March 23, 2021

Dear Heidelberg Community,

We have all heard many times over the past year, “We’re All in This Together, Ohio.” That theme has often rallied and united us. As COVID-19 vaccination supplies become increasingly available and eligibility opens up, it seems even more relevant today. For the first time in many months, with more and more people getting their vaccines, we feel a sense of optimism. We are on the verge of turning the corner and returning to a more normal life. Now is not the time to let up!

As of Monday, March 29, eligibility will include all Ohioans 16 and older, which means as of that date, everyone on our campus can now get the vaccine. We would like to take this opportunity to encourage each of you to get a vaccine as soon as possible. The CARES Act provides funding so there is no cost to individuals.

Vaccines have been shown to be safe and effective at preventing serious illness, hospitalization and death from COVID-19 disease. Based on information from health and science experts, individuals who have been fully vaccinated can start doing some of the things they had stopped doing during the pandemic. The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) lists these benefits to getting a COVID-19 vaccine.

*We have just received information from the Seneca County Emergency Management Agency that anyone -- including Heidelberg faculty, staff and students -- who would like to get a vaccine can sign up now with the Seneca County General Health District by using this form.*

In addition to the Seneca County General Health District, there are four other locations where ‘Berg students and employees can schedule and receive your vaccine in Tiffin:

- [Seneca County General Health District](tel:419-447-3691), 419-447-3691
- [Mercy Health – Tiffin Hospital](tel:419-455-8501), 419-455-8501
- [Kroger Pharmacy](tel:866-211-5320), 866-211-5320
- [Tiffin Community Health Center](tel:419-549-8870), 419-549-8870
- [Walmart Pharmacy](tel:419-447-9177), 419-447-9177

The Ohio Department of Health (ODH) has provided these valuable resources to help guide you in making an informed decision about getting your vaccine:
Here is additional information from the CDC to help educate us on the COVID-19 vaccine:

- What to Expect After Getting a COVID-19 Vaccine
- Ensuring Safety of Vaccines
- Different Vaccines

The ODH’s clearinghouse for vaccine providers, updates and booking vaccine appointments can be found at gettheshot.coronavirus.ohio.gov. You can also call the Ohio COVID-19 Call Center at 833-4ASKODH if you have specific questions.

Finally, we would also like to inform everyone that Stoner Health and Counseling Center has been approved as a vaccine provider site. With that in mind, we are considering hosting a vaccination clinic on campus. We ask you to complete this anonymous two-question survey to gauge interest among those in our community, including students, employees and family members who would like to receive a vaccine on campus.

Thanks to our collective and ongoing commitment to follow health protocols and to get tested, we have maintained a relatively healthy campus this semester with a positivity rate of less than 1%. Getting a vaccine is one more way we can continue on this path and ensure that we remain in this together, Heidelberg.

As always, if you have questions or concerns about the vaccine, feel free to call Stoner Health & Counseling Center at 419-448-2041.

Sincerely,

Dr. Chris Abrams, Ed.D.
Dean of Student Affairs

Janelle Baldosser, CNP
Director of Stoner Health & Counseling Center