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COVID-19 Press Bulletin for 2-12-2021

Carson City, NV — Today, Caleb Cage, Nevada COVID-19 Response Director and Candice McDaniel, Health Bureau Chief for the Bureau of Child, Family, and Community Wellness, provided updates on Nevada’s ongoing COVID-19 response, testing, reporting and vaccination efforts during a teleconference with members of the media.

This bulletin provides facts, figures, and informational items from the call. As a reminder, data is provided in a dashboard on the home page of the Nevada Health Response website and can be accessed 24 hours a day.

There will not be a noon call with members of the media on Monday, Feb. 15 in observation of Presidents Day.

SUMMARY:
- As of today, Nevada has logged 287,023 cases, with the 14-day rolling average of daily cases being 587.

- Nevada has now completed a total of 2,590,646 molecular tests since the beginning of COVID-19.

- The test positivity rate over the last 14 days is 13.8%.

- The Nevada Hospital Association (NHA) reports Nevada is continuing to see a downward trajectory in hospitalizations.
• The NHA is also reporting there are currently 847 COVID-19 hospitalizations (737 confirmed; 110 suspected).

• The COVID-19 vaccine call center is open 8 a.m. to 8 p.m. seven days a week and can be reached at 1-800-401-0946.

• The call center’s call volume on Feb. 10 was 2,811 calls with an average handle time of eight minutes and a wait time to answer of one and a half minutes.

• Through the call center, Nevadans can access county-specific updates and information as more Nevadans become eligible to receive the COVID-19 vaccine.

• This is the same information as what is available on NVCOVIDFighter.org and the state encourages those who can make an appointment online to continue to do so. Also Nevadans are encouraged to help the seniors they know may need assistance with this process.

• The call center can assist the individual in booking an appointment if the individual is deemed eligible and an appointment slot is open. They can also fill out the vaccine interest form if the individual is not yet eligible or there is no open appointment.

• The call center has bilingual staff that speak English and Spanish. The call center also has access to the language line for other languages as needed.

• The call center is off to a good start, with increased volume since Wednesday.
• As of February 11, 407,462 doses of COVID-19 vaccine have been administered and reported to NV WebIZ.

• More than 89,000 second doses have been administered.

• The CDC released updated guidance for quarantine after a person has received their second dose of the COVID-19 vaccine.

• Vaccinated persons with an exposure to someone with suspected or confirmed COVID-19 are not required to quarantine if they meet all of the following criteria:
  
  o Are fully vaccinated (i.e., ≥2 weeks following receipt of the second dose in a 2-dose series, or ≥2 weeks following receipt of one dose of a single-dose vaccine)
  
  o Are within 3 months following receipt of the last dose in the series
  
  o Have remained asymptomatic since the current COVID-19 exposure

• Persons who do not meet all 3 of the above criteria should continue to follow current quarantine guidance after exposure to someone with suspected or confirmed COVID-19.

• The State of Nevada is receiving limited first doses of the COVID-19 vaccine from the federal government each week – many vaccination sites are having to scale down because of the limited allocation we are set to receive next week.
• Second doses, for those who have received first doses, are available from the federal government based on the date of vaccination and the minimum intervals for both the Moderna and Pfizer products. Vaccinators are able to order second doses as needed.

• Nevadans must continue to be patient while limited doses are available, and it is encouraged that all Nevadans think of the seniors they know and ensure they have a plan and understand how to make an appointment to be vaccinated.

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