



## Macon County Health Department

503 N. Missouri St  
Macon, MO 63552  
Ph: (660) 395-4711 Fax: (660) 385-2014  
Web Site: [www.maconmohealth.org](http://www.maconmohealth.org)

February 9, 2021

### FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

(Macon County, MO) – Macon County Health Department and Samaritan Hospital have been partnering since January to bring COVID-19 vaccine into the county to provide residents the opportunity to be vaccinated. Both agencies have placed orders regularly for vaccine since the vaccine has been available. The order process defined by the Department of Health and Senior Services (DHSS) is that all orders are to be placed by Wednesday at 5:00 p.m. On the following Sunday night agencies receive notice by email whether they are approved for vaccine.

Last week between Samaritan Hospital and Macon County Health Department, orders were placed for 1,000 doses on behalf of Macon County residents. Sunday night we received notice that DHSS only approved 100 of those doses.

DHSS has made it clear that local public health agencies and many hospitals are not a high priority to receive vaccine. Vaccine priority is with the National Guard units in each region of the state, with 30 high volume hospital vaccinators throughout the state, and moving forward priority will be with certain pharmacy chains.

Samaritan Hospital and Macon County Health Department will continue to work together to bring in vaccine. Citizens who wish to receive COVID-19 vaccine in a quicker manner have the option to receive it from mass vaccinators. Details on these clinics can be found at the DHSS website <https://covidvaccine.mo.gov/navigator/>.

***PUBLIC HEALTH MAKES LIFE BETTER***

AN EQUAL OPPORTUNITY EMPLOYER AND PROVIDER  
SERVICES PROVIDED ON A NONDISCRIMINATORY BASIS