



AVIVA HEALTH

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NEWS RELEASE

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Aviva Health, Douglas ESD, Administering COVID-19 Vaccinations to Patients 80 and Over at Douglas County Fairgrounds

Officials plan to vaccinate 200 Douglas County seniors

ROSEBURG, Ore. – Aviva Health, in cooperation with Douglas ESD, is holding another mass COVID-19 vaccination event, this one for Aviva Health patients ages 80 and older, Thursday, February 18, from 9 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. and 1 p.m. to 4 p.m., in Douglas Hall at the Douglas County Fairgrounds. This is not a public event – only Aviva Health patients ages 80 and over who are preregistered for the event will receive vaccinations.

Patients in the 80-plus age group began receiving vaccinations at Aviva Health last week, and the organization is working diligently to vaccinate as many in that age group as possible to make way for eligible patients in younger cohorts.

“Larger vaccination events like this one are our best option to address the high demand for the vaccine across our patient population,” says KC Bolton, CEO of Aviva Health, adding such events will eventually open the door to vaccinations being available in clinic during regular hours of operation.

“It’s difficult to staff an off-site event of this size during regular business hours in the middle of the work week when our clinical teams are already providing care to patients in the clinic,” Bolton says. “We want to get to a point where we can manage the demand for COVID-19 vaccines within our regular scope of practice, and we believe these larger vaccination events will help get us there.”

Douglas ESD, who has developed into a strong ally in Aviva Health’s efforts to deliver the vaccine to the community, will again play a major role in the event, lending staff and other resources to the effort.

“As COVID-19 continues to impact our community, the partnership between Douglas ESD and Aviva Health continues to ensure that vaccinations are administered in a timely, caring and efficient manner,” says Michael Lasher, Douglas ESD superintendent. “While the February 18 vaccine event marks the fourth event, this mission is significant as we have invited qualifying seniors to receive vaccinations. Not only do I personally care about educators, but I care about the community as a whole.”

Oregonians 75 and older became eligible for the vaccine Monday, and Aviva Health is hopeful to begin administering vaccines to that age group early next week.

Aviva Health held its first mass vaccination event January 23, putting 753 shots in the arms of Douglas County citizens falling within Oregon Health Authority’s Phase 1a vaccine prioritization schedule. Those individuals are scheduled to receive their second doses at Douglas County Fairgrounds this Saturday, February 20.

In total, Aviva Health has administered more than 2,000 COVID-19 vaccinations. That number will continue to grow in the coming days, weeks and months.

Aviva Health has posted and is regularly updating a vaccine FAQ (<https://aviva.health/covid-19-vaccine-faqs/>) on its website for patients seeking more information. For general inquiries about COVID-19 vaccine in Oregon, please visit <https://covidvaccine.oregon.gov/> or call 211.

ABOUT AVIVA HEALTH

Founded in 1991, Aviva Health is an independent, board-governed, not-for-profit organization that cares for the people of Douglas County by providing high-quality, patient-centered, accessible and affordable medical, dental and behavioral healthcare, regardless of their ability to pay. Aviva Health offers integrated services from eight clinic sites in Roseburg, Myrtle Creek, Sutherlin, Glide and North Douglas County (Drain), including a Teen Health Center located on the campus of Roseburg High School.