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COVID-19 Vaccine: An Important Message from Joseph R. Impicciche, President and CEO

1 message

Nick Ragone, Chief Marketing and Communications Officer

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An Important Message Regarding the COVID-19 Vaccine from Joseph R. Impicciche, President and CEO of Ascension

From the moment COVID-19 emerged in the U.S., our dedicated caregivers have worked tirelessly to care for those impacted by the pandemic. We are incredibly grateful to all of our nurses, doctors and associates for the commitment they have shown in this year that has been like no other.



One critical component to stopping the spread of this deadly virus is a safe and effective vaccine. The two COVID-19 vaccines currently authorized for emergency use by the FDA have undergone clinical trials involving rigorous testing, monitoring and documentation to help ensure they are safe and effective.

I'm pleased to share that, to date, more than 40,000 Ascension front-line healthcare workers have been vaccinated. We expect that number to accelerate as the Moderna vaccine becomes fully distributed for administration this week and next, and as we continue to receive and administer the Pfizer vaccine. That said, we have seen hesitancy around taking the vaccine across our workforce and in communities that we serve. It is important that we continue to share the messages of vaccine safety and efficacy and model the behavior we want to encourage, especially given our trusted position in our communities. I strongly urge everyone to get a COVID-19 vaccine as it becomes available.

The Ascension Board of Directors has requested that our senior leadership team members be vaccinated, and I received my first of two shots today at our Ascension



Providence DePaul Center in Mobile, Alabama, part of the Ascension Florida and Gulf Coast Ministry Market. Earlier this week, our Board member Dr. Regina Benjamin, former Surgeon General of the United States, received her COVID-19 vaccine at Ascension Providence in Mobile and shared her vaccination story publicly to encourage others to get vaccinated. To demonstrate their confidence in the vaccines, other

Ascension Board members will be vaccinated in the weeks to come.

We know that it will take time to vaccinate all of the members of our community. Meanwhile it is very important to continue all the safety practices we have put in place over the last nine months, such as wearing masks, social distancing and hand washing. We will continue to follow these measures across all our Ascension care sites for as long as necessary.

Thank you again for your continued dedication and commitment. I wish you blessings, health and safety for this holiday season and in the coming year.

Joseph R. Impiccicche, JD, MHA
President and Chief Executive Officer

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