

**LETTER FROM MAYOR CHRIS RILEY  
COVID-19 CRISIS –01/15/2021**

Dear Leon Valley Citizens and Businesses:

**CITY COUNCIL UPDATED EMERGENCY ORDER**

Leon Valley city council has adopted Bexar County Executive Order NW-19. Due to the increase in hospitalizations over 7 days, bars that do not serve food must close and restaurants are restricted to 50% dine-in capacity (down from 75%). The rest of the protocols remained the same.

City Hall, Park pavilions and Senior Center remain closed. (Please call (210) 684-1391 to discuss any issue with a staff member). The Library will continue to provide curbside and on-line programs only. Soccer and baseball fields remain closed for organized sports, but open for individual/small group play. All playgrounds remain open. *The city council reopened the basketball courts.*

**MORE VACCINE SUPPLY NEEDED**

Mayor Nirenberg joined other Mayors across the country in urging the Biden Administration to distribute the COVID -19 vaccine directly to cities. Currently, health care professionals, nursing home and assisted living staff, and patients are being vaccinated since they are in the top priority group (Tier 1A). Tier 1 B is anyone over 65 years of age or over 16

with one underlying medical condition and are now eligible to be vaccinated. Mayor Nirenberg mentioned that 5 million phone calls were made by eligible persons for vaccine appointments but only 154,000 doses were available over the last several weeks. Metro Health is also urging pregnant women to be vaccinated. You must register (by phone or email) and will receive confirmation with a bar code which you must take to the vaccine site. I have heard from friends and family it is not easy to register on line or by phone. Dr. Bridger, COVID-19 manager for the city, urges everyone to remain patient and more vaccines are on the way.

Here is some contact information to get in line for the vaccine:

1. **San Antonio Metro Health District (City of San Antonio)** has a vaccination hub at the Alamodome. (210) 207-6000. Email: [covid19.sanantonio.gov/vaccine](mailto:covid19.sanantonio.gov/vaccine). The average wait at the Alamodome is reported to be 30-45 minutes.

2. **University Hospital – (210) 644-1960.** Email: [WECANDOITSA.com](mailto:WECANDOITSA.com). You can sign up to receive an email notification as to when UHS will accept registration once more doses are available.

3. **Well-Med Clinics** had 9,000 doses of the vaccine available this week, but all appointments have been filled. Call: 1-888-781-9355 or Email: [WebsiteContactUs@wellmed.net](mailto:WebsiteContactUs@wellmed.net).

4. **HEB.Com/vaccine** – Their initial supply has been distributed or is scheduled to be administered. Once HEB gets more supply they will activate a scheduler tool on the website above.

All of these sites are open to the general public. There is no charge for the vaccine and no prescription necessary. A second dose is necessary for full protection.

### **COVID SURGE CONTINUES**

As of January 14<sup>TH</sup>, there were 140,614 total cases reported in Bexar County, a 9.8% increase in 7 days. There were 1,704 total deaths reported on January 7<sup>th</sup>, a 7.4% increase in 7 days. There were 382 ICU patients and 237 patients on ventilators.

The positivity rate, the percentage of tested COVID cases which are positive, dropped 23.2% on January 4<sup>th</sup>, 2021 to 19.7% on January 11<sup>th</sup>, 2021.

This is a **plea** to everyone in our community to help stop the spread of the virus by very simple measures:

- Wearing masks and socially distancing yourself 6 feet from someone not in your household;
- Stay home if you are sick.
- Wash your hands;

- Keep any gatherings to 10 or less people, preferably outside. If you are inside, open up windows for circulation and do not have lengthy gatherings.

### **HELP IS NEEDED & AVAILABLE**

- The **South Texas Blood and Tissue Center** has a **critically low** supply of O negative blood on hand. Please consider donating blood to help this dire situation by calling (210) 731-5555, or call University Hospital at (210) 358-2812 to set up an appointment to give blood. Thank you.

- Lost Your Job or trouble paying rent or utilities because of COVID? **Call (210) 335-1777 or visit Bexar County Strong for assistance.**

*Thank you* to everyone in our community for keeping yourself, your family and your community safe. I am hearing of more Leon Valleyites who have gotten COVID, so please stay safe!

Sincerely, Chris  
(210) 618-2092 (cell)