



For immediate release

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Indian Stream Health Center announces COVID-19 vaccine guidance, informational phone line

Colebrook, NH: (January 22, 2021) As part of its ongoing mission to provide high quality health care and services to the community, Indian Stream Health Center is sharing local guidance related to phase 1B of the COVID-19 vaccine roll-out.

“We’re committed to keeping our patients up to date on the latest information relative to the COVID-19 vaccine,” said **Lori Morann**, Practice Manager, Indian Stream Health Center. “While the situation remains fluid, our goal is to arm those we serve with information so they can make the best possible health care decisions for themselves and their families.”

Morann explained that as the State of NH has begun its plan to roll out vaccinations for phase 1B, Indian Stream is working to ensure that once the vaccine arrives, the process is as smooth as possible.

Phase 1B includes everyone over age 65, and certain individuals between the ages of 17-64 with documentation of two underlying health conditions. Qualifying health conditions include: Cancer, Chronic Kidney Disease, COPD (Chronic Obstructive Pulmonary Disease), Down Syndrome, Heart Disease, Immunocompromised state (weakened immune system) from solid organ transplant, Obesity, Pregnancy, Sickle cell disease, and Type 2 Diabetes Mellitus.

According to Morann, the vaccine is also available for caregivers of medically vulnerable children, but not children currently.

Once the vaccines arrive, Indian Stream will work with Upper Connecticut Valley Hospital (UCVH) which is expected to administer them. “UCVH has been an amazing local partner in this effort,” said Morann. “Our clinical team meets regularly with leaders from UCVH to discuss the rollout. Our collective goal is to make the process as seamless as possible.

Morann noted that the requirements for distribution of the vaccine to each community are established by the state, not local health care providers. The complete plan and regular

updates are available at: <https://www.nh.gov/covid19/resources-guidance/vaccination-planning.htm>

“We are doing everything we can to ensure that those who want the vaccine, get it,” Morann said. “That said, we fully recognize that this is a stressful time for many and greatly appreciate everyone’s patience.”

To field questions on the vaccine and who is eligible for the current phase, Indian Stream has established a special informational phone line **(603) 388-2498**. Callers are asked to leave a message, and someone will call them back within 24 hours. While the call alone does not register one for the vaccine, it is a good way to express interest in getting inoculated and get questions answered. The information on the phone line will be updated frequently.

Eligible NH patients wishing to register for the vaccine should visit www.vaccines.nh.gov or call 211 beginning Friday, January 22. Patience is urged as call volumes may be high. Information for Vermont residents can be viewed at <https://www.healthvermont.gov/covid-19>.

Indian Stream will also be updating its website and Facebook regularly on the roll-out. To learn more, please visit www.indianstream.org.

About Indian Stream Health Center

Indian Stream Health Center is a Federally Qualified Health Center (FQHC) serving the health care needs of Coos County, New Hampshire and surrounding areas in Maine and Vermont and we proudly serve patients via clinical locations in Colebrook, NH and Canaan, VT, in local schools and in the community setting.

Our mission is to optimize the health and well-being within the communities we serve, and our vision is to provide high quality healthcare, promote wellness, and reduce barriers to care.

To learn more, please visit www.indianstream.org, find us on Facebook at www.facebook.com/IndianStreamHealthCenter, or follow us on twitter @IndianStreamHC.