COVID-19 VACCINE UPDATE

Polk County Office of Emergency Management, Angelina County & Cities Health District, CHI St. Luke’s Health Memorial Hospital, the County’s local health authority, Dr. Raymond Luna, Brookshire Brothers, and local volunteers teamed up yesterday to provide a one-day, no-cost vaccination clinic at the Polk County Commerce Center.

We are implementing our health district’s mass vaccination plan to vaccinate our residents in larger numbers. Nursing homes and assisted living facilities have already been vaccinated by federal pharmacy partners. To date, 1,727 persons in Polk County have received their first dose, 94 have been fully vaccinated, and many residents are in the process of receiving their second dose. We have reached out to the State to request larger future vaccine allocations for the County.

200 COVID-19 first-dose vaccinations were administered at the Commerce Center yesterday to front-line workers, persons in Phase 1B who are over 65, or persons 16 years and older with at least one chronic medical condition that puts them at increased risk for severe illness from the virus.

All area COVID-19 provider partners are coordinating together to plan for future vaccination clinics. Although the Brookshire Brothers waitlist has been temporarily suspended due to vaccine shortages, partner agencies are working together to find solutions that incorporate those on the current list, and we encourage our residents to check back often as we anticipate the waitlist will reopen when additional vaccine is allocated.

The Texas Department of State Health Services (DSHS) has released the instructions below on how persons can register to receive the vaccine in Texas.

**How to sign-up for a COVID-19 vaccine in Texas**

1. Residents able to travel to a nearby county may sign up with a vaccination HUB: [https://bit.ly/3qjZOMP](https://bit.ly/3qjZOMP)

2. To sign up with a Community Provider, use the Texas COVID-19 vaccine provider map: [https://bit.ly/3oDhjHu](https://bit.ly/3oDhjHu). Please be advised that additional community providers in Polk County will be added to the list as they are approved by DSHS. We encourage you to check the provider map often for updates.

Please look for further updates from Emergency Management on our Facebook page ([www.facebook.com/PolkCountyEmergencyManagement](https://www.facebook.com/PolkCountyEmergencyManagement)) or on our website at [www.PolkCountyOEM.com](http://www.PolkCountyOEM.com).