

LETTER TO FAMILIES

FEBRUARY 22, 2021



Dear DDDS Families,

I wanted to offer a brief update about the vaccine distribution plans since my last letter. You've probably heard that the projected increase in vaccine delivery to Delaware from the federal warehouse has not happened at the rate we were expecting. This has caused the rollout of vaccine distribution to be slower than anticipated. It is happening still, just not at the rate we would like it to.

What does that mean for DDDS service recipients? The start of Phase 1C, where individuals with intellectual and developmental disabilities are eligible, will not start on March 1st as the Division of Public Health was hoping. We do not have a timeline for when Phase 1C will begin, but I am optimistic it will be sometime in March. DDDS' vaccination plans are in place and ready to be activated when the time comes. The missing piece is the actual vaccines to distribute.

As a reminder, there are three primary methods for distribution to DDDS service recipients, based on where they live.

For those who live in a provider-managed setting, there will be Points of Distribution (PODs) in each county, where providers will drive service recipients through to get vaccinated.

For those who live with their families or on their own, vaccinations will be administered in the home, using nurses travelling by Paratransit vehicles. For those who choose not to have in-home administration, they may utilize local pharmacies when in Phase 1C.

As soon as we have more specific details about the availability of vaccine, I will share with you. As I said above, DDDS has plans worked out for the distribution, we're just waiting for the vaccine to be on-hand as the State transitions to Phase 1C.

Thank you for your patience and understanding as we work together to navigate complexities and some things beyond our control. What we can control for, we are.

Be well,



Cory Ellen Nourie, MSS, MLSP

Director of Community Services