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SSM Health partners with Sauk County Health Department and Wisconsin Dells resorts for mobile vaccination clinic

On-site mobile clinic at Wilderness Resort will vaccinate approximately 1,000 area tourism workers

Wisconsin Dells, Wis., April 13, 2021 – SSM Health is partnering with the Sauk County Health Department to offer an on-site mobile vaccination clinic for Sauk County area tourism workers, including staff working in the Dells area under the J1 visa program. The mobile clinic will be held at the Glacier Canyon Conference Center at the Wilderness Resort in Wisconsin Dells on Wednesday, April 14 from 8:00 am – 4:00 pm. SSM Health and the Sauk County Health Department worked with local hospitality industry employers to schedule vaccination appointments for the Moderna vaccine. This is not a walk-in clinic.

The tourism industry is a huge part of the Wisconsin Dells area, dating back more than 150 years. Hosting approximately 4 million visitors per year and supporting more than 16,000 jobs, safely returning tourism to the Dells area is a key part of getting back to a new normal.

“The Wisconsin Dells and the thousands of tourism and hospitality staff employed at area resorts and destination areas are wonderful ambassadors for the state of Wisconsin,” said Mo Kharbat, SSM Health Wisconsin Regional VP of Pharmacy. “We are happy to provide them with this on-site vaccination clinic so that many of these workers can continue to safely support their families and our communities.”

“It is an honor to be part of a crucial step toward recovery for tourism in the Wisconsin Dells community. Kalahari Resorts is proud to join the effort as we continue to prioritize the health and safety of all our staff and guests,” said John Chastan, Kalahari Resorts and Conventions general manager. “We are immensely grateful to SSM Health and the Sauk County Health Department for leading this vaccination effort and Kalahari encourages members of our staff to do their part and get vaccinated.”

SSM Health and the Sauk County Health Department would like to thank local employers for helping coordinate this mobile vaccine opportunity.

“This vaccine clinic, hosted by SSM Health and the Sauk County Health Department, is a wonderful example of what makes the Dells such a great tourism destination,” said Joe Eck, COO of Wilderness Resort. “Our entire

community is committed to working together for the greater good to make sure all of our team members, employees from other area businesses and local residents can get easily vaccinated. It is just one more way we are letting those looking to book a Dells family vacation know our community wants its visitors to be safe and have a great time when they visit us.”

SSM Health is providing the vaccine doses and operational support, while volunteer vaccinators from across the region will administer the doses. SSM Health’s mobile vaccine clinic model allows the health care system to maintain its regular vaccine clinic schedules, while simultaneously vaccinating large groups at an alternate site.

“Making COVID-19 vaccines accessible to Sauk County residents is a top priority for our health department,” said Jessie Phalen, Nurse Manager for the Sauk County Health Department. “Partnerships like this will help us get more vaccines distributed in an efficient and equitable way, getting Sauk County back to a new normal sooner rather than later.”

SSM Health remains committed to vaccinating eligible Wisconsinites as efficiently as possible. To date, SSM Health has administered more than 186,760 doses of COVID-19 vaccine.

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About SSM Health in Wisconsin

SSM Health (www.ssmhealth.com/about) is a Catholic, not-for-profit health system serving the comprehensive health needs of communities across the Midwest through a robust and fully integrated health care delivery system. The organization’s more than 40,000 employees and physicians are committed to providing exceptional health care services and revealing God’s healing presence to everyone they serve.

In Wisconsin, SSM Health employs 14,000 people, serving the south-central part of the state through a community-based network of leading physicians/providers, and inpatient and outpatient care facilities. The organization provides high-quality coordinated care across seven hospitals, ten post-acute care facilities, and more than 85 physician offices and other outpatient care sites. SSM Health also serves 425,000 lives through Dean Health Plan, making it one of the largest and most diversified HMOs in the Midwest, and serves more than 4.5 million people across 34 states through Navitus, a pharmacy benefit management services company.