FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: 3/16/2021

RAVALLI COUNTY COVID VACCINE UPDATE
PUBLIC HEALTH

Hamilton, Mont. – Ravalli County Public Health is reporting 15 cases for the weekend of March 13th and 14th with an additional 18 cases reported over the last two days. Public Health has also receive notice of an additional death of one of our residents bring our total to 30 for Ravalli County. Our thoughts and prayers are with the family.

Today, Governor Gianforte announced that Montana will make the COVID-19 vaccine available to all Montana residents beginning on April 1. This is great news for our state. However, individuals who have been eligible up to this point represent a minority of our state's population. Most Montanans have not yet been vaccinated.

Vaccination of all of our county's residents who want to receive the vaccine will take time and will be a challenge to all of our local providers. However, it is a challenge we welcome and are excited to all be working together to accomplish.

As our Community works through this process, we ask for your patience, kindness, and grace. Due to the large amount of population who will become eligible to receive a vaccine, it is likely that you will see changes in existing registration programs, vaccine clinics, and possibly even additional providers or large vaccine events in our county. Please keep in mind that this will not happen quickly; several months remain in this process.

We understand that there are individuals that remain in Phase 1B and 1B+ who have not yet received an appointment for a COVID-19 vaccine. Many of our local providers have appointment times available now. Please check with your local pharmacy, or the providers listed on the Ravalli County website at https://ravalli.us/ for appointment opportunities. Public Health will continue to prioritize individuals eligible under these phases after April 1, as scheduling allows.

Ravalli County and our community partners are committed to this effort until every resident who wants the COVID-19 vaccine is able to receive it.

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