

MDCLC RESOLUTION 2021-2

A RESOLUTION OF THE MIAMI-DADE COUNTY LEAGUE OF CITIES, INC., URGING GOVERNOR RON DESANTIS TO INCREASE THE COVID-19 VACCINE ALLOCATIONS TO MIAMI-DADE COUNTY IN ORDER FOR MUNICIPALITIES WITHIN MIAMI-DADE COUNTY TO BE ABLE TO MEET THE DEMAND FOR VACCINES AMONG THE ELDERLY AND OTHER VULNERABLE MEMBERS OF THE COMMUNITY; AND TO PRIORITIZE THE FOLLOWING GROUPS OF PERSONS IN PHASE II OF THE COVID-19 VACCINE ADMINISTRATION: TEACHERS AND SUPPORT STAFF MEMBERS, POLICE OFFICERS, AND OTHER FRONTLINE ESSENTIAL WORKERS, AS SPECIFIED BY THE UNITED STATES CENTERS FOR DISEASE CONTROL ADVISORY COMMITTEE ON IMMUNIZATION PRACTICES, INCLUDING FIREFIGHTERS, CORRECTIONS OFFICERS, PUBLIC TRANSIT WORKERS, CHILD CARE WORKERS, FOOD SERVICE WORKERS, AGRICULTURAL WORKERS, MANUFACTURING WORKERS, UNITED STATES POSTAL SERVICE WORKERS, GROCERY STORE WORKERS, AND PERSONS WITH MEDICAL CONDITIONS THAT INCREASE THE RISK OF SEVERE COVID-19, AS CERTIFIED BY A PHYSICIAN

WHEREAS, the United States government has made specific amounts of COVID-19 vaccines dose available to states and jurisdictions, including the state of Florida; and

WHEREAS, the United States government has granted states the discretion to determine their own vaccine distribution plans, including the priority of vaccine recipients; and

WHEREAS, on December 23, 2020, Governor Ron DeSantis promulgated Executive Order 20-315 (“Executive Order”), thereby establishing a priority list of population groups eligible to receive the COVID-19 vaccine during Phase One of Florida’s COVID-19 vaccination administration plan; and

WHEREAS, the Executive Order provided that during the first phase of vaccine administration, all providers administering any COVID-19 vaccine shall only vaccinate the following populations:

- Long-term care facility residents and staff;
- Persons 65 years of age and older, and
- Health care personnel with direct patient contact;

with an additional proviso that Hospital providers, may also vaccinate persons who they deem to be extremely vulnerable to COVID-19; and

WHEREAS, a significant percentage of the residents of municipalities in Miami-Dade County are over the age of 65; and

WHEREAS, the municipalities lack an adequate supply of vaccines to fully vaccinate their most vulnerable populations in an urgent manner; and

WHEREAS, according to State of Florida records, Miami-Dade County has administered

the largest amount of vaccines, but an analysis of the data finds that Miami-Dade is behind other counties when you consider the proportion of persons over the age of 65 that live in Miami-Dade County; and

WHEREAS, a recent study reflected that as of February 16, 2021, only 29.6 percent of the 65 and older population of Miami-Dade County have received at least one dose of the COVID-19 vaccine compared to the State of Florida average of 34.5 percent; and

WHEREAS, all of the municipalities in Miami-Dade County are in urgent need of an increase in the volume and speed of vaccinations in order to meet the enormous demand in the state's most populous county; and

WHEREAS, on December 1, 2020, the CDC's Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices recommended that health care personnel and long-term care facility residents be offered COVID-19 vaccination first; and

WHEREAS, on December 20, 2020, the Centers of Disease Control ("CDC") Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices recommended that Phase II of COVID-19 vaccinations should be offered to persons aged 75 years and older, as well as to frontline essential workers, including first responders (e.g. firefighters and police officers), corrections officers, food and agricultural workers, United States Postal Service workers, manufacturing workers, grocery store workers, public transit workers, and those who work in the education sector (teachers and support staff members) as well as child care workers; and

WHEREAS, the CDC defines frontline essential workers as the subset of essential workers likely at highest risk for work-related exposure to COVID-19, because their work related duties must be performed on-site and involve being in close proximity to the public or to co-workers; and

WHEREAS, on December 23, 2020, Governor Ron DeSantis issued Executive Order 20-315 (the "Executive Order"), establishing a priority list of population groups eligible to receive the COVID-19 vaccine during Phase One of Florida's COVID-19 vaccination distribution plan (the "Vaccine Distribution Plan"), consisting of: long-term care facility residents and staff, persons 65 years of age and older, and health care personnel with direct patient contact; and

WHEREAS, COVID-19 cases have continued to rise across Miami-Dade County and across much of Florida; and

WHEREAS, Miami-Dade County Public Schools is the fourth largest school district in the United States; and

WHEREAS, teachers are among the most important essential workers in the State, educating our youth, providing children with essential skills to compete in the 21st century economy, and enriching and inspiring children; and

WHEREAS, earlier access to vaccines for teachers and school staff will increase the

likelihood of returning to face-to-face learning, without the roller coaster of opening, closing, and reopening schools, and will promote the safety of school personnel who serve these essential roles; and

WHEREAS, municipal police departments, through their sworn officers, are integral to preserving peace, ensuring public order and safety; and

WHEREAS, as first responders, police officers routinely engage with the public in a variety of settings, including businesses, vehicles, and private residences; and

WHEREAS, municipal fire departments and their personnel are routinely called upon to respond to a variety of emergencies, and in so doing, perform a vital service to the community; and

WHEREAS, transit employees provide countywide mass transit services to the public that are essential to the functioning of society; and

WHEREAS, childcare workers, food service workers, agricultural workers, manufacturing workers, United States Postal Service workers, and grocery store workers also serve in sectors essential to the functioning of society and perform in close proximity to the public or to co-workers; and

WHEREAS, persons with certain pre-existing health conditions are at increased risk of developing severe COVID-19-related illness, potentially resulting in hospitalization or death;

WHEREAS, on Tuesday, February 23rd Governor DeSantis announced that soon teachers and police officers, over the age of 50, will be eligible for the vaccine;

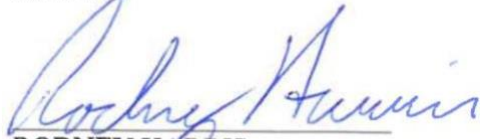
NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE MIAMI-DADE COUNTY LEAGUE CITIES, INC.:

Section 1. The Miami-Dade County League of Cities Board and Mayor's Coalition urges Governor Ron DeSantis to increase the weekly COVID-19 vaccine allocations to Miami-Dade County in order for municipalities within Miami-Dade County to be able to meet the demand for vaccines among persons over the age of 65 and other vulnerable members of our community.

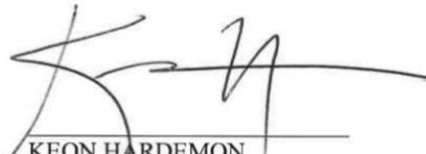
Section 3. The Miami-Dade County League of Cities Board and Mayor's Coalition urges Governor Ron DeSantis to prioritize the following groups of persons in Phase II of the COVID-19 vaccine administration: teachers and support staff members, police officers, and other frontline essential workers, as specified by the United States Centers for Disease Control Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices, including firefighters, corrections officers, public transit workers, child care workers, food service workers, agricultural workers, manufacturing workers, united states postal service workers, grocery store workers, and persons with medical conditions that increase the risk of severe COVID-19, as certified by a physician.

PASSED AND ADOPTED by the Miami Dade County League of Cities Board and Mayor's Coalition members this 26th day of February, 2021.

ATTEST:



RODNEY HARRIS
SECRETARY



KEON HARDEMON
PRESIDENT