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Dear Aging Services Network Partners,

I hope this letter finds you well and preparing for the holiday season. **I am writing to ask for your help reaching older adults who have not yet received their COVID-19 booster shot.** You were vital in our efforts to get older people vaccinated during the early months of vaccine distribution allowing for Massachusetts to be a national leader in vaccination rates for older people and the general population. You reached out to older people in your networks and assisted with scheduling and transportation to appointments. **We are asking you to do the same for boosters.**

**Today, less than half of those who are age 65 and older who have completed their initial series and are eligible for a booster have received one. It is critical that we work together to increase these numbers and protect our older adults.**

We know that **boosters are the best way to stay safe and prevent hospitalization from COVID-19** if an individual received the initial series at least 6 months ago for the Pfizer and Moderna or at least 2 months ago for Johnson & Johnson Janssen.

We also know that individuals ages 65 and older who received their vaccine during the early months of vaccine distribution may be **experiencing waning effects of immunity.** It is **strongly recommended that all individuals schedule an appointment for a booster as soon as possible** if they have not gotten one already.

**Massachusetts residents can access booster doses from more than 1,000 locations, with appointments available now across the Commonwealth.** CDC recommendations allow for mixing and matching of different COVID-19 booster doses, and individuals may choose which

vaccine they receive as a booster dose. It is recommended that residents with questions about which booster is right for them should consult their health care provider.

This [Booster Eligibility Graphic](#) may be helpful for your outreach efforts. **To schedule an appointment:**

1. **Visit the Vaxfinder** tool at [vaxfinder.mass.gov](https://vaxfinder.mass.gov) for a full list of locations to receive a booster. Residents can narrow results to search for locations that are offering boosters. Many locations will be booking appointments out weeks in advance.
2. **For individuals who are unable to use Vaxfinder, or have difficulty accessing the internet**, the COVID-19 Vaccine Resource Line can help schedule appointments by **calling 2-1-1** and following the prompts for assistance (Monday through Friday from 8:30 AM to 6:00 PM, Saturday and Sunday 9AM-2PM). The COVID-19 Vaccine Resource Line is available in English and Spanish and has translators available in approximately 100 additional languages.

Vaccines are widely available across the Commonwealth and are **the best way to keep everyone safe, especially heading into the holiday season.**

COVID-19 boosters are safe, effective, and free. Individuals do not need an ID or health insurance to access a booster, and do not need to show a vaccine card. **Additional information on the COVID-booster, including FAQs, can be found at [mass.gov/COVID19booster](https://mass.gov/COVID19booster).**

Thank you for your help and your continued commitment to keeping older people and their caregivers safe!

With gratitude,



**Elizabeth C. Chen**, PhD, MBA, MPH  
*Secretary, Executive Office of Elder Affairs*