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## MEDIA RELEASE

## Health Department Launches Survey for Phase 2 Individuals and Organizations Interested in Receiving COVID-19 vaccine

**Topeka, Kan.** – The Shawnee County Health Department (SCHD) continues to follow the guidance provided by the Kansas Department of Health and Environment and the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention as it relates to administering COVID-19 vaccine in our community. In an effort to proactively identify individuals that are interested in receiving the COVID-19 vaccine the SCHD has launched an online survey for those who have been identified as part of the Kansas Vaccination Plan - Phase 2. More information about who is eligible for vaccine in specific phases can be found at www.kansasvaccine.gov.

Individuals or organizations that fit the criteria listed, and are interested in receiving a COVID-19 vaccine as part of Phase 2 are encouraged to complete the following survey: <u>https://survey.alchemer.com/s3/6149227/Shawnee-County-Health-Department-COVID-19-Vaccine-Interest-Form</u>. Additional details for vaccination timeframes and scheduling will be communicated as more details regarding Phase 2 vaccine administration are released and additional vaccine doses become available.

"We encourage all community members to receive the COVID-19 vaccine when it becomes available to them," said Craig Barnes, Division Manager Shawnee County Health Department. "We are working diligently to complete vaccinations of healthcare associated workers and others as part of Phase 1 so that we can quickly move to individuals in Phase 2 when we receive that guidance. Although the first doses of vaccine are here, we must continue to remain vigilant and continue to wear our masks, wash our hands, and watch our distance."

SCHD vaccine administration for Phase 1 individuals is still ongoing, with 1,788 doses of vaccine having been administered as a part of its collaboration with GraceMed. In accordance with current KDHE guidance we will complete the first phase before moving to additional phases. The Moderna COVID-19 vaccine requires two doses, separated by 28 days. Individuals should receive both doses in order to be considered fully vaccinated. Current and future scheduling is based on vaccine availability and may be modified based on the vaccine supply.

Questions about COVID-19 vaccine can be directed to <u>HAAdmin@snco.us</u>.

As a reminder to the Shawnee County community, the SCHD is still conducting all other immunizations for children and adults through its Clinical Services Department by appointment. Please call 785.251.5700 to schedule an appointment.

The SCHD continues to urge the public to practice caution by adhering to the following measures to help reduce transmission of COVID-19 in the Shawnee County community:



- 1. Avoid close contact with other individuals outside your household. Close contact is defined as contact within 6 feet that lasts 10 cumulative minutes or more.
- 2. Always wear a mask when in a public place.
- 3. Avoid large gatherings of people.
- 4. Wash your hands often with soap and water for at least 20 seconds. If soap and water are not available, use an alcohol-based hand sanitizer.
- 5. Avoid touching your eyes, nose, and mouth with unwashed hands.
- 6. Clean and disinfect frequently touched objects and surfaces.

Additional COVID-19 Resources:

Shawnee County Health Department: <u>https://www.snco.us/HD/coronavirus.asp</u> Kansas Department of Health and Environment: <u>https://www.coronavirus.kdheks.gov/</u> Centers for Disease Control and Prevention: <u>https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-nCoV/index.html</u>

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Shawnee County Health Department is committed to working in partnership with our community to promote and protect the optimal health of all people by bridging gaps to eliminate health inequities, respecting the diversity of our community, through adaptive and innovative processes.

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