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Serving Children and Adults with Intellectual and Other Developmental Disabilities for over 70 Years

February 26, 2021

PAUL H. TORRES
Chief Executive Officer

Dear Individuals, Families, and AHRC Suffolk Team Members:

JOHN MCGUIGAN
Chief Operating Officer

As of today, we have knowledge that **191 individuals** in residences (86% of individuals living in AHRC Suffolk residences) and **221 staff** (35%) have received the COVID-19 vaccine. Of those numbers, **180 individuals** in residences (81% of individuals living in AHRC Suffolk residences) and **128 staff** (25%) have reported receiving the second dose.

CHRISTOPHER VEROS
Chief Financial Officer

OFFICERS

JOHN SMITH
President

JOSEPH ZIFCHOCK
Treasurer

JOSEPH CASSARINI
Secretary

We continue to recommend staff, individuals and families seek guidance from their health professionals regarding the COVID-19 vaccine. Increasing numbers of staff and individuals receiving the vaccine helps keep not only their peers and our community safe, it can set us on a path towards a larger herd immunity. We hope reaching a higher level of protected staff and individuals can open up more in-person availability for services down the line. *#InItTogether*

DIRECTORS

Deborah Pflieger

As you can see, growing numbers of our staff have received the vaccination. Each person has their own reasons why it was important for them to do so, and in the coming weeks, we plan to share the thoughts of several team members. They will explain their thoughts and unique situations which promoted them to receive it. Stay tuned to our website, Facebook and Instagram pages for these stories.

As vaccine availability hopefully continues to become more plentiful, I understand the frustration associated with trying to obtain an appointment for yourselves or a loved one. It is our hope that each week brings more supply and therefore more convenient appointments. Here are a few helpful ways to check vaccine availability:

New York State COVID-19 Vaccination Hotline at 1-833-NYS-4-VAX (1-833-697-4829)

<https://www.suffolkcountyny.gov/vaccine>

As we conclude our spotlights commemorating Black History Month, this week's focus is on Chester Finn, who has been advocating for people with disabilities for over 20 years. Chester co-founded Community Empowerment Programs Inc., which provides educational and community service programs for people with disabilities. "I inspire others by listening to them and then advocating for them," Chester says. Click [HERE](#) for more details on Chester's important contributions to his community and peers.

Stay well, stay safe and thank you for all you do,

Paul H. Torres
Chief Executive Officer



NEW STAFF NEEDED! Join the AHRC Suffolk Team! Visit www.ahrCSuffolk.org/careers to see our current openings at various day program and residential locations. Apply today!

BECOME A MEMBER! 2021 Memberships are now available! Help make our collective voice stronger. Visit www.ahrCSuffolk.org/membership today!

DONATE TO OUR COVID-19 FUND! Our expenses continue to mount each day. Please click [HERE](#) to donate today!