

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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For additional information contact: Steve Kelso at (616) 632-7274 or Steve.Kelso@kentcountymi.gov

State of Michigan Expands COVID-19 Vaccine Eligibility

Health Department is Expanding Vaccination Process to Meet These Guidelines

GRAND RAPIDS (March 3, 2020) – The Kent County Health Department (KCHD) was notified by the Michigan Department of Health and Human Services (MDHHS) today that the State is expanding vaccination eligibility.

Beginning March 8, residents 50 years of age or older with a pre-existing condition or disability and caregiver family members and guardians who care for children with special health care need will be eligible to get vaccinated. Beginning March 22, vaccine eligibility will further expand to include all Michiganders 50 years of age and older.

The KCHD is working to expand its process to ensure all eligible residents can be vaccinated. Vaccine supplies remain extremely limited, so we ask for patience as we work through the details.

In the meantime, the KCHD urges all eligible residents to visit <u>vaccinatewestmi.com</u> and complete a vaccination registration form with a local provider. Residents can also visit this website and <u>sign-up</u> for a newsletter to receive up-to-date vaccine information.

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KCHD has been in the business of providing health services to Kent County since 1931. The Health Department is home to nearly 265 employees including public health nurses, sanitarians, health educators, technicians, public health administrators, and specialized staff at the Kent County Animal Shelter. The Health Department operates one main clinic and three satellite clinics located in Kentwood, Rockford, and Grand Rapids. To learn more about KCHD services, visit www.accesskent.com/health.