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Immediate Release:

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Grand Traverse County Health Department continuing to vaccinate Phase 1A; preparing for Phase 1B

The Grand Traverse County Health Department continues to vaccinate individuals in Phase 1A of the priority group endorsed by Michigan Department of Health and Human Services and Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. So far, we have vaccinated individuals including GTCHD staff, EMS, Medical First Responders, and are currently vaccinating all Healthcare workers.

As we are now on a schedule to receive additional vaccine weekly, and under MDHHS recommendations, we have expanded our effort to all of Phase 1A priority groups. Clinics have already begun for healthcare providers in the Phase 1A priority group and will continue to be on a rolling weekly schedule until completed. Currently, we have identified more than 2,000 individuals that fall into the Phase 1A category in Grand Traverse County. We know there are more healthcare workers who have yet to schedule appointments. If you are a healthcare worker and have not done so, please [fill out this form for your healthcare organization](#).

As planning progresses and resources such as vaccine and staffing become more available, clinics will be expanded. It is important to note that **vaccine clinics are invite-only and are scheduled at specific times. They are not walk-in vaccination clinics.**

PHASE 1A includes:

Paid and unpaid persons serving in healthcare settings who have the potential for direct or indirect exposure to patients or infectious materials and are unable to work from home, as well as residents in long-term care facilities.

The Grand Traverse County Health Department is currently working on planning for Phase 1B vaccination clinics. We will launch a pre-registration process for individuals to schedule their vaccine and will notify those in Phase 1B when it is launched. **Again, vaccine clinics are invite-only and are scheduled at specific times. They are not walk-in vaccination clinics.**

PLEASE NOTE: Pre-registration for Phase 1B has not launched yet. There is no early registration or sign-up. We will notify the public via press release, social media, our website at www.grandtraverse.org/2394, and email updates. We ask for your patience as we prepare for Phase 1B.

PHASE 1B includes:

Persons age 65 and older

- Some frontline essential workers including:
 - Police officers
 - First responders
 - Frontline state and federal workers
 - Jail and prison staff

- Pre-K-12 teachers and childcare providers

“Vaccination is our road to returning to normal. The response by the public interested in receiving the vaccine has been overwhelming. We are so excited that Grand Traverse County is anxious to get in line and we appreciate that. With that being said, we ask for continued patience as we work the complexities involved in the undertaking of planning to vaccinate and protect a county of over 90-thousand residents,” said Health Officer, Wendy Hirschenberger.

Michigan residents seeking more information about the COVID-19 vaccine can visit Michigan.gov/COVIDvaccine. Locally, go to: www.grandtraverse.org/2394. If you have not subscribed to our email updates, you are invited to do so at: <https://lp.constantcontactpages.com/su/74EIKQx>.

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