FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

June 17, 2022

FDA AUTHORIZES USE OF COVID-19 VACCINES FOR AGES 6 MONTHS AND UP

CUMBERLAND, MD – On Friday morning, the Food and Drug Administration (FDA) authorized Moderna and Pfizer COVID-19 vaccines for use in young children. Specifically, the FDA authorized two doses of Moderna for children ages 6 months to 17 years and three doses of Pfizer for children ages 6 months to 4 years. Previously, the Moderna COVID-19 vaccine was authorized for ages 18 and older, while Pfizer was authorized for ages 5 and up.

"As we have seen with older age groups, we expect that the vaccines for younger children will provide protection from the most severe outcomes of COVID-19, such as hospitalization and death," the FDA's commissioner, Dr. Robert Califf, said Friday.

Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) advisers will now meet to consider endorsement of all or part of the FDA recommendations.

Testing, vaccinations, and treatment for COVID-19 are available locally through primary care providers, pharmacies, and other healthcare facilities. The Allegany County Health Department continues to offer COVID-19 vaccinations and testing for the public. Please note that testing will be offered on Monday June 20th at the Allegany County Fairgrounds from 2 to 7 p.m. even though the health department offices will be closed that day for the Juneteenth holiday.

Information on health department COVID testing and vaccination clinics can be found at health.maryland.gov/allegany. More information on additional COVID resources can be found at covidLINK.maryland.gov.

ALLEGANY COUNTY COVID-19 DATA AS OF JUNE 16:
- CDC COVID-19 Community Level: Low
- New COVID Cases This Week: 197 (cumulative total 17,843)
- Additional Deaths This Week: 0 (cumulative total 365)
- Cases Per 100,000 People: 13.59 (Maryland: 23.64)
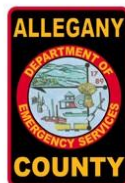- Positivity Rate: 8.01% (Maryland: 8.01%)

NEXT UPDATE: Friday, June 24

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