



community health
northwest florida



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Community Health Northwest Florida Expands Pediatric COVID Vaccination to Ages 6 Months and Older

PENSACOLA, FL - Today, Community Health Northwest Florida announced the organization will begin providing COVID-19 vaccination for children between ages 6 months and five years. This follows final authorization of the COVID-19 vaccine for this age group by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC).

After successful clinical trials and a rigorous review of all available data, on June 17 the FDA authorized Pfizer's and Moderna's requests to expand their emergency use authorization (EUA) to the youngest children. On June 18, the CDC Director officially declared the pediatric vaccines to be safe for infants and small children and announced the CDC's formal recommendation. This expands eligibility for COVID-19 vaccination to nearly 20 million additional children and means that all Americans ages 6 months and older are eligible for vaccination.

"Community Health Northwest Florida is committed to ensuring all the health resources are accessible to every family in the communities in which we live and serve," said Chandra Smiley, CEO and Executive Director of Community Health Northwest Florida. "We are pleased to be able to provide this protection to our youngest population. We encourage anyone who has questions about the vaccines to reach out to our pediatric healthcare providers."

Community Health Northwest Florida (CHNWF) currently provides the COVID-19 vaccine to children five years and older at our pediatric primary care sites, and will begin providing COVID-19 vaccination for children ages 6 months to 5 years at select locations starting July 5. Appointments are required. To schedule a vaccination appointment:

- For **established CHNWF pediatric patients**, parent/guardian should contact their child's primary care provider's office to be scheduled for an in-clinic vaccination appointment.
- For **children who are *not* established** with a CHNWF pediatric primary care provider, parent/guardian should contact the **Community Health Northwest Florida COVID-19 Vaccine Call Center at 850.439.3358** to be scheduled at a designated CHNWF location.

Additional information on Community Health Northwest Florida Pediatric Services is available on our website at healthcarewithinreach.org.