



P.O. Box C • Ouray, Colorado 81427 • 970-325-7320 • FAX: 970-325-0452

MEDIA RELEASE

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

OURAY COUNTY VACCINE DISTRIBUTION SUCCESSFUL IN SPITE OF MINIMUM QUANTITIES RECEIVED

Ouray County, Colo. – Despite the low quantities of vaccines received in Ouray County over the past few weeks, Public Health Director Tanner Kingery is pleased with the efficiency in which the vaccine is being administered. As of this writing, 570 doses of vaccine have been administered to individuals listed in Phase 1A and 1B of the distribution cycle. This includes individuals over the age of 70, moderate-risk health care workers, first responders, and frontline essential workers. Once all of these individuals have been vaccinated the vaccine distribution will open up to additional frontline essential workers such as those in education, U.S. postal service, and food and agriculture. More information on the distribution cycle can be found at: www.covid19.colorado.gov.

Per Colorado state guidelines, Ouray County receives a specific amount of vaccine doses each week, which has been about 100 doses. Larger neighboring counties have been receiving more vaccine due to a number of factors, but the most important are population and health infrastructure. Since Ouray County has a smaller population in relation to our neighboring counties, and because we rely on Montrose County for our hospital system, Ouray County's vaccine allotment from the state is lower than others.

While we may be disappointed in the amount of vaccine we receive, we can be proud of how efficiently and safely we have run our distribution in Ouray County. Those 100 doses that are received at the beginning of each week are successfully distributed within that week, with no doses wasted, and some individuals have already received their second dose of vaccine. While Ouray County does not make up a large part of the state's population, we certainly should be proud of the amount of vaccine we have distributed, which equates to over 2% of the state's total vaccines. And while we continue to await the next phase of distribution, we have over 2,000 residents that have registered to receive their vaccine in Ouray County.

CDPHE reminds us to "Get your vaccine to help move our community toward a brighter tomorrow. But until community immunity is achieved and people are widely vaccinated, continue wearing masks, avoiding gatherings, staying home when you're sick, washing your hands, and maintaining physical distance. Together we can protect both those closest to us and our entire community from COVID-19." To learn more, visit COCovidVaccine.org #VaccineFactsCO.



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Ouray County community members are invited to sign-up for their vaccine by visiting www.ouraycountyco.gov or by calling 970-325-4670. Once you complete your contact form you will receive a call from Ouray County Public Health to assist you in scheduling your vaccine once your time comes. Please be patient as you await your scheduling phone call. For more information on receiving a vaccine in Ouray County, please email covidvaccine@ouraycountyco.gov.

We are asking all community members to please remember to:

- Avoid or limit your visits to public places unless necessary
- Practice social distancing and keep at least 6 feet between you and the next person
- If possible, work from home
- If you are feeling sick with a cough, cold or fever symptoms, please STAY HOME
- Clean and disinfect hard surfaces frequently
- Wash your hands often
- Avoid contact with sick people
- Get tested if you have symptoms

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