

Press Release – 01/22/2021

Data from the Texas Department of State Health Services disclosed the following Callahan County information, effective January 21, 2021:

Fatalities from COVID-19 - 28

Confirmed cases - 496

Probable cases - 474

Active cases (confirmed and probable) - 17

14-day new case total - 47

As of January 21st, DSHS reported that the percentage of hospital beds in the Abilene Trauma Service Area (TSA) utilized by COVID-19 patients is over 19%. This percentage has been over 15% for more than 14 days which resulted in mandatory closure of bars and restrictions on restaurants to 50% capacity.

This week it was announced that Abilene will be a “hub” for vaccinations. Reportedly, they will be receiving 1,200 doses per week and your county of residence will not matter. Earlier, Callahan County residents were told they could not get the vaccination from the Abilene/Taylor County Health Department because they were not Taylor County residents. Information on getting on the waiting list for vaccination there can be found at <https://abilenetx.gov/covid19>. It has been reported that the new federal administration may be issuing additional guidance so this cause some delays in providing the vaccine, but it will not keep you from registering.

If you want to receive the vaccination, however, you can register with any provider. Wherever you receive the first dose would need to be where you received the second dose. Providers in Callahan County that have received the vaccine include the United Pharmacy in Clyde and the Resource Care locations in Clyde and Cross Plains. If you do not have the ability to register on-line, you might contact your local library. All of the libraries in the county have computer access that is available for public use. I was unable to contact the library in Cross Plains but the Clyde Public Library and the Callahan County Library and Museum have both committed to assisting anyone needing to register on-line. You will probably need to make a reservation to use the computer.

If you get a call that you can receive the vaccine and need transportation to the vaccination provider, Central Texas Rural Transit District / City and Rural Rides will provide that transportation at no cost. You will need to advise them that you are going to be vaccinated. You can contact them at 800-710-2277 to make a reservation.

While our active cases, 14-day new case total, and the percentage of beds used by COVID-19 in our TSA have gone down, we cannot reduce our diligence. Please remember to wear your masks, particularly when inside and when you are not able to maintain at least six feet distance from others. Continue to use good disinfectant practices and use hand sanitizer. Utilize the curbside, delivery, or drive-through options when possible.

As always, please remember all these victims and their families in your prayers.