



Rochelle P. Walensky, MD, MPH
Director, Centers for Disease Control and Prevention

Matt Ammon
Acting Secretary, U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development

Erika Poethig
Domestic Policy Council, The White House

March 1, 2021

Dear Director Walensky, Acting Secretary Ammon, and Ms. Poethig:

The undersigned urge HUD and CDC to work together to ensure that HUD-supported affordable housing communities are prioritized for vaccines and have access to COVID-19 vaccine partners who will provide on-site vaccination clinics to residents and staff.

As HUD's recent report, [COVID-19 Risk Factors Among HUD-Assisted Renters](#), makes clear, HUD rental programs assist residents with disproportionately high levels of older adults, of disability status, and of belonging to a racial or ethnic minority that reflect the highest COVID-19 risk factors.

As owners and managers of HUD-supported affordable housing communities, we know that the age, disability status, and race of HUD rental assistance recipients make the need for on-site vaccine clinics necessary.

The CDC's Pharmacy Partnership for Long-Term Care Program brought vaccine clinics to fewer than half of HUD Section 202 Housing for the Elderly communities. The affordable senior housing communities that could participate remain extremely grateful, but thousands of high-risk, HUD-supported communities remain without vaccine access.

We urge CDC and HUD to secure pharmacy partners for vaccine clinics at the thousands of highly at-risk communities left behind, including public housing, project-based Section 8, and the remaining Section 202 communities. The CDC's Retail Pharmacy Program, begun on February 11, does not identify or facilitate the on-site clinics that are needed at HUD affordable housing communities. Further, we request that the Retail Program website (or some other easy to use resource) make it uncomplicated to identify pharmacies that are able to provide onsite clinics.

The below organizations stand ready to facilitate any such HUD and CDC efforts.

Please contact Linda Couch, lcouch@leadingage.org, to follow up or with any questions.

Sincerely,

Council of Large Public Housing Authorities
LeadingAge
National Affordable Housing Management Association
National Leased Housing Association
Public Housing Authorities Directors Association