**A:** No, Walgreens will only bring enough vaccine for those who have registered in advance.

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**Q: Can my caregiver get vaccinated?**

A: Yes, your caregiver can also be vaccinated, but they must also register by completing and returning a VAR.

**Q: Is the vaccine mandatory?**

A: No, however The Mather, Illinois Department of Public Health (IDPH) and The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) strongly encourage individuals to receive the vaccine to stop the spread of COVID-19.

**Q: What is I am unavailable for the Vaccine Clinic dates held by Walgreens?**

A: If you are unavailable on the Vaccine Clinic dates, the City of Evanston's Health and Human Services Department is encouraging all individuals who live and work in Evanston to complete an online survey to help the City better understand local vaccine demand and support its ongoing vaccination distribution efforts. Individuals who complete the [City's COVID-19 Vaccination Interest Form](#), available at [cityofevanston.org/vaccine](http://cityofevanston.org/vaccine), will receive regular updates on the vaccine process and when and where COVID-19 vaccinations will be available to them. Completing the form will not register individuals to receive a vaccine. For households with more than one person, each individual should complete the form separately.

If you have questions about the vaccine, we encourage you to do some research—including speaking with your primary care physician. It is important to get information from reliable sources such as the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC).

**Social media is full of misinformation and opinions based on that misinformation.**

For an overview of the vaccine's safety, side effects, and more, we recommend a short presentation created by the Society for Post-Acute and Long-Term Care Medicine, found here:

[mather.com/wp-content/uploads/2020/12/AMDA\\_COVID19\\_VACCINE\\_FACTS.pdf](http://mather.com/wp-content/uploads/2020/12/AMDA_COVID19_VACCINE_FACTS.pdf).

Other good resources for information on the vaccines include:

- CDC: [cdc.gov/vaccines/hcp/covid-conversations/answering-questions.html](https://www.cdc.gov/vaccines/hcp/covid-conversations/answering-questions.html)
- CDC: About COVID-19 vaccines: [cdc.gov/vaccines/covid-19/info-by-product/index.html](https://www.cdc.gov/vaccines/covid-19/info-by-product/index.html)
- CDC: Provider Resources for COVID-19 Vaccine Conversations with Patients and Answering Patients' Questions: [cdc.gov/vaccines/hcp/covid-conversations/](https://www.cdc.gov/vaccines/hcp/covid-conversations/)

**The deadline to register for receiving the vaccination is Friday, January 15.**

Sincerely,

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Executive Director

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