**Meeting Local Vaccination Needs Through Mobile Services:**

**A Tailored Option to Advance Equity**

**March 31, 2021**

In its commitment to advancing equity, DPH is expanding vaccine access including **Mobile COVID-19 Vaccination Services**. Mobile vaccines are deployed by DPH in collaboration with municipal leaders and other key local stakeholders**.**

**All doses for mobile services use must come from already established allocations. At this time, there is not an additional allocation for mobile vaccination services, outside of the specialized homebound vaccine program.**

***Who are these Services for:***Mobile vaccination services are intended to address a particular community need that cannot be met by existing vaccination opportunities, such as the Commonwealth’s mass vaccination sites, hospitals/medical providers, community health centers, or pharmacy-based vaccination clinics. Mobile vaccination services described here are prioritized by DPH for eligible individuals in the 20 municipalities most disproportionately impacted by COVID-19, which include: Boston, Brockton, Chelsea, Everett, Fall River, Fitchburg, Framingham, Haverhill, Holyoke, Lawrence, Leominster, Lowell, Lynn, Malden, Methuen, New Bedford, Randolph, Revere, Springfield, and Worcester.[[1]](#footnote-1)

Additionally, mobile vaccination services are intended to meet the needs of groups identified by DPH and local municipal leaders for enhanced vaccination support: Black, Indigenous, People of Color (BIPOC); Latinx individuals; people with disabilities; individuals experiencing homelessness; individuals with mental illness; individuals with substance use disorder; individuals who do not speak English, or who prefer to speak in another language; individuals who do not have access to public transportation or who face challenges to travel to a vaccination site; and individuals who do not feel comfortable receiving the vaccine in a traditional healthcare setting. DPH recognizes the intersectionality of these identities and lived experiences and requires that mobile vaccination services are designed to respond to the needs and preferences of individuals and communities.

**DPH mobile vaccination services complement other mobile vaccination efforts delivered by local Boards of Health, mass vaccination programs and Community Health Centers, are focused to meet the needs of priority populations (with a focus on the 20 prioritized municipalities) and are intended to address gaps that cannot be met by existing providers.**

Examples where mobile services may be useful:

* Vaccination in coordination with religious services at a faith-based organization;
* Neighborhoods with limited access to public transportation;
* Residential areas with high numbers of prioritized populations;
* Venues/locations that are responsive to the needs of individuals with disabilities.

***Service Description:***Mobile vaccination services are delivered by clinical providers at pop-up or temporary vaccination clinics in a community-based setting or venue. The mobile services include all services available in any other vaccination setting. Mobile vaccination services are often delivered from an ambulance or medical van; and may be established at sites such as: a community center, auditorium, tent, central municipal area, etc. Mobile vaccination clinics are provided on a short-term basis (e.g., day-long or evening clinic) and may also be provided on a recurring basis (e.g., one day per week).

Mobile vaccination services are delivered by qualified and appropriately credentialed clinical personnel, including nurses, paramedics, and emergency medical technicians (EMTs). Mobile vaccination services include registration for vaccine appointments, provision of basic information about the vaccine, administration of vaccine, observation by clinical staff following vaccine administration, and scheduling of follow up appointments to receive second doses of vaccine (as applicable).

1. <https://www.mass.gov/news/baker-polito-administration-launches-targeted-outreach-initiative-in-20-hardest-hit> [↑](#footnote-ref-1)