



August 9, 2021

Dear Colleagues,

Last week Governor Baker announced the COVID-19 vaccine will be mandated for “staff at long-term care facilities.” The requirement provides an exemption for those with medical restrictions or sincerely held religious beliefs that prevent you from receiving the vaccination. Without a valid waiver from your primary care physician or religious leader, team members may not otherwise decline the vaccine.

The state defines team members to include all individuals employed directly or by contract by a long-term care provider.

We understand that this mandate will be very unpopular to some. However, medical professionals are strongly in favor of vaccinating everyone in order to find our way out of this terrible pandemic. We work with the most vulnerable population of people, and are being required to do all that we can to mitigate the possibility of spreading it to residents and each other.

Unlike in early 2020, children have become increasingly at risk of serious illness from COVID-19 requiring us to all do what we can to stop the spread.

The mandate states that all unvaccinated team members are expected to receive their first dose by September 1, and are expected to be fully vaccinated by October 10.

As with the flu vaccine, it may not completely protect us from getting COVID-19. However, the data is showing that for those who do experience a “breakthrough” case, it is much less severe. More than 99.99% of fully vaccinated people have not had a severe breakthrough case resulting in hospitalization.

We continue to do everything we can to make it as easy as possible to get vaccinated. There is a vaccine clinic scheduled to be held at Loomis Lakeside at Reeds Landing on August 11. If you are interested in getting vaccinated at the clinic, please let your supervisor or Executive Director know right away so they can help you coordinate the details.

We hope that you will join the over 230 fully vaccinated team members at The Loomis Communities who enjoy a high level of comfort with their protection from COVID-19.

Stay well,

Margaret Mantoni, CEO

