

COVID-19 Vaccination: Elevator Speech for Service Providers:

- Southern Nevada is rolling out the COVID-19 vaccine to all people experiencing homelessness, age 18 and older. We are excited about this news and want to make sure you have an opportunity to get your questions answered.
- People who are living in close quarters to others are at higher risk of being exposed to COVID-19 and this disease can lead to serious and life-threatening complications.
- Getting vaccinated is the best protection from getting sick, becoming severely ill, or even worse, dying.
- Protecting yourself also helps protect your friends, family, and others around you.
- COVID-19 vaccines will be an important tool to help stop the pandemic, but only if enough people get vaccinated.
- It can be hard to find the facts about the vaccine. I'd like to provide a space for you to ask questions and get any information you need. If I don't know the answers to your questions right now, I can help find them.
- What questions do you have about the vaccine? Do you plan to get the COVID-19 vaccine? Why or why not?
- Here is some information about the next vaccine event; if those days/times do not work, would you like help to make an appointment? (You can do this with the Nevada vaccination call center at 1-800-401-0946).

Things to Keep in Mind:

- Use the FAQs below to help answer questions.
- Facts about safety are important; don't try to answer questions on unfamiliar topics. Get more information and follow up, encourage people to have conversations with their healthcare provider, and point people to more information or someone with answers.
- Lead with empathy, validate concerns, but don't repeat mistruths. Phrases such as, "It's normal to be cautious when something new comes along", or "Wanting to know more is a good thing" express validation while encouraging questions.
- Empower people to make informed decisions and acknowledge 'the choice is theirs.'

Frequently Asked Questions:

- **Are the vaccines Safe? They were developed so quickly?** COVID-19 vaccines are safe and effective. All vaccines being used in the US were required to go through the FDA's rigorous safety testing and inspection process, just like any other vaccine. More than 100 million people in the United States have already received a COVID-19 vaccine. The speed of creating this vaccine had a lot to do with the fact that researchers had already been working to develop a vaccine for related viruses and did not have to start from scratch.
- **How will I feel after getting the vaccine?** Side effects from these vaccines vary, but people commonly experience mild pain or swelling on the arm where they received the shot, tiredness, headache, fever, or chills. Some people have no side effects. These are normal signs that your body is building protection from COVID-19 which will typically go away after 1 to 3 days.
- **Are a lot of people dying from the vaccine?** There is a lot of misinformation out there about this question in particular. At this time, more than 126 million vaccines have been administered in the US and all reported adverse events following vaccination have been thoroughly reviewed. This review, including all available clinical information and medical records, [reveals no evidence that vaccination contributed to deaths](#). As with any vaccine, an extremely small number of people experienced an allergic reaction. Fortunately, vaccination providers have medicines available to effectively/immediately treat patients, but again this is EXTREMELY rare.
- **If I've had COVID should I get the vaccine?:** You should be vaccinated regardless of whether you have already had COVID-19 to protect you from getting and spreading COVID-19 for a second or third time. Experts do not yet know how long you are protected from getting sick again after recovering from COVID-19.
- **What if I have underlying medical conditions?:** People with underlying medical conditions can receive the FDA-authorized COVID vaccines...talk with your healthcare provider about this.

- **Can the vaccines give you COVID-19?:** It is not possible to get COVID from the FDA-authorized vaccines. None of the vaccines have the actual COVID-19 virus in them.

For More Resources

- Immunize Nevada: www.nvcovidfighter.org
- [Click here for more information to help answer FAQs.](#)