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YMCA of Metropolitan Chattanooga A Message to Staff

To: All YMCA of Metropolitan Chattanooga Staff
From: Janet Dunn, President & CEO, YMCA of Metropolitan Chattanooga
Date: January 15, 2021
Subject: **YMCA STAFF UPDATE REGARDING COVID-19 VACCINATION**

Your health and well-being, and that of our members and participants, remains a top priority of our Y. As you are likely aware, vaccinations against the COVID-19 virus have recently been approved for use within the United States. **Our Y strongly encourages all staff to receive the vaccination as soon as it is available to them.** While Hamilton County and surrounding areas are still in the early stages of distributing the vaccine, we wanted to provide you with some information that you may find helpful as the effort progresses.

- **If you are in the state of Tennessee**, you can use the newly released vaccine eligibility tool to determine when you will be eligible for the vaccine. Simply follow the link below, input your information and you will be notified when the vaccine is available:

<https://covid19.tn.gov/covid-19-vaccines/eligibility/>

- **If you are in the state of Georgia**, you can access further information about vaccine distribution in your community at:

<https://dph.georgia.gov/covid-vaccine>

- For more information **about the safety of the COVID vaccine**, please visit:

<https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/vaccines/facts.html>

We anticipate that our staff members working with children will be able to access the vaccine in an earlier phase (currently listed as Phase 1b in Tennessee; timeline varies by county). We will communicate directly with those impacted staff as soon as further details are available.

Finally, COVID 19 case counts continue to be high in our communities, so we ask all staff to remain vigilant in their efforts to keep our members and fellow staff safe:

- Please **DO NOT come to work if you are sick** or experiencing symptoms of illness.
- You **MUST wear a mask** at all times while you are working in any Y facility.
- Continue to check in at the front desk each day to **have your temperature taken**.
- **Wash your hands** frequently.
- **Be mindful of your activities and exposure risk outside of work.** We recommend that you continue to wear a mask when interacting with others outside of your immediate family, particularly when social distancing is not possible.

We understand the challenges this recent year has presented, and we greatly appreciate everyone's continued efforts in keeping the safety of our staff and members at the forefront.