

# Norfolk County-8 Coalition

*MDPH/LBOH Webinar 1/26/2021*



## Inter-agency Staff on the Webinar

- Jana Ferguson, Assistant Commissioner, DPH
- Ron O'Connor, Office of Local and Regional Health
- Donna Quinn and Mary Clark, Office of Preparedness and Emergency Management
- Michael Flanagan and Adam Kinney, Department of Labor Standards
- Anne Gilligan, Department of Elementary and Secondary Education
- Cheryl Sbarra, Massachusetts Association of Health Boards
- Chief Edward Dunne, Massachusetts Chiefs of Police Association
- Jeff Farnsworth, Executive Office of Public Safety and Security
- John Welch, Community Tracing Collaborative
- Bruce Cedar, CMG Associates

### **Announcements:**

**CMG Associates:** Services offered—individual support; training (online webinars); leadership coaching. Services used to date—individual support (~30 hours); trainings (14 webinars, 10-25 attendees); leadership coaching (2 coaching engagement). Next set of webinars for February:

Enhancing your digital presence—Monday, Feb. 1, 2pm-3pm

Shutting down: boundaries for our work—Wednesday, Feb. 3, 10am-11am

Uncontrollable unknowns and opposite emotions: leading with gratitude—Thursday, Feb. 4, 10am-12pm.

Navigating uncertainty—Wednesday, Feb. 10, 10am-11am

Working and managing remotely during the COVID crisis—Wednesday, Feb. 17, 10am-11am

The balanced professional—Monday, Feb. 22, 1pm-2:15pm

Overcoming unconscious bias—Thursday, Feb. 25, 10am-11:15am.

**CTC:** Decrease in cases being sent over. Currently in surge protocol that allows us to make more frequent phone calls. Trying to reach out during the course of 3 days, until we list them as cannot be reached. Reaching about 80% of cases. Our care resource coordinators (CRC) have been doing a good job to connect people with resources (<6 hours). Some confusion with how we've been interacting with people in recovery centers. We know that when individuals go into these recovery centers it goes into the purview of the people at the recovery center. We are working on this. Also working on managing duplicate records, which means these records don't go back into MAVEN. We are working to make these cases available on MAVEN again. In the

# Norfolk County-8 Coalition

## *MDPH/LBOH Webinar 1/26/2021*

---



meantime, if there is a record that has not been back into MAVEN, reach out to your Local Health Liaison.

**Q:** What process are you using to identify people with food insecurity?

**A:** Every individual the CTC reaches out to goes under a house assessment, their ability to safely isolate and quarantine based on current living arrangement, access to food, access to medications. If we ID a need, that person is sent to CRC and CRC will use a database in coordination with LHD to identify resources existing in the community or other options, for example the Commonwealth's Food Insecurity Task Force. It really depends on what the LHD has established with the CRC. If LHDs prefer that CRC take the lead on connecting cases to resources, they can do that. LHDs can also refer individuals to CRC even if they weren't contact traced or investigated through the LHD. There is a link that needs to be used and will be shared after the call.

**Q:** Is the CTC closing down in March?

**A:** Working on 3 month intervals. It is our expectation that this contract will be renewed to last sometime in June. Not finalized or signed yet, but we have no plans to wind down by March.

**Vaccine updates:** Announcement yesterday about changing priority groups and Phase 2 starting as early as February 1<sup>st</sup>. Phase 2 has been reorganized, but does not change the number of people in Phase 2. Phase 3 rollout timeline has not changed. Many of you received an email from Jana on Sunday about the limits of vaccine available for LHDs, an ordering cap of what you can put in your MCVP survey each week. Not everyone received this email. If you did not tell us you were standing up a public clinic site through Phase 3, you did not receive this email. For people who are regionalizing, it went to the lead point of contact. Vaccine caps have been determined by geographic proximity to a mass vaccination site. Also looked at past orders and capacity that people indicated they could support over time. Also reviewed the health equity impact of communities, for example, the 10 communities hardest hit by COVID last 10 months. These communities should be prioritized. Some communities do not have access to other vaccination sites, and health equity communities received more, and those with increased need received up to a cap of 400 doses of Moderna. Communities not as disproportionately affected capped at 100 doses of Moderna. This is an extremely difficult time for everyone. We do not want to say to people they can't order vaccine in a particular week, and we understand how frustrating it is that clinics have had to be readjusted to this news of capped doses.

**MCVP Survey:** When people are ready to order vaccines, this will be done using the MCVP survey. You will not receive this survey automatically. If you have not received vaccine previously, you will not receive this survey unless you alert DPH that you want to host a site. MCVP surveys need to be completed and turned in by 5:00 pm on Tuesday. Please complete the survey even if you're not ordering vaccine in a given week. Internet explorer—troubles with this, please use a different browser. We take these requests for vaccine and they're reviewed

# Norfolk County-8 Coalition

## *MDPH/LBOH Webinar 1/26/2021*

---



by workstream teams and allocation teams. We look where we have available vaccine. Do not post clinic times unless you know your vaccine order has been accepted. Out of all available vaccine in the country, Massachusetts has only administered about 5% of them. We don't think this is sitting in people's refrigerators, but you need to report all of these right away because this is the information the federal government uses to give us more vaccine. Please be sure to submit clinics once they're complete and you've reviewed data. Clicking submit sends the data to the MIIS.

Reimbursements: Vaccine distribution costs will be reimbursed by FEMA public assistance at a 100% rate from at least 1/21/2021 until 9/30/2021, and it prioritizing vaccine-related applications for review and approval. Take advantage of this in the community to support vaccine administration. We're hoping that federal supply of the vaccine will increase substantially. We know you want to put up large clinics, we want to help you, but we are dealing with severe vaccine shortage.

Vaccine capacity and planning: Massachusetts will continue to build capacity in anticipation of an increase in supply. To date, MA has received and distributed 98% of its total allocation from the federal government. Vaccination sites established in every region to provide maximum efficiency, geographic spread, and equity for all residents. There are new sites being added every week.

In addition to mass vaccination sites at Gillette Stadium and Fenway Park, sites will open in Springfield, Danvers, and Roxbury: Springfield (Eastfield Mall) will open January 29<sup>th</sup>. Danvers (DoubleTree, Hilton Hotel) will open February 3; and Boston will open a site at the Reggie Lewis Center in the first week of February. Eligible individuals in Phase 1 will be able to schedule appointments online for Fenway, Springfield, and Danvers beginning Wednesday, January 27<sup>th</sup>. Pharmacy and retail locations like the Big Y, Wegmans, Price Chopper, Hannaford, Stop and Shop, and CVS Health will also be opening over the next few weeks to create more equitable access to all communities.

Second dose: For first doses administered to date, second dose vaccines will be sent automatically in advance of when those doses should be administered (21/28 days depending on the vaccine being used.) You will receive vaccine this week, but please hold them for first responders. Going forward, each entity requesting vaccine will need to track and request 2<sup>nd</sup> doses. This is an ask from the federal government.

**PrepMod**: [mimmunizations.org](http://mimmunizations.org)—main page for public clinics in PrepMod. Municipalities who want to use PrepMod need to obtain this account through the LBOH. We have a legal agreement with PrepMod that this would only be used with LHDs. If you are the health department who is the site administrator, you can add the school or fire department but they cannot independently hold a PrepMod account. The intent of this is to meet our obligation to PrepMod but also give you more visibility on what's happening in your community.

# Norfolk County-8 Coalition

## MDPH/LBOH Webinar 1/26/2021



Attestation form—plan is to add to PrepMod later this week.

Attestation form would appear as the first page of the registration process. Massachusetts is not limiting the clinics to only Massachusetts residents, but clinics you are hosting can be made available to people who live/work in your community. These clinics are indicated on the website as green stars and are open to everybody. Attestation form is already on mass.gov, but it is being added to PrepMod. People will need to identify where they are on the priority groups, a reminder the vaccine is limited and only available for eligible groups. This document will be electronically signed, and this means people are swearing that they are who they say they are. They are not required to provide ID at the vaccination sites, we don't want to increase barriers to receive the vaccine. This attestation form can be given as is, you don't need to worry about whether or not they can provide eligible documents. Lots of mentions about people jumping the line by falsifying an attestation form. People are going to lie about this, but this should make it easier in terms of what you need to collect. Also being used at CVS/Walgreens.

Additional updates being made this week:

- Opportunities to make email optional,
- Ability to inactivate users. Local administrators should deactivate user accounts for people who no longer need access.

- We know there are inventory issues, we are working to fix this.

**Q:** Helping people register for appointments?

**A:** Couple options people are making available. We know not everyone has access to the internet and concern about their ability to sign up for appointments, particularly about the elder population. 1-800 number being developed to help people on the phone register for an appointment. Also, MA COA encouraging local COA to take a role for their constituents and help people register for appointments.

**Q:** Homebound seniors and how to help those communities?

**A:** Trying to put together a solution set for people who are homebound through home healthcare workers.

**Q:** Lifeguards, what phase?

**A:** Don't have that information, email: [COVID-19-Vaccine-Plan-MA@mass.gov](mailto:COVID-19-Vaccine-Plan-MA@mass.gov)

**Q:** Can pharmacies give vaccines?

**A:** If someone wants to be a vaccine provider, they have to fill out MCVP, sign up for MIIS, same type of process as any other provider.

**Q:** Plans for mass vax site in central MA?

**A:** Yes, Worcester, UMASS Amherst, Springfield. And looking at sites in South Eastern MA, New Bedford most likely. Looking at properties right now.

**Q:** Can DPH help people now if there are any areas where they might be extra vaccine?

**A:** We are still trying to figure out if there's inventory or if vaccines are not being reported.

**Q:** Have the second doses been sent out yet?

# Norfolk County-8 Coalition

## MDPH/LBOH Webinar 1/26/2021

---



**A:** That information comes from the vendor, DPH doesn't have access to tracking numbers.

**Q:** Hospitals and hospital doses, how are they going to be used for distribution?

**A:** Working with them to support physician offices.

For PrepMod help, email [address—prepmod.help@mass.gov](mailto:address—prepmod.help@mass.gov) Drop in hours frequently scheduled, will send out link to these so you can register.

### **Questions from Q&A not answered out loud:**

joan taverna - 3:13 PM

**Q:** Are the contract tracers notifying dispatch centers with addresses of positive cases? And then following up to remove addresses?-

-Jana Ferguson - 3:17 PM

**A:** They are not. This information would be shared by Local health

---

Jane Brown - 3:17 PM

**Q:** Do you have dates as to expand the Phase 2 priority? As I understand Feb. 1st only 75+ are eligible - correct?-

-Mike Coughlin - 3:21 PM

**A:** yes, 75+ eligible Feb 1. No other phase 2 dates have been announced.

---

Urvi Agarwalla - 3:14 PM

**Q:** How do we refer someone an LBOH is working with to a CRC for food insecurity?-

-John Welch - 3:21 PM

**A:** Here is the link:

<https://forms.office.com/Pages/ResponsePage.aspx?id=n3hUUmBodUOFvDAICfrVCMf2woYUD4FFkDfob20VmdhUNEk4NkZDSDJFUzRYVERQNFFGskZZS1Q5TC4u>

---

Libby Levison - 3:08 PM

**Q:** Will the webinars be recorded?-

-Mike Coughlin - 3:28 PM

**A:** Libby, if you were asking about the BMG webinars they also are not recorded.

---

Bruce Cohen - 3:45 PM

**Q:** Are persons with 2+ comorbidities age 65+ in phase 2 priority group 1 or group 2-

-Mike Coughlin - 3:59 PM

**A:** Group 2