

## JB Pritzker, Governor Paula A. Basta, M.Div., Director

Respect for Yesterday
Support for Today
Plan for Tomorrow

Click here to visit our website for an accessible version of this letter.

Find A Vaccine Location

**IDoA COVID-19 Resources** 

October 20, 2022

## Dear Aging Network:

If you've visited IDoA's website recently, particularly on a mobile device, you may have noticed that it looks a little different and is much easier to navigate. We recently migrated our website to a new backend technology to ensure a more inclusive experience for those accessing it. The content remains the same, but as part of the migration, our website URL did change to <a href="https://ilaging.illinois.gov/">https://ilaging.illinois.gov/</a>. The old URL will always automatically reroute to this new one. However, if you list the website on any materials for distribution, please update the link and help us spread the word.

Aside from this much-needed upgrade to our website, I'm excited to share with you that we have finalized selection of our 2022 Senior Illinoisan Hall of Fame honorees. This year we will be recognizing five older adults – one more than in past years – because two nominees in the community service category earned the same top score.

Sadly, one of our Senior Hall of Fame honorees, Ernest White, passed away this month before we were able to present him with his award. You can find the press release announcing Mr. White's selection for the Hall of Fame <a href="here">here</a>. The remaining 2022 honorees will be announced later this fall as each of their awards are presented.

As we move into colder months, the Illinois Department on Aging's efforts to ensure seniors are up-to-date on their vaccinations is ramping up again. And with flu season around the corner, we are joining these efforts together.

We are urging older adults to get the updated booster and flu shot ahead of the holiday season, when COVID cases are expected to rise. Each dose of the COVID vaccine is a shot of protection. Being up-to-date on your vaccinations prevents you from getting seriously ill – and ensures holiday gatherings don't become a place to spread COVID.

We are sharing <u>new resources</u> today to help promote these efforts through our "Long Live Illinois" campaign, which is focused on ensuring that older adults get up to date on their COVID-19 vaccinations so they can live life to the fullest.

This <u>toolkit of resources</u> will help you share critical information with your friends, family, coworkers, and more! It includes messaging for organizations to share with their stakeholders on the COVID vaccine, information on the benefits of the COVID vaccine, and a variety of graphics to share this information in person and online. We hope you'll help us spread the word so we can avoid spreading COVID this holiday season.

If your organization would like printed collateral, we have materials available at the Dept. on Aging's office and can place an order specifically for your group.

**Thank you for being a part of this campaign!** By getting vaccinated and helping others do so, we all can protect ourselves and get back to all we've missed during the pandemic.

Long Live Illinois!

Sincerely,

Paula Basta, M.Div.

Director, Illinois Department on Aging

The Illinois Department on Aging does not discriminate in admission to programs or treatment of employment in programs or activities in compliance with appropriate State and Federal statutes. If you feel you have been discriminated against, call the **Senior HelpLine at (800) 252-8966**; **(888) 206-1327 (TTY)** 







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