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COVID-19 VACCINE NOW AVAILABLE TO CHILDREN 6 MONTHS AND OLDER

OSHKOSH, Wis. (June 27, 2022) – On June 21, the Wisconsin Department of Health Services (DHS) announced that children aged 6 months and older are now eligible to be vaccinated against COVID-19. The announcement follows the authorization and recommendation by both the Food and Drug Administration (FDA) and the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) for use of the Pfizer vaccine for children 6 months through 4 years of age and the Moderna vaccine for children 6 months through 5 years of age.

The Pfizer COVID-19 vaccine for children 6 months through 4 years of age requires three total doses. The first two doses of the vaccine are given three weeks apart, followed by a third dose at least two months later. The Moderna COVID-19 vaccine for children 6 months through 5 years of age requires two doses, 28 days apart.

"For many families, the approval of COVID-19 vaccines for children ages 6 months to 4 years is welcome news," stated Dr. Sarah Campbell, Pediatrician, Ascension Medical Group Wisconsin, and President, Wisconsin Chapter of the American Academy of Pediatrics. "Families' work schedules have been altered with recurrent closures and quarantines from daycare, leading to loss time at work and added childcare costs. There also have been concerns that unvaccinated children could spread the virus to a high-risk family member. Although COVID-19 infections have affected children to a lesser degree, many children have been hospitalized and sadly some children have died from it. Vaccinations are a powerful tool to help protect children, families and our communities from severe illness, hospitalization and death. The most effective way we can protect ourselves and each other right now is by getting vaccinated and boosted and encouraging our friends and family to do so as well."

The Winnebago County Health Department (WCHD) will begin offering COVID-19 vaccinations to this newest eligible group this week. If you are looking for a COVID-19 vaccine, consider the following opportunities:

- Tuesdays, 3 to 5 p.m.
 - Fox Crossing Fire Department, 1326 Cold Spring Road, Neenah
- Wednesdays, 3 to 6 p.m.
 - Walk-In Wednesday, Sunnyview Expo Center, 500 E County Road Y, Oshkosh
- **NEW!** Thursdays, June 30 – July 28, 9 a.m. to 6 p.m.
 - Winnebago County Community Clinic
 - Ascension Medical Group Wisconsin - 9th Ave, 2700 W. 9th Ave, Oshkosh, Oakwood Suite 101
 - Open to the entire community in partnership with WCHD, AMI, and Ascension Wisconsin

Find a complete list of local COVID-19 vaccine clinics at www.wcvaccine.org or call 920-232-3026.

"Starting your vaccination series and staying up to date on your vaccines is the best thing you can do to keep yourself and the community around you safe from severe illness due to COVID-19," stated said Doug Gieryn, Winnebago County Health Department director/health officer. "The Winnebago County Health Department also continues to encourage folks to get tested when they have symptoms of COVID-19 or were exposed to the virus. Testing locations can be found at winnebagopublichealth.org."

For questions, please call the Winnebago County Health Department's COVID-19 hotline at 920-232-3026 or visit www.winnebagopublichealth.org.

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