



## MEDIA RELEASE

Contact: Brittany Mora

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Email: [brittany.mora@co.pierce.wi.us](mailto:brittany.mora@co.pierce.wi.us)

1.26.2021

Phone: 715-273-6755

### **Pierce County Public Health Extends Mass Gathering Limitations, Asks the Community to Remain Vigilant and Continue Prevention Measures While Priority Populations are Vaccinated**

Pierce County Public Health (PCPH) released an updated advisory allowing for less restrictive limits on the size of indoor public gatherings. The new advisory limits public gatherings to **no more than 50% of a space's maximum capacity** or **no more than one person per 56 square feet** in a space without defined occupancy limits. This advisory is in place until February 28<sup>th</sup> 2021, upon which time it will be reviewed by the Health Officer to determine if it can be continued, modified or discontinued. The advisory may be found [here](#).

Pierce County has experienced a promising downward trend in cases since a peak in mid-November, but the county is still classified by the WI Department of Health Services as having a "very high" [level of disease activity](#). AZ Snyder, Health Officer/Public Health Director states, "We are pleased that the county is doing better than we were in November and December in terms of newly identified cases, but we still have a significant level of disease in our community. We must continue working together to prevent the spread of this virus while vaccine is being distributed."

Two brands of vaccines are currently available under emergency use authorization, but supply is limited. There is currently not enough vaccine to vaccinate eligible populations immediately. It will take many weeks before all residents age 65 and older in the county are able to receive the vaccine.

It is important that Pierce County residents remain vigilant and continue to adhere to prevention measures while Pierce County Public Health and local healthcare organizations work diligently to vaccinate priority populations. "We have continued to see COVID-19 related deaths and outbreaks in long-term care facilities this month. It is important we all continue distancing and masking so vulnerable community members don't get sick or die waiting for a vaccine," said Snyder.

Information and data related to COVID-19 in Pierce County can be located by visiting: <https://covid-piercecounty-wi.hub.arcgis.com/>

#### TALK TO US

Phone: 715-273-6755

Fax: 715-273-6854

[www.co.pierce.wi.us](http://www.co.pierce.wi.us)

#### VISIT US

412 W Kinne St

Ellsworth, WI 54011

#### OUR MISSION

To promote healthy behaviors, prevent disease and injury, and protect against environmental hazards