## OFFICE OF THE PRINCE GEORGE'S COUNTY EXECUTIVE ANGELA D. ALSOBROOKS

## PRESS RELEASE

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## PRINCE GEORGE'S COUNTY CONTINUES SETTING RECORD WEEKLY TOTALS FOR COVID-19 VACCINES ADMINISTERED

County Now Accepting Applications for Emergency Rental Assistance Program
Relaunch

**LARGO, MD** – Prince George's County Executive Angela Alsobrooks announced today that the County Health Department is continuing to set record weekly totals for COVID-19 vaccines administered through its various clinics and mobile vaccination units. Despite that, the County Health Department is still not operating its clinics at full capacity due to a lack of supply of vaccines.

"I am extremely proud of our Health Department and Office of Emergency Management, who have helped us significantly ramp up our vaccine administration efforts in the County," said Alsobrooks. "Right now, the truth of the matter is, we can't administer vaccines we don't have. We are prepared to quickly handle and administer additional supply of vaccines if they are provided to us from the State."

Right now, the County Health Department has the capacity to administer 2,000 doses per day but is not receiving enough vaccines to fully utilize that capacity. On Monday, February 22, the County Health Department received 8,400 first doses of vaccines, which included the standard weekly allocation and the previous week's allocation that was delayed due to inclement weather. Those doses were fully utilized by Monday, March 1, within one week. 1,750 of those doses were shared with Luminis Health and MedStar Southern Maryland to help vaccinate County residents.

This week, the County has received 4,800 first doses of vaccine, as well as 1,400 doses of the new Johnson & Johnson vaccine. Those new doses will be utilized by next Monday based on the current appointment schedule, which is not at full capacity for the County's clinics. Last week, the County Health Department set a record of weekly vaccines administered, nearly 8,000 total. The County Health Department is on track to already break that record again this week by the end of the day today, March 4.

The County's vaccine administration efforts now include the use of mobile vaccination units. Last week, the mobile units visited the Cameron Grove Senior Facility, First United Methodist Church of Hyattsville, and CASA to vaccinate 478 pre-registered seniors in three days. This week, the mobile units returned to Cameron Grove Senior Facility and visited a domestic violence shelter, vaccinating 282 residents so far. Today and tomorrow, the mobile units are being sent to vaccinate homebound seniors.

The County will temporarily close the Sports & Learning vaccination clinic from March 13 through March 28, and it will reopen on March 29. The closure is due to scheduled maintenance work that is needed at the facility, and no appointments are being scheduled at this site during the closure.

To make sure the County does not lose vaccination capacity for the Health Department, it will open two new sites. The County will have a soft launch of a vaccine clinic at the Kentland Community Center on March 8, and a soft launch of a clinic at Cedar Heights Community Center on March 15. The County hopes to be able to continue operating these new sites once Sports & Learning reopens for vaccinations.

The County has also begun to utilize a new system for scheduling vaccination appointments and has already scheduled tens of thousands of appointments for individuals in Phases 1A and 1B through this system. Despite that, there are still approximately 118,000 individuals on the County's pre-registration list.

Unfortunately, links that were previously used to make appointments under the State's PrepMod site are still being utilized to make unauthorized appointments. The County again asks that individuals do not make unauthorized appointments through links shared by family and friends, as individuals who do so will likely be turned away at the door due to the limited supply of vaccines.

County Executive Alsobrooks also announced that the County's Department of Housing and Community Development (DHCD) is officially accepting applications for the relaunch of the Emergency Rental Assistance Program, offering relief to landlords on behalf of renters experiencing financial difficulties due to the COVID-19 pandemic.

Landlords of multi-family, single-family, condominium and cooperative rental properties with eligible tenants suffering from financial difficulties or loss of income as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic are eligible to apply if they hold a valid County rental license. Landlords may apply for each tenant's delinquent rental payments beginning on or after April 1, 2020 for up to 12 months of rental payments. If a landlord will not apply, tenants may apply directly to DHCD, but are only eligible for up to 6 months of back rent.

Finally, the County's COVID-19 numbers continue trending in a downward direction. The infection rate has declined, and the seven-day average positivity rate as of February 27 is 4.4%, down from above 7% just a month ago. To continue this significant progress, the County is asking residents to continue to wear a mask, follow social distancing guidelines, and wash their hands frequently.