



## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

## **Partnership Provides Landmark Vaccination Event**

All School Personnel and Child Care Workers in Union County have opportunity to receive COVID-19 vaccine

**MONROE**, **N.C.** (Feb. 24, 2021) – Union County Public Health, in partnership with Atrium Health, will host a large-scale vaccination event on Friday, Feb. 26 and Saturday, Feb. 27 for child care and PreK-12 school employees. According to the vaccination plan by the North Carolina Department of Health and Human Services, individuals who work in child care facilities or PreK-12 schools are eligible to receive the COVID-19 vaccine starting Feb. 24.

Union County Public Health is coordinating directly with organizations to schedule vaccination appointments for all eligible child care workers or school employees who wish to receive the vaccine. Individuals who work in child care facilities or schools in surrounding counties also have an opportunity to request a vaccination appointment during this two-day event by calling our COVID-19 vaccine hotline (704.292.2550); those appointments will be scheduled based on availability.

"This event allows us a strategic opportunity to protect our community," said Public Health Director Dennis Joyner. "We have been working closely with Atrium Health for months, which has strengthened our partnership to collaborate on an event of this scale."

Atrium Health has worked to secure sufficient COVID-19 vaccine allocations to make this landmark event possible. Union County Public Health is appreciative of the partnership with Atrium Health, as well as several local partners including school nurses with Union County Public Schools, school nurses from Union Academy, and Union EMS.

"This event exemplifies the importance of strong community partnerships to meet the healthcare needs of our community," said Denise White, facility executive and Chief Nurse Executive at Atrium Health Union. "Union County Public Health and Atrium Health have the shared vision that serving all of our community comes first and that's what makes our collaboration seamless."

This unique event will enable Public Health to continue Group 1 and 2 vaccinations, uninterrupted, using the weekly vaccine allocation from the State. More information about vaccination plans for the public can be found on <u>Union County's COVID-19 vaccine webpage</u> and on <u>Atrium Health's COVID-19 vaccine webpage</u>.

## **MEDIA NOTES:**

- To protect patient privacy, there will be <u>no media access</u> inside the Agricultural Center where vaccinations are being administered.
- B-roll, interview footage, and photos with individuals who have granted permission will be provided for media usage in a digital press kit that will be made available on Friday afternoon.
- Media may be in front of the Agricultural Center, in the designated area near the marquee, for live shots and standups, if desired. <u>Click here to see the designated media parking area</u>. Please email Liz Cooper if your organization plans to utilize this space.

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