Now that the United States has a vaccine shot that works for people, here are some things you need to know about the new COVID-19 Vaccination process.

The safety of COVID-19 vaccines is a top priority.
- COVID-19 vaccines were carefully tested in clinical trials before being approved to use.
- Trials have been done all around the world.
- COVID-19 vaccines will NOT give you COVID-19 because they do not use a live virus.
- COVID-19 vaccines will NOT cause you to test positive if you have a COVID-19 test.

Who Should Get the COVID-19 Vaccine? Everyone!

- Individuals who have a direct support worker in the home or who takes them out into the community.
- Direct support workers and family members who care for individuals.
- Individuals who live with others who are not related to them.
- Individuals who live in a licensed or certified care home.
- Anyone who is over the age of 65.

Why Should I Get the COVID-19 Shot?

- A vaccine is important to help stop the spread of COVID-19.
- It is a safe way to protect yourself from getting COVID-19.
- It will help protect others around you.
- The vaccine will help us get back to "normal" faster.
Things to Know When You are Ready to Get the COVID-19 Vaccine

Are There Side Effects from Getting the Shot?

Yes. Your body may feel different after the shot. This is called having side effects. If the area around your shot looks different, tell a trusted adult right away or call your doctor.

You may have a runny nose or a headache.
You might be really tired for a few days.
You may get a slight fever or chills.
The area where you got your shot might be itchy, try not to scratch it.
Your arm might be sore in the area where you got your shot.
These side effects should go away in a few days.

Keep Yourself and Others Safe

It may take a year before most people are vaccinated and it is safe to gather in large groups and not wear a mask all the time. Until that time, be sure to stay safe when you are around others.

Wear a mask when you leave your home
Wash your hands often
Keep social distancing
Do not gather in large groups