Dear Employees,

Issued on March 8th, 2021, there has been recent information from the CDC about people who are vaccinated:

**Today, (March 8th) the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) issued its first set of**[**recommendations**](https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/vaccines/fully-vaccinated-guidance.html)**on activities that people who are fully vaccinated against COVID-19 can safely resume.**

* **Visit with other fully vaccinated people indoors without wearing masks or staying 6 feet apart.**
* **Visit with unvaccinated people from one other household indoors without wearing masks or staying 6 feet apart if everyone in the other household is at low risk for severe disease.**
* **Refrain from quarantine and testing if they do not have symptoms of COVID-19 after contact with someone who has COVID-19.**

**This information is for the general public, not for health care.** Still, the information is optimistic. CDC notes: **While the new guidance is a positive step, the vast majority of people need to be fully vaccinated before COVID-19 precautions can be lifted broadly. Until then, it is important that everyone continues to adhere to public health mitigation measures to protect the large number of people who remain unvaccinated**.

ABLE is taking these steps to assess our future:

* We will be conducting an infection control assessment with the Dept of Health on March 17th.
* We are visiting with families to determine their level of tolerance and risk.
* We will continue to pay 14 days of COVID leave for COVID related events; testing positive or being in close contact with a positive person.
* We encourage all our employees to consider vaccinations. **Per CDC: A person is considered fully vaccinated two weeks after receiving the last required dose of vaccine. Although vaccinations are accelerating, CDC estimates that just 9.2% of the U.S. population has been fully vaccinated with a COVID-19 vaccine that the FDA has authorized for emergency use.**

Please let your lead supervisor know if you need help getting on the schedule to get your vaccine. There are opportunities through clinics, pharmacies and SWDHU.

*Thank you for all your work to keep people safe. We look forward to a time when there will be fewer restrictions. We are just not there yet.*