Dear Residents of SD-44:

My staff and I continue to focus our efforts heavily on gathering feedback from constituents, as well as local and county officials and are relaying those concerns directly to the state Department of Health and the Administration. This past week, I set up a call with Pfizer to better understand their anticipated production ramp, as well as how they are logistically delivering the vaccine directly to providers in Pennsylvania.

This past week, Montgomery and Chester counties received thousands of fewer vaccine doses than requested which is absolutely unacceptable given that they rank 3rd and 6th respectively in population in the Commonwealth, but rank far below other counties with much lower populations in terms of vaccines received.

Look, we know that there is a delay in vaccine doses coming down from the federal government, but as a Chester County delegation we have asked the DOH to review the formula being used to ensure that distribution better reflects county populations. Lastly, we have asked that counties with Health Departments receive more doses directly to the county, rather than having to so heavily rely on private health systems and corporations, like pharmacy chains, to distribute vaccines.

I will continue to push for answers until eligible individuals are able to easily sign-up and receive their COVID vaccine doses in a timely and efficient manner. If you need assistance, my office is here to help. You can send my team and I an email to senatormuth@pasenate.com or call us at (610) 792-2137. Follow the latest updates, be sure to like and follow us on Facebook and Twitter.

Senator Katie Muth

COVID Vaccine Update from the Dept. of Health

Last Friday, the Department of Health updated its order directing vaccine providers’ administration of COVID-19 vaccines to ensure that Pennsylvanians are vaccinated as quickly and efficiently as possible. The updated requirements for vaccine providers include:

- At a minimum, vaccine providers must administer 80 percent of their first doses of vaccine received within seven days of receipt of those doses.
- Vaccine providers must follow all requirements and recommendations in the COVID-19 Interim Vaccination Plan.
- Vaccine providers must adhere to the current phase of Pennsylvania’s vaccine rollout, as defined by the department.
- Vaccine providers giving a two-dose vaccine shall provide the COVID-19 vaccine reminder card with a date for a return appointment for the second dose of vaccine.
- Vaccine providers giving a two-dose vaccine must make every appropriate effort to ensure available appointments for second doses, including, but not limited to, designating appointment times for second doses or scheduling second doses at the time of first dose administration, or both.
- Vaccine providers must have both an online and a phone-based registration system for direct appointment scheduling. Information on these systems must be made available to the department so it can be posted online.
- Vaccine providers must report the following:
  - Vaccinations and the information required by the Order Requiring Reporting of Data Related to Each Administration of an Immunization for COVID-19, dated December 15, 2020, on each vaccine administered, including race and ethnicity of the recipient, whether or not the recipient is connected to the vaccine provider.
  - Within 24 hours of receipt of inventory or administration of a vaccine, vaccine providers shall report:
    - Receipt of shipments of COVID-19 immunization inventory;
    - Reduction in inventory levels as vaccines are administered; and
    - Reconciliation of inventory levels.
Registration by County

Montgomery County
If you live or work in Montgomery County and are 65 and older or you have a health condition that qualifies you for the vaccine under Phase 1A, you can pre-register for the vaccine HERE.

Chester County
Chester County continues to vaccinate groups in Phase 1A to include the individuals 65 and older, and individuals between the ages of 16-64 with certain medical conditions.

Berks County
If you live in Berks County, Vaccine distribution is handled by licensed healthcare providers and pharmacies. The County of Berks cannot distribute nor determine who gets the vaccine, but officials are working closely with local health care providers as they continue to coordinate and communicate vaccine distribution efforts. Learn more about how to register with providers HERE.

Racial & Gender Bias in the Court System
At the request of PA Legislative Black Caucus (PLBC) chair Rep. Donna Bullock (D-Philadelphia), vice-chair Rep. Summer Lee (D-Allegheny), and PLBC members Sen. Anthony H. Williams (D-Delaware/Philadelphia) and Sen. Sharif Street (D-Philadelphia), the Pennsylvania Senate and House Democratic Policy Committees will hold a virtual public hearing to discuss racial and gender bias in the court systems across the state.

The Senate Democratic Policy Committee is chaired by Sen. Katie Muth (D-Berks/Chester/Montgomery), and the House Democratic Policy Committee is chaired by Rep. Ryan Bizzarro (D-Erie).

The hearing is scheduled for Friday, February 19, 2021, at 10 a.m. It will be livestreamed at SenatorMuth.com/Policy and the PA Senate Democratic Caucus Facebook page. You can register through Zoom HERE.

PennEnvironment Virtual Town Hall
A big thank you to PennEnvironment for holding a virtual environmental town hall attended by nearly 300 local residents on Thursday evening. We were joined by local citizen activists Ken Hemphill, Abha Saini and Asaf Lebovic to discuss topics ranging from climate change to fracking to reducing plastic waste.

We are up against many powerful individuals and organizations who pollute, contaminate, and exploit our natural resources to make a quick profit, often leaving a mess behind for taxpayers to clean-up.

This is our only planet and we are all responsible to protect it for future generations. I am committed to championing vital policies in Harrisburg to protect and preserve the quality of our environment.

A recording of the event can be viewed on Senator Muth’s Facebook page.
Free Tax Prep Service

My district office in Royersford Borough is offering free tax prep service for anyone who needs to file a tax return by using a 1040 form. This service will be offered on Thursdays from 5-7pm through April 8 (all COVID precautions will be enforced).

You MUST make an appointment by calling my office at 610-792-2137 (ask for Nikki). To learn more about the service and what you will need to bring to your appointment click HERE.

How to Stay Informed

Pennsylvania Department of Health
- The PA DoH Daily COVID-19 report. Updated regularly throughout the day.
- Follow the PA Health Department on Twitter.
- Follow them on Facebook.

U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention
- Follow the CDC on Twitter.
- Follow the CDC on Facebook.
- Learn how best to prevent "community transmission" with specific details on what to do before, during, and after outbreaks.

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Stay Connected
Follow me on Facebook, Twitter, and Instagram for the latest news and updates.