



January 15, 2021

Dear St. John's Meadows and Brickstone by St. John's Residents,

It was another challenging week of COVID. Monroe County continues to see high numbers of positive cases in the area and the vaccine information changes hourly. The good news is that our communities currently have 0 positive residents and 0 positive staff. Amen!

I continue to receive questions/complaints about the vaccination process and why we do not have a clinic available. I continue to receive complaints that we are not doing our job to provide a clinic here. Believe me, I am doing everything in my power to make this happen. The following are the facts:

- a. We are not a health care facility.
- b. We are not a pharmacy.
- c. We do not have RNs to vaccinate people.
- d. We do not have the capacity or manpower to process medical records, insurance forms, and CDC forms for over 500 residents.
- e. Independent living communities cannot order, receive, store, or administer the vaccine
- f. Independent communities that have been able to provide the vaccine to their independent residents had additional vaccines available on site at the time that their pharmacy partner was administering them for their assisted living population and therefore, they were able to administer them to independent housing.
- g. The Monroe County Department of Health can administer the vaccine.
- h. Wegmans Pharmacy can administer the vaccine. They are a licensed pharmacy.
- i. The University of Rochester and Rochester Regional are health care systems and can administer the vaccine.
- j. Skilled nursing facilities, assisted living facilities, doctor's offices, etc. are health care providers designated by the state and federal systems to receive priority allotments of the vaccine to vaccinate their staff members and patients.
- k. There are only six nationally recognized pharmacies across the country authorized to facilitate vaccination distribution.
- l. New York State only receives 300,000 doses a week currently and has over 7,000,000 identified people to vaccinate. This is only the first shot. Each vaccination requires two shots.
- m. I am on a conference call next week with a pharmacy and skilled nursing homes across the county next week during which we will be discussing the possibility of conducting clinics within our independent communities. I am hopeful that the discussion will be fruitful.

When I know more, you will know more. I apologize if my news is not what you wanted to hear.

I encourage you to contact your healthcare provider, be it U of R or Rochester Regional, to inquire about other options. It is my understanding that they will be contacting patients of theirs to schedule vaccinations. I would also suggest that you, like myself, continue to research the web for new vaccination clinics. I understand New York State is in the process of setting up more locations throughout the state.

Thank you. Please be safe and patient.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Paul Bartlett".

Paul Bartlett, Vice President of Senior Housing