

## **COVID-19 VACCINATIONS TO FRONT-LINE HEALTH CARE PERSONNEL CONTINUE**

**January 14, 2020**

The Central Racine County Health Department (CRCHD) this week is assisting in COVID-19 vaccinations of health care personnel, including local EMS and other unaffiliated health care personnel.

As defined by a state advisory group, individuals who provide direct patient service or engage in health care services that place them in contact with patients who may have COVID-19 are part of Phase 1A, and they are currently eligible for vaccine. Long-term care facility residents are also in this phase. On Tuesday, law enforcement were added to the list of those currently eligible for vaccination next week.

Local public health is asking organizations with health care personnel not affiliated with a health care system, hospital, or long-term care facility, to fill out an online survey, which can be found here:  
<https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/RacineCtyPhase1a>.

“With the help of many community partners, we continue to take steps forward in the battle against COVID-19. As we move through Phase 1A, we want to reach as many health care workers as possible to ensure our front-line personnel have access to the vaccine,” said Margaret Gesner, Health Officer for the Central Racine County Health Department. “As soon as we receive information from the state regarding Phase 1B, we will let the public know next steps.”

Gesner cautioned that COVID-19 vaccine may not yet readily available to the general public for several months. It’s important for the public to continue to follow public health guidelines – including maintaining distance, wearing a face covering, and staying home when sick – to slow the transmission of COVID-19.

“Those working on the front lines of this public health emergency are truly heroes, so I am pleased to see our local EMS and other health care personnel receiving the COVID-19 vaccine,” Racine County Executive Jonathan Delagrave said. “As we work together to ramp up vaccine distribution, we must remain patient and continue to follow public health guidelines to protect our communities.”

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