

# CARTERET COUNTY DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN SERVICES

**Cindy P. Holman**  
Consolidated Human Services Director  
cindy.holman@carteretcountync.gov



**Clinton W. Lewis**  
DSS Director  
Consolidated Human Services Deputy Director  
clint.lewis@carteretcountync.gov

**Stephanie M. Cannon, MPA**  
Health Director  
Consolidated Human Services Deputy Director  
stephanie.cannon@carteretcountync.gov

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Contact: Jaime Long  
252.728.8454  
[jaime.long@carteretcountync.gov](mailto:jaime.long@carteretcountync.gov)

## **Carteret County COVID-19 COVID-19 Vaccine Update Press Release #91**

**Carteret County, NC** – On December 21, 2020, the Carteret County Health Department received a very limited supply of COVID-19 vaccines. The Health Department is following guidance from the Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS) for distribution and vaccination order. Vaccinations will first be administered to persons that fall into Phase 1a. This phase includes healthcare workers with high risk of exposure and long-term care facility staff and residents. Vaccinations of groups outside Phase 1a will not begin until they are confident Phase 1a vaccinations are complete. Vaccinations will be available by appointment only though no appointments remain for the current supply of vaccines.

During vaccinations, the Health Department will be taking necessary precautions to ensure the safety of staff and those receiving the vaccine (e.g. social distancing, mask requirement, limited number of appointments per time slot).

The Health Department asks for the public's patience as vaccine supplies will be limited for some time and the distribution will be a very slow process. Stephanie Cannon, Health Department Director, stated, "Although this will be a slow endeavor, it is reassuring to know we've started administering the vaccines and are on our way to getting things back to normal. However, until we have a good majority of the population vaccinated, residents should continue to practice the 3W; wear a mask, wait 6 ft apart from others, and wash your hands frequently."

For more information on the vaccine, please visit: <https://covid19.ncdhhs.gov/vaccines>

For more information on COVID-19, please visit the County website <http://carteretcountync.gov/>, DHHS website <https://covid19.ncdhhs.gov/>, and the CDC website: <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-nCoV/index.html>.

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Department of Social Services — 210 Craven Street • PO Box 779 • Beaufort, NC 28516  
Tel (252) 728-3181 / Main Fax (252) 648-7462 / Legal Unit Fax (252) 648-7463

Public Health Department — 3820-A Bridges Street • Morehead City, NC 28557  
Main Office — Tel (252) 728-8550 / Fax (252) 222-7739  
Environmental Health — Tel (252) 728-8499 / Fax (252) 222-7753  
Animal Control — Tel (252) 728-8585 / Fax (252) 222-5823

