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CCDPH and MABAS Division 3 to Launch Pilot Vaccination Site for First Responders, Teachers, Other Essential Workers

Nearly 500 vaccinations to be administered on first day at New Trier H.S. in Northfield

FOREST PARK, IL—The Cook County Department of Public Health (CCDPH) has partnered with Mutual Aid Box Alarm System (MABAS) Division 3 to establish a pilot vaccination site for first responders, teachers, and other essential workers at New Trier High School in Northfield. This vaccination site will enable critical municipal employees such as firefighters, police officers and 911 dispatch personnel in Phase 1b to be vaccinated.

This vaccination site – which will administer 480 vaccine doses initially – is a partnership between CCDPH, New Trier School District 203, Emergency Medical Services (EMS) Systems at Advocate Lutheran General and St. Francis Hospital, MABAS Division 3, and is supported by Cook County Commissioners Larry Suffredin, Scott Britton, and Peter Silvestri.

“We are grateful for the long-standing relationships and support of our MABAS Division 3 partners, New Trier School District 203, St. Francis and Lutheran Generals EMS Systems, who have devoted significant resources to establish this site,” said Dr. Kiran Joshi, Co-Lead of the Cook County Department of Health.

New Trier High School in Northfield has served as an emergency pharmaceutical distribution site in municipal emergency plans for many years, and the school district’s support of this vaccination site plan has been instrumental to making the plan operational.

“The New Trier High School Point of Distribution site is another step forward in our equity-centered COVID-19 vaccination plan,” said Cook County Board President Toni Preckwinkle. “We’ve seen over the last year the hard work and sacrifices of our educators and first responders during the pandemic, and I am grateful that we were able to establish this site to make it easier for them to be vaccinated.”

“We are excited to partner with Cook County to demonstrate how local resources can be leveraged to accelerate the roll-out of the COVID-19 vaccine,” said Michael Braiman, Wilmette Village Manager.

This will be the first Cook County vaccination clinic staffed by local paramedics and will serve as a model to utilize paramedics as vaccination efforts expand throughout suburban Cook County. Vaccinations will be given by appointment only.

“This collaboration is a significant step forward in vaccinating as many first responders and essential workers as possible,” said Robert Bahan, Winnetka Village Manager.

"This unprecedented partnership between the County and local government is a perfect example of how cooperation and collaborative problem solving among public officials can have a profound impact on our communities' lives," said 14th District Commissioner Scott Britton. "We are grateful to have President Preckwinkle's support to expand vaccination opportunities for teachers and first responders in northern Cook County."

MABAS is a mutual aid response system for fire, EMS, and specialized incident operational teams. There are 10 divisions that serve CCDPH's jurisdiction. Participating MABAS Division 3 members with this coordinated effort include Glencoe, Glenview, Lincolnwood, Morton Grove, Northbrook, Niles, Northfield, Park Ridge, Prospect Heights, Wilmette, and Winnetka-Kenilworth.

For the latest COVID-19 vaccination information in suburban Cook County, and to make an appointment to be vaccinated, visit: <https://cookcountypublichealth.org/>.

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