



PRESS RELEASE

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Project FIND's Senior Center to Host Pop-Up Vaccination Clinic with the Help of Allure Pharmacy and City Health Officials

More than 600 seniors living in [Project FIND's](#) Hamilton, Hargrave and Woodstock housing sites on Manhattan's West Side will no longer have to constantly search for Covid-19 vaccine appointments on the Internet. Project FIND is bringing the vaccine to them.

Project FIND was introduced to Allure Pharmacy by the city Department of Health. The partnership with Allure Pharmacy, based in the Bronx, will help to get up to 100 doses of the Moderna vaccine into the arms of Project FIND tenants, senior center members and staff. Vaccinations will be administered on Monday, March 8 from 10:30 am until 3:00 pm at Project FIND's Hamilton Senior Center located at 141 West 73rd Street, New York, NY 10023.

"Our appointments opened up on March 2 and we had 50 people signed up in a matter of hours," said Mark Jennings, the organization's Associate Executive Director. "Our tenants, who are all seniors, have been petitioning for onsite vaccinations based on difficulty navigating the online appointment systems or hesitancy to expose themselves to COVID with travel to huge vaccination centers."

Project FIND, which has been serving seniors on the west side of Manhattan for more than 50 years, has had an extensive program to protect its seniors from Covid-19 infections at its senior residences since the pandemic began. To keep tenants safe, Project FIND has partnered with [Doctors Without Borders](#) and provided onsite COVID testing with the help of ESSEN Healthcare, also located in the Bronx.

To fight vaccine hesitancy among staff, the organization is offering paid time off for employees to take their doses. In addition, Project FIND is offering a \$50 bonus for any of its 100-plus employees who is fully vaccinated. Because Project FIND provides affordable housing to all New Yorkers, its vaccination clinic will greatly benefit low-income persons and people of color who have been disproportionately affected by COVID-19. Nearly 40% of the persons receiving appointments identify as Black and 18% identify as persons of Hispanic heritage.

“We have had amazing cooperation among our residents and staff in adhering to wearing masks and social distancing in halls, common areas, and other locations,” said Mr. Jennings. “Those measures have enabled us to keep most of our seniors safe.”

During the pandemic, Project FIND has closed its four senior centers on Manhattan’s West Side. Instead, the organization has worked closely with the city to make sure seniors get home-delivered meals through New York City’s GetFoodNYC program. Every week, Project FIND social workers contact seniors who used to attend its senior centers to make sure they are getting their meals as well as medical and psychiatric help, if necessary.

Instead of on-site social activities at its senior centers, Project FIND has been offering seniors several dozen [virtual activities](#) each week, especially its immensely popular health and wellness programs. In addition, Project FIND’s Coffeehouse Senior Center on West 42nd Street has been providing free grab-and-go meals to homeless seniors in the Times Square area five days a week, while its Woodstock residence on West 43rd Street provides showers, clean clothes, and counseling for homeless older adults.

“We are preparing for the day when it is safe enough to reopen our senior centers for food and recreational activities,” said Mr. Jennings. “We also hope to continue offering recreational programs online so that home-bound seniors can access these programs and enrich their lives at home.”

For more information, please contact Kathleen Fitzgibbons at kfitzgibbons@projectfind.org or 1-973-452-7441. Or Mark Jennings at mjennings@projectfind.org at 917-736-8180.

About Project FIND: Established in 1967, Project FIND provides low- and moderate-income and homeless seniors on Manhattan’s West Side with the services and support they need to enrich their lives and live independently. Today, Project FIND operates three supportive housing residences that are home to about 600 people and plans to eventually reopen its four senior centers that had over 3,000 members before the pandemic.