

Recovery Housing and the COVID-19 Vaccine

Date: January 21, 2021

Recovery Homes are included in Phase 1A of distribution for the COVID-19 Vaccine. The following information is to help you as your support your residents and staff in accessing the vaccine.

Be an Advocate

Be an advocate for your staff and your residents. Reach out to your local health departments, do not wait for them to reach out to you.

- Contact your local health department. If you do not hear back, contact them again. Reach out to any potential contacts you may have at the health department
- Be kind. Be Patient. Be Understanding. Health Departments are overwhelmed right now. They do want to give you and your residents the vaccine. Be kind and compassionate in your advocacy.
- Check websites frequently. Appointments for vaccines fill up quickly. If you get a notice from your health department to sign-up respond immediately
- Be prepared to help your residents with transportation to a vaccination site
- Reach out to your local county board of mental health and addiction services and follow their advice
- If you experience issues, contact the Ohio Department of Mental Health and Addiction Services at BHCOVID19vaccine@mha.ohio.gov

Share Factual Information

The following websites have accurate information that you, your staff and your residents can use to learn more about the vaccine and make decisions that are informed on facts.

- [Ohio Department of Health](#)
- [Centers for Disease Control](#)
- [OhioMHAS](#)

The following are videos from the United States Department of Health and Human Services that can help answer questions on the COVID19 Vaccine.

- [Tell me more about vaccines](#)
- [COVID-19 Vaccines Q&A](#)
- [5 Things about the Accelerated Vaccine Timeline](#)

Use Trauma Informed Practices

As you engage in discussions around COVID-19, be sure to use practices that are Trauma Informed. Remember the six key principles of Trauma Informed Approaches

1. Safety
2. Trustworthiness and Transparency
3. Peer Support
4. Collaboration and Mutuality
5. Empowerment, Voice, and Choice
6. Cultural, Historical and Gender Issues

[Learn more about Trauma Informed Approaches on the OhioMHAS Website.](#)



Keep Engaging in Other Prevention Strategies

Even after residents and staff are vaccinated, it is critical that they continue to follow all recommended guidelines and practices to help reduce the spread of COVID-19. This includes, but not limited to

- Wearing Masks
- Washing hands regularly
- Remaining Physically Distant
- Implementing Cleaning Protocols
- Maintaining quarantine and isolation protocols
- Avoiding large gatherings

[Visit the Ohio Recovery Housing Website for best practice guidance on these topics.](#)

As the pandemic continues it is important to continue with these practices. Even after residents and staff receive vaccines, continue to monitor and support them in fully implementing prevention protocols.

Disclaimer

The situation related to COVID-19 changes rapidly, and it is possible that new recommendations and resources may become available.

This document is not intended to replace the advice of state or local health departments or legal counsel.

It is important to keep track of any public health orders that may be issued by the state or your local government. It is important that you become aware of these orders and help explain what these orders mean to your residents.