



White Bird Clinic

MEDIA RELEASE

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**White Bird Clinic Vaccinating Local Health Care Providers
Agency Teams Up with Public Health and Area Hospitals to Bolster 1A
Vaccination Effort**

EUGENE, OREGON – *White Bird Clinic is one of three local health care providers to partner with Lane County Public Health to accelerate the COVID-19 phase 1A vaccination effort. Riverbend and McKensie-Willamette hospitals will also provide vaccine. White Bird is donating facilities and staff to help protect Lane County’s diverse group of health care providers. An influx of volunteer clinicians will allow White Bird to scale up a major project immediately.*

White Bird is launching an initiative to vaccinate health care professionals and expedite Lane County Public Health’s COVID-19 vaccination effort. As a vital resource for Eugene and Springfield for more than fifty years, White Bird demonstrates how Community Health Centers are the cornerstone of the regional healthcare system.

Lane County Public Health is supplying White Bird with Moderna vaccine, while McKenzie-Willamette Hospital and PeaceHealth at Riverbend will provide doses of Pfizer. They are also providing technical assistance to support a rapid scale-up of the project.

In the time since the partnership was formed, White Bird has received an outpouring of volunteer offers from local clinicians interested in helping protect their fellow health care professionals. Clinicians and other health care staff who would like to volunteer can visit <http://bit.ly/wbc-volunteer> to sign up.

White Bird is currently running small scale vaccination clinics to vaccinate agency staff and refine workflows, and expects to begin vaccinating area providers as early as next Wednesday, January 26th. Health care professionals interested in getting vaccinated should visit <http://bit.ly/wbc-vaccine> or call the vaccine hotline, 541-844-7736 to learn more and sign up for vaccination. Staff at the agency’s main offices and medical clinic do not have information on the vaccination project, and White Bird asks folks to kindly not interrupt their ongoing work caring for our community’s low income and unhoused individuals.

“The vaccination project is an opportunity for White Bird to care for the caregivers and demonstrate our appreciation for their dedicated service. It is a milestone partnership uniting county HHS, major regional healthcare providers, and community human services agencies,” said Chris Hecht, White Bird’s Executive Coordinator.

In 1969, a group of student activists and concerned practitioners came together to provide crisis services and free medical care for counter-culture youth in Eugene, OR. Having grown continuously since then, today White Bird Clinic has 10 programs, 220 staff members, and more than 400 volunteers each year.



White Bird Clinic staff member Alex Farmer receives the clinic's first vaccine.
High resolution photo available on request.