

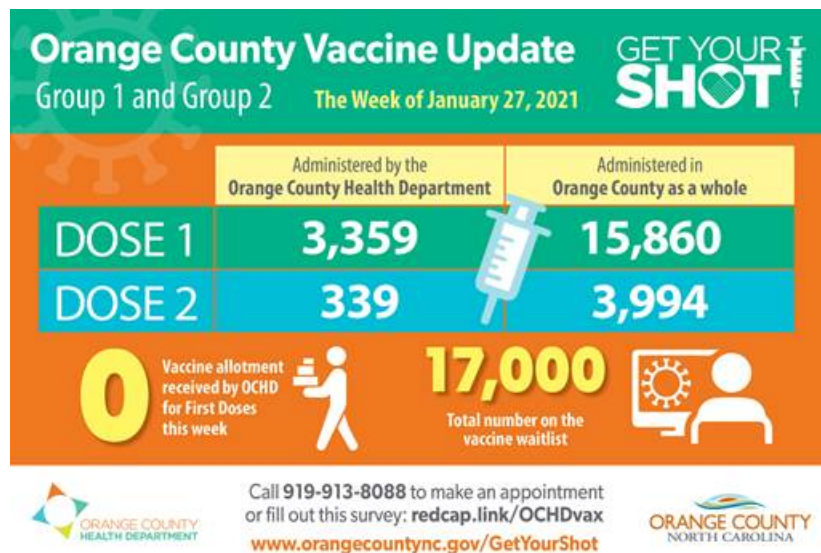
From: Maurice Jones
Sent: Friday, January 29, 2021 11:20 PM
To: Town Email Users
Subject: Town Manager's COVID Update 1-29-21
Attachments: [Town Hall style COVID-19 Vaccine 101 sessions; February 2021 Wellbeing.pdf](#)

Hello Everyone,

For anyone following closely, you know the local focus this week has been on vaccinations and the limited supply Orange County and North Carolina currently has. The backlog of those registered to receive the vaccine appears to have increased the anxiety of community members in this already stressful time. The hope that was introduced with this new year was quickly strained as a result of these new challenges.

But remember, *we are getting closer*. And patience will help usher us closer to the finish line. I've attached a few resources HRD Director Cliff Turner has sent out that I hope can help you if you feel you are overwhelmed or need more answers.

We all received a lesson in the importance of communicating with the public this week, especially from our government entities. Our community responded well when they received word that the reason more shots aren't going into arms isn't the result of a lack of effort. It's because the supply chain has been slow, and the demand is very high. I've included a graphic to the right to offer an explanation of where we are. You can also visit



www.orangecountync.gov/GetYourShot to learn more about vaccine dispersal in the County.

New Feature - Ask the Manager

We want to hear from you. What COVID-19-related questions are on your mind that my office can answer for you? Submit your questions to pio@townofchapelhill.org, and we'll get the answer to you in a future Manager's COVID-19 update. We ask that you stick to questions that would benefit multiple staff members and that are relevant to the pandemic. If you have questions that only pertain to you or a handful of people, there are opportunities listed in the resources section below to get your questions answered. I look forward to getting to know the topics that are most important to you.

What's Next?

As more staff members and their families receive vaccines, it's important to listen to public health professionals' guidance of sticking with the three Ws until many more people receive the vaccine. Our Town policy requiring face coverings in shared spaces will remain in effect for the foreseeable future, regardless of your vaccine status. Remember, this is for everyone's safety. Thank you for doing your part to protect your coworkers, friends, and loved ones.

For those who aren't yet eligible for your shot, thank you for your patience. We have been soldiering through this pandemic for 11 months. If all goes to plan, the "months remaining" should finally be lower than the "months completed." Stay positive (mentally, not COVID-19 positive), and we will all get through this together.

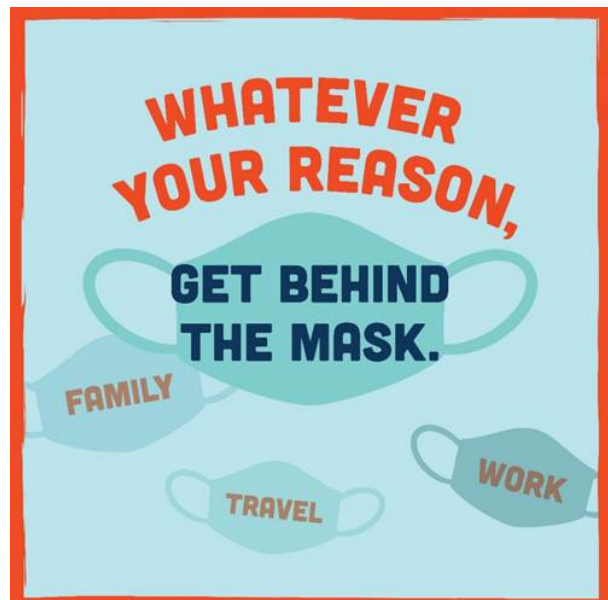
Reporting Your Vaccination

When you are lucky enough to take your shot, please report that information to HRD. This information will be treated as any other confidential medical information and will be protected. The information is being gathered for planning purposes only. HRD will be able to tell how many employees are receiving the vaccine and provide guidance to my office about when we can begin lifting restrictions and getting more people back into their offices safely. To submit your information, send a copy of your completed vaccination card to Nicholas Palmer in HRD in a sealed envelope.

As always, **THANK YOU!!!** You have kept our core services running smoothly for the Town of Chapel Hill. Our residents, visitors, and especially our elected officials have recognized the remarkable work you are doing, and we are all very grateful for that.

Resources

- Submit employee questions and concerns to the Office of Risk Management at 919-969-5035, rallen@townofchapelhill.org
- Contact the Town's Wellness Clinic: 919-968-2796, <https://chapelhillwellnessatwork.org/>
 - Please call first
 - Please note: the Town's Wellness Clinic does not have the capability to test for coronavirus; the staff can recommend whether you should seek additional medical guidance
- Your Blue Cross and Blue Shield health plan provides video diagnosis options.



Visit <https://member.carefirst.com/members/health-wellness/video-visit.page>.

- Contact the Ombuds at ombuds@townofchapelhill.org or 919-265-0806
- If you need to talk with someone about personal problems and/or work-related problems that may impact your job performance, health, mental and emotional well-being, call 1-800-326-3864 or visit bhsonline.com.

All the Best,
Maurice

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