






DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH
Dennis R. Schrader, Acting Secretary
DEPARTMENT OF AGING
Rona Kramer, Secretary

MEMORANDUM

To: All Local Agencies on Aging
All Local Health Officers and all COVID-19 Vaccine Providers

From: Rona E. Kramer, Aging Secretary 
Dennis R. Schrader, Health Secretary (Acting) 
Dr. Jinlene Chan, Dep. Secretary for Public Health Services (Acting) 

Subject: Phase 1B: Vaccination of Independent Living Facilities and Communities
not in the Federal Long-Term Care Pharmacy Partnership (Part B)

Date: January 31, 2021

The State of Maryland will focus on vaccinating at least one independent living facility/community that has not been previously placed on the registered list of the Federal Long-Term Care Pharmacy Partnership (Part B) in each local jurisdiction each week. Larger communities may take multiple weeks, dependent on the vaccine allocation.

TO LOCAL AGENCIES ON AGING

Each local Agency on Aging is directed to work with the Maryland Department of Aging to:

1. Identify independent living (IL) communities (65 and older) in their respective local jurisdiction that have not already been identified and placed on the Federal Long-Term Care Pharmacy COVID-19 Vaccine Partnership (Part B) list for Maryland;
2. Identify at least one independent living community per jurisdiction per week, with a priority on congregate care or high-density communities according to the following criteria:
 1. High density independent living facilities with a majority of 75+ Marylanders;
 2. High density independent living facilities with a majority of 65+ Marylanders;

3. Independent living communities that as a majority of their population with 65+ Marylanders; and
 4. Other independent living communities that have significant 65+ populations.
3. Work with the IL community in question, and a local COVID-19 vaccine provider to establish a clinical relationship and the appropriate logistical arrangements for vaccinating that community; and
 4. Provide to the Department of Aging by Monday 2 pm each week with the number of individuals and the provider's information so that the appropriate allocations can be allocated for the subsequent week's vaccine distribution.

Each Agency on Aging, to the extent possible, should coordinate with each local health department on this identification and vaccine provider coordination. However, the vaccine administration does not have to be provided by the local health department; it can be any registered COVID-19 vaccine provider.

The Maryland Department of Aging will provide each jurisdiction's independent living facility/community's information and provider information to the Maryland Department of Health by Tuesday each 2 pm.

TO LOCAL HEALTH DEPARTMENTS

All local health officers are directed to coordinate with their local Agency on Aging to identify and ensure that all independent living communities (55 and older) are identified and prioritized for COVID-19 vaccination administration. We ask each local health department to coordinate with each local agency on aging to prioritize the following in the following manner:

1. High density independent living facilities with a majority of 75+ Marylanders
2. High density independent living facilities with a majority of 65+ Marylanders
3. Independent living communities that as a majority of their population with 65+ Marylanders.
4. Other independent living communities that have significant 65+ populations.

Each independent living community should identify/develop a partnership with a registered COVID-19 vaccination provider.

Note: MDH will continue to work with the Department of Aging and we will provide further updates on this issue in the coming days/weeks.