

February 23, 2021
Lee County Judge's Office

*****Press Release*****
Lee County Call Center

Most area coronavirus vaccination activities, including the opening of the Lee County Call Center, were suspended for the week beginning Monday, February 15, 2021 due to the inclement weather.

Beginning Tuesday, February 23, 2021 at 8:00 AM, Lee County will establish an information center, staffed by volunteers to assist with providing information on the coronavirus vaccination program. Citizens may contact the **Lee County Call Center** at 866-212-1502, Monday through Friday, 8:00 AM through 5:00 PM or email Covid19@co.lee.tx.us. For after hours and weekends a message may be left and calls will be returned.

The call center will be operational as long as there is a need for the dissemination of information. Its primary purpose will be to provide up-to-date information on local vaccine availability as well as accessibility to vaccination hubs. Volunteers **will not** provide medical advice. The call center will provide information to the public from local, state and federal governments as well as local healthcare and pharmaceutical providers.

Vaccination hubs require online registration which serves as a waiting list. However, those without internet service may contact the call center for assistance in registering. No additional vaccination hubs have been established in the area so currently the Brenham, Bastrop and Bryan hubs are serving Lee County. Just like the rest of the state, most Lee County citizens remain to be vaccinated so this inoculation endeavor will likely continue for months. Hubs are expected to return to normal operations this week.

As of now, a limited number of additional first round vaccine doses may arrive at our local pharmacies later this week. These will be offered to those on established waiting lists. Pharmacies will call those persons direct to schedule injections. And as before, injections are only being given to those persons in categories 1a, 1b and 1c. That means persons living in long term care facilities like nursing homes, first line medical personnel and first responders and persons over 65 or those with specific medical conditions. These categories are fully defined on the Centers for Disease Control website.

As a result of last weeks winter storms, Lee County has received shipments of prepackaged ready to eat meals and bottled water from the Federal Emergency Management Agency. The County Judge's Office is developing a plan to disburse these supplies to various locations throughout the county—especially to those who may not have their water supply restored. Volunteers may also be need for this task. Contact the call center for more information.

Those desiring to volunteer at area vaccination hubs, the call center or with FEMA shipments may contact staff at the call center via telephone or email. The extended nature of the vaccination program means additional volunteers may be needed, especially those qualified to give injections such as active or retired medical personnel. At any time, the County Judge's Office and the County Office of Emergency Management may place additional information on the county's website and social media websites such as Facebook to keep the public informed.