

From: [Przywaras](#)
To: [DHS SDMAC](#)
Subject: Public comment for phase 1b
Date: Monday, January 18, 2021 3:39:46 PM

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Thank you for your challenging work on this topic. I am writing to voice support for the proposal to include those serving in daycare, preschool, and k12 education in the public facing essential workers eligible in phase 1b. This will have a positive impact on children's health and parents' availability to work. I also am writing to support the demographic characteristics recommended for sub-prioritization as necessary.

I am concerned about the inclusion of secondary educators and non-frontline healthcare personnel. Employees who are able to work remotely should not be prioritized for vaccines. I ask that the committee clarify this in their recommendations. I see powerful healthcare and secondary education institutions choosing to push their employees forward in line for their own financial gain.

Thank you again,
Jocelyn Przywara
Verona, WI

From: [Donna Weinstock](#)
To: [DHS SDMAC](#)
Subject: Vaccine subcommittee Phase 1B
Date: Monday, January 18, 2021 2:58:42 PM

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Child Care centers are desperately in need of receiving COVID vaccine as soon as possible. We are terribly short-staffed and have been forced to limit our essential support based on COVID cases. Please consider our need!!

Donna Weinstock
Little Sprouts Learning Center
Lake Geneva

Sent from my iPhone

From: [Jack O'Meara](#)
To: [DHS SDMAC](#)
Subject: Milwaukee Child Care Alliance Statement on 1b Vaccinations
Date: Monday, January 18, 2021 2:51:39 PM
Attachments: Milwaukee Child Care Alliance Memo to Vaccine Subcommittee 1-18-2021.pdf

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Hello,

Please see the attached statement from the Milwaukee Child Care Alliance. Thank you.

Jack O'Meara



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Jack O'Meara
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110 East Main Street, Suite 720
t (608) 294-8746 | m (608) 444-3727
omearapublicaffairs.com

From: [Daria Hall](#)
To: [DHS SDMAC](#)
Subject: Vaccine Subcommittee Phase 1B
Date: Monday, January 18, 2021 1:35:43 PM
Attachments: SDMAC Vaccine Subcommittee Phase 1B Public Comment_MKE ECE Civic Response Team_January 2021.pdf

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Hello,

Attached please find public comment regarding the Wisconsin State Disaster Medical Advisory Committee Vaccine Distribution Subcommittee Recommendations for the Wisconsin Department of Health Services for COVID-19 Vaccine Priority Group 1B from the Milwaukee Early Childhood Education Civic Response Team.

Thank you,

Daria Hall
Policy Director
The Wisconsin Partnership
www.wisconsinpartnership.org



January 15, 2021

Members of the State Disaster Medical Advisory Committee Vaccine Subcommittee,

On behalf of the Wisconsin Partnership, I'm writing to support the inclusion of child care educators in vaccine priority group 1b as proposed in the SDMAC VDS Phase 1b Public Recommendations.

The Wisconsin Partnership is a collaboration of four local collective impact partnerships in the state: Achieve Brown County, Building Our Future in Kenosha County, Higher Expectations for Racine County, and Milwaukee Succeeds. Collectively our communities serve one in four Wisconsinites between birth and age 8, including 80 percent of Black children, 46 percent of Latinx children, and 41 percent of children in low-income families. Our goal is to promote policies and practices that expand access to quality, affordable early childhood education in our communities and statewide.

COVID-19 has placed profound stress on the child care sector. Child care programs face declining revenue, increased expenses for PPE and cleaning supplies, and serious health and safety concerns. Yet even at the height of COVID-related shut downs during the spring of 2020, the majority of Wisconsin child care programs heeded Governor Evers' call and stayed open to provide care for the children of essential workers. Now almost all Wisconsin child care programs are open, and in addition to serving our community's youngest children, many are also providing a safe space for school-age children to participate in virtual instruction while K12 schools are closed to in-person learning.

As noted in Appendix E of the Recommendations, child care settings by definition require face-to-face contact between educators and children. Inclusion in priority group 1b will allow child care educators to more safely do their vital work of keeping children safe, cared for, and supported which in turn allows parents to participate in the workforce. Thus, vaccinating child care educators will have a significant positive impact on the social and economic wellbeing of families and the community as a whole.

Thank you for your work to ensure fair, equitable, and effective distribution of the vaccine, and for your commitment to Wisconsin's children, working parents, and businesses.

Daria Hall
Policy Director
The Wisconsin Partnership

From: [Little Sprouts Daycare](#)
To: [DHS SDMAC](#)
Subject: Vaccine Subcommittee, Phase 1B
Date: Monday, January 18, 2021 11:40:22 AM

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Childcare staff should be looked at in the same regard as all teachers. Childcare does not have the option to work remotely and are struggling with the effects of Covid on the health and safety of our current staff who are mostly living under the current local poverty level. It has also affected our enrollment and ratio making things even more difficult in regards to usually yearly retention efforts. Any help in getting teachers back to consistent working hours would be greatly beneficial to programs like ours in the area.

Tyler Leech
Director/Administrator of Little Sprouts, LLC
(262)248-1897

From: [Tracy](#)
To: [DHS SDMAC](#)
Subject: Phase 1b comment
Date: Monday, January 18, 2021 7:31:53 AM

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I would like in home childcare for essential workers as part of the 1b childcare worker group. Our kids are in school giving our childcare increased risk. They are essential as without them I could not work. I am a physician and need reliable childcare in order to serve my community.

From: [Shawna Kollath](#)
To: [DHS SDMAC](#)
Subject: Vaccine subcommittee phase 1B
Date: Monday, January 18, 2021 5:46:11 AM

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Good day,

I am writing to make sure the committee is aware of the importance of child care workers, including nannies, to be included in phase 1B. We are working closely with children every day to make sure front line workers can make it to work everyday. We are also caring for children, who are not able to get the vaccine right now.

Thank you for your attention to this important detail,

Shawna Kollath



From: [karenboxrucker](#)
To: [DHS SDMAC](#)
Subject: Who needs the vaccine
Date: Sunday, January 17, 2021 8:38:14 PM

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Daycare workers, my daughter has lost 6 weeks of pay because of the daycare teachers having covid. She has no more vacation and is losing benefits. We cannot work if there is no one to do daycare

Sent from my Galaxy Tab A (2016)

From: [Michelle](#)
To: [DHS SDMAC](#)
Subject: Teachers and child caregivers
Date: Sunday, January 17, 2021 8:20:48 PM

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These two should be next to get kids back to school and people back to work.

Michelle M Lay

From: [Steve Glocke](#)
To: [DHS SDMAC](#)
Subject: Substitute teachers in group 1b
Date: Sunday, January 17, 2021 6:54:27 PM

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Just curious if Pk-12 substitute teachers and staff will be included in the same category as teachers and school staff when a decision about vaccine distribution is made?

Steve Glocke
Recruiter
EDUStaff, LLC

sglocke@edustaff.org

P: 877.97.GOEDU (46338) x232 | **F:** 877.974.6339
C: 715.533.1828

www.edustaff.org

EDUStaff, LLC
4120 Brockton DR SE– Suite 200
Grand Rapids MI 49512

From: [Cindy Pittelkow](#)
To: [DHS SDMAC](#)
Subject: Child Care Workers Group 1B
Date: Sunday, January 17, 2021 11:25:29 AM

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I provide 40 hours/week of child care so the parents can work. I am 66 years old and live in Milwaukee County. Am I eligible to be vaccinated in the 1B group (after fire fighters, paramedics, and EMTs)?

Thank you for your time and I look forward to hearing from you soon.

Cindy Pittelkow

From: [Talia Cawrse](#)
To: [DHS SDMAC](#)
Subject: Vaccine feedback- Phase 1B
Date: Sunday, January 17, 2021 8:36:26 AM

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Hello,

Per the request for public feedback on the vaccine rollout in Wisconsin-- I would like to see early childhood education/K-12 teachers included in 1B and adults over 65. I would also request that families with young children and newborns are considered in 1C.

Thank you, Talia Cawrse

From: [Jess Thompson](#)
To: [DHS SDMAC](#)
Subject: Vaccine Subcommittee - Phase 1B
Date: Saturday, January 16, 2021 8:33:44 AM

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To Whom It May Concern

I encourage you to include zoo staff in the vaccination phase 1B. I oversee the Education and Conservation Departments at Henry Vilas Zoo in Madison, where we have been providing daily onsite childcare for high needs students in our underserved community while the Madison school district has been teaching virtually. In addition, our zoo keeping and operations staff come to work 365 days a year regardless of holiday, pandemic, or weather to care for our many endangered species, some of which are also susceptible to COVID-19. In addition to being a beloved institution supporting our community, as a conservation organization it is our mission to provide the highest level of care for these species while providing a safe space to educate visitors on the many issues facing these animals. As we have seen with this zoonotic virus, human and animal health are inextricably linked, and we can only prevent future pandemics through education and conservation work that is focused both on humans and the wildlife and environment on which they rely.

Thank you for your work and your time.

Sincerely,
Jess Thompson
Madison, WI

From: [Julie Bastian](#)
To: [DHS SDMAC](#)
Subject: Vaccinate all people working in person in MMSD
Date: Friday, January 15, 2021 8:00:05 PM

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Hello,

I know this is a busy time for you. I urge you to vaccinate ALL people working IN PERSON Madison schools in the child care sites before anyone working virtually. We have employees in MMSD that are working directly with 15 students in classrooms and during lunch, these children are maskless! We also have custodians working in our schools every day during this pandemic who also deserve top priority. Please do what you can to vaccinate them as soon as possible. Thank you.

Julie Bastian

--

Julie Bastian (She/Her/Hers)



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[Instagram](#)

From: [Nikki Miller](#)
To: [DHS SDMAC](#)
Subject: Tier 1b Covid19 vaccination distribution
Date: Friday, January 15, 2021 7:32:26 PM

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Hi team:

There was a recommendation to email my request for all public/private school faculty and daycare providers be allowed as part of the Tier 1b group to receive the Covid19 Vaccine. It may already be in the works to let all Corporate Adult Family Home residents and staff be vaccinated as well as Traditional Adult Family Home owners/residents/staff. If not, I would recommend they be in this group as well. Self-Directed-Support providers/staff should be in this group, as well.

Working with one of Wisconsin's largest MCO's, I have fielded many questions from SDS workers, AFH providers, AFH residents, and their staff to how they will be notified they can schedule or call to get their vaccination scheduled. We don't have that answer. Many don't watch mainstream TV nor have social media access for mass communication. Is it up to the counties to be notifying them, and if so, how is that being done?

It is important to me to let you and your colleagues know how appreciative this whole endeavor has/is/will be moving forward. Your hard work does not go unnoticed. WE SEE YOU. I am incredibly grateful to work in this great state under your direction.

Blessings to you all. Stay safe and healthy.

Nikki Miller, RN

From: [Nicholl Taylor](#)
To: [DHS SDMAC](#)
Subject: prioritize employees in child care & education - COVID vaccinations
Date: Friday, January 15, 2021 4:42:52 PM

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Please include those in education and childcare settings - those serving daycare, preschool, K-12, and higher education - in the next stage of COVID vaccination.

Nicholl Taylor

From: [Daria Hall](#)
To: [DHS SDMAC](#)
Subject: Vaccine Subcommittee Phase 1B
Date: Friday, January 15, 2021 2:56:08 PM
Attachments: SDMAC Vaccine Subcommittee Phase 1B Public Comment_Wisconsin Partnership_January 2021.pdf

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Hello,

Attached please find public comment regarding the Wisconsin State Disaster Medical Advisory Committee Vaccine Distribution Subcommittee Recommendations for the Wisconsin Department of Health Services for COVID-19 Vaccine Priority Group 1b from the Wisconsin Partnership.

Thank you,

Daria Hall
Policy Director
The Wisconsin Partnership
www.wisconsinpartnership.org

From: [Diane Eisen](#)
To: [DHS SDMAC](#)
Subject: Vaccine distribution
Date: Friday, January 15, 2021 12:24:41 PM

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Please make sure that ALL daycare providers, whether in home, group, no matter the size, make sure they/we receive them—I got covid from a daycare family, still recovering !

Diane Eisen

From: [Catherine Koons-Hubbard](#)
To: [DHS SDMAC](#)
Subject: Thoughts on Group IB
Date: Friday, January 15, 2021 9:50:46 AM

I wanted to share my appreciation that childcare workers are being included in group IB. So often, those of us in early childhood are forgotten about. It's always K12, without thought to the preschool years. In this case, I think it's really important to remember that we have been open, in person, throughout the pandemic, providing programming. Our teachers interact with up to 32 different families every day, and we don't have the option of doing at-home virtual learning with 3 year-olds whose parents need child care.

We've had a small number of children in our program test positive, and when that happens, the entire class has had to shut down and quarantine for two weeks. That includes teachers, who then can't teach their other classes. This has a ripple out effect that impacts large numbers of families. So, the sooner this group of early childhood teachers is vaccinated, the better.

I mostly wanted to point out that the majority of early child care programs in Milwaukee don't have their own nurses, and so we'll need to know how and where to go – or would need health department teams to come to us. I think most K12 schools have the advantage over us when it comes to having medically trained personnel on staff.

Thank you. Kudos for working to get this done quickly and effectively!

[Catherine Koons Hubbard](#)
Preschool Director
Schlitz Audubon Nature Center
414-352-2880 x153

www.schlitzaudubon.org
[Facebook](#) | [Instagram](#) | [Twitter](#)

From: jhclinger@charter.net
To: [DHS SDMAC](#)
Subject: Vaccinations
Date: Friday, January 15, 2021 8:26:28 AM

I'm writing to plead with you to have teachers, child care workers and other essential workers supporting our children to PLEASE make it possible to get their vaccinations as soon as possible. These brave individuals are doing their very best to educate our children. We must protect them.

Thank you,
Janet Clinger

From: [Dana Schmock](#)
To: [DHS SDMAC](#)
Date: Friday, January 15, 2021 6:19:31 AM

To the SDMA Committee,

We wanted to reach out to advocate for the allocation of vaccines for Early Childhood Educators in the child care setting. Since the beginning of the pandemic the governor has asked us to remain open and provide our services for essential employees during the Safer at Home Order. Here We Grow Learning Center has remained open during the entire pandemic thus far. As demonstrated through the last 10 months, our work is extremely necessary for our community. Due to the delicate nature of providing care for young children, we are unable to social distance from children in our care. In support of our community at these difficult times, our teachers have willingly continued to work through this pandemic even though they know they may be exposed COVID-19. Recognizing the unfulfilled need of school age children, we have also helped the community in the education of their school age children by providing virtual learning for those children who do not have the option to attend in-person school. We feel that the educators in the childcare community should be at the top of the list to receive the vaccine.

Thank you for hearing our thoughts.

Sincerely,

Here We Grow Learning Center Administration Team

From: [Tiffany Greenheck](#)
To: [DHS SDMAC](#)
Subject: Vaccine subcommittee, Phase 1B
Date: Thursday, January 14, 2021 10:25:06 PM

Hello,

I am writing in regards to all daycares being included in Phase 1B. I think that is essential and warranted, many of us have been open and providing care for our essential and frontline workers since this started. I myself have a small in home daycare and my husband is an essential worker we have both worked through out the pandemic. I have a small unlicensed in home daycare and hope that we are included in Phase 1B. I care for 6 different families, 3 kids at a time, and don't require state certification. I do pay taxes as an in home daycare. I sincerely hope small in home daycares will be included with phase 1B. We have and continue to provide an essential service while putting ourselves at risk. I had one parent get Covid a few months ago, luckily because I diligently follow procedures no one else in daycare or their family members got it. That was an extremely nerve wracking experience, I'd feel much safer being vaccinated.

Please include ALL daycares (large, small, certified, uncertified) in phase 1B.

Thank you,
Tiffany Greenheck

Sent from my iPhone

From: [Jenny Price Smith](#)
To: [DHS SDMAC](#)
Subject: Please prioritize educators
Date: Thursday, January 14, 2021 10:12:51 PM

Dear SDMAC Vaccine Distribution Subcommittee,
Thank you for keeping education and childcare workers in your committee's final recommendation to Wisconsin's DHS to be included in Vaccine Priority Group 1b. With many schools across the state increasing in-person instruction, there will be more exposure and community spread of COVID-19. Your justification for and continued support of the inclusion of educators and childcare providers as frontline essential workers in Vaccine Priority Group 1b is much appreciated and will go far toward decreasing community spread of COVID-19.
Thank you,
Jenny P. Smith

From: [Andrea](#)
To: [DHS SDMAC](#)
Subject: Child Care Staff and Educator Vaccine 1b Prioritization Feedback
Date: Thursday, January 14, 2021 9:15:36 PM

To whom it may concern,

It is vitally important to parents, children, and our state economy for educators and child care staff to be prioritized in phase 1b for the COVID-19 vaccine. Our children have suffered by not receiving in person education and the teachers that currently are being required to teach in person are putting themselves and their families at constant risk of contracting COVID-19.

By prioritizing educators and child care staff in Wisconsin for the vaccination, it will also be one of the single largest ways to allow our economy to more quickly return to normal by allowing parents to send their children to school or to child care facilities. This will allow parents to consistently get back into the workforce.

I appreciate your consideration,

-Andrea Rodrigues-Pavao
Wisconsin Resident

From: [Kristie Goforth](#)
To: [DHS SDMAC](#)
Subject: vaccine subcommittee - Phase 1B
Date: Thursday, January 14, 2021 9:13:50 PM

Dear Committee Members,

Thank you for your service during this time. I'm writing to ask that you include educators and childcare professionals in Phase 1B. Educators and childcare are essential employees, and our kids are struggling. Based on the difficulty of the jobs and their irreplaceable nature, it is critical that they be included.

Thank you for your consideration,

Kristie

--

Kristie Goforth

Monona City Alder

kgoforth@ci.monona.wi.us

(608) 444-8641

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From: [Sue Whitish](#)
To: [DHS SDMAC](#)
Subject: Vaccination
Date: Thursday, January 14, 2021 9:11:00 PM

I think in home daycare providers should be on the top of the list. Many of us have been open the whole time so our parents can continue to work. Along with providing care for virtual learning children.

Sue Whitish

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From: [Katie Olson](#)
To: [DHS SDMAC](#)
Subject: Phase 1B recommendation feedback
Date: Thursday, January 14, 2021 7:51:24 PM

Hello,

First of all, I am thankful that child care providers are included in the recommendations. We are often overlooked, but we are essential. Due to the necessity of close contact with children, I think it is appropriate that child care providers be vaccinated in phase 1B.

Secondly, I am wondering how widespread for providers this will be. I ask because I run a licensed daycare from my home. My husband is my backup provider. Under the recommendations; would we both fit in phase 1b, would only I fit there, or would neither of us?

Any clarification would be greatly appreciated.

Thank you,
Katie Olson

From: [Diane Reynolds](#)
To: [DHS SDMAC](#)
Subject: Covid Vaccine
Date: Thursday, January 14, 2021 7:31:43 PM

Please consider daycare providers in the next group of the Covid 19 vaccine distribution. I have had my family daycare open the whole pandemic serving essential workers in my community of Shell Lake, WI.
I and my partner are both over 60 and would feel much safer given the opportunity to receive this vaccine.

Thank you!
Diane Reynolds
Diane's Daycare
Shell Lake, WI

[Sent from Yahoo Mail on Android](#)

From: [Korianne Nolin](#)
To: [DHS SDMAC](#)
Subject: vaccine subcommittee, Phase 1B
Date: Thursday, January 14, 2021 5:10:03 PM

Dear Committee Members,

Please add our Dane County teachers and child care workers to your essential list for vaccinations. Many teachers in districts that are soon to be open are rightfully concerned with their health and many parents need schools to be open for our children's mental and emotional health. We also in desperate need of our child care workers. They are frontline too, although to they often stand behind the nurses and doctors. Without these caring individuals many in the essential workers field may have had to make the decision to not work and we now how important our health care workers are in this pandemic crisis.

Please consider adding these two very important groups to the 1b vaccination line. Investing in them is investing in our children who need desperately to get back to some structure and some extra TLC in this current crisis.

Kind Regards,
Korianne Nolin
Monona, WI

From: [Emily Penz](#)
To: [DHS SDMAC](#)
Subject: Vaccine Subcommittee - Phase 1b
Date: Thursday, January 14, 2021 2:25:34 PM
Attachments: image003.png
image004.png
image005.png
image006.png
image007.png
image008.png
image009.png
COVID-19 Vaccine Allocation.pdf

Dear SDMAC,

Hello my name is Emily and I have attached a document outlining why it is important to prioritize early childhood education staff, including substitute staff, to receive the COVID-19 vaccine as soon as possible.

Thank you,

Emily Penz

Early Childhood Education Staffing Specialist
Direct: 952-223-8398



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National Association for the Education of Young Children (NAEYC)
WI Association of School Business Officials (WASBO), MN Association of School Administrators (MASA)
MN Association of School Business Officials (MASBO), MN Association of Charter Schools, MN Recruiting and Staffing Association,
American Staffing Association,
IA Association of School Boards, School Administrators of Iowa (SAI), IA Association of School Business Officials (IASBO).

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January 14, 2021

Dear SDMAC,

I would like to submit this written feedback for the Vaccine Allocation in support of our early childhood education substitutes (essential workers) who work at child care/daycare programs across the cities of Milwaukee and Madison, Wisconsin.

- Teachers On Call employees (substitutes) work in partnering DCF licensed child care facilities alongside the “daycare workers” outlined in phase 1b. The age groups that our substitutes work with are ages 0-5; an age group that is especially vulnerable to the spread of infectious diseases due to the close proximity of staff and students in centers.
- Substitute child care workers are essential to the economy – they provide support to the child care centers when their own teachers are out sick, on leave or they are having trouble hiring. Without our substitute staff, child care facilities would have to shut down and are shutting down because they are understaffed. Child care centers shutting down leads to a decrease in care options for parents who rely on child care so they are able to work. We need to offer protection for child care workers so they do not leave the industry. Without child care or the child care workers, parents will not be able to return to work which will ultimately affect the workforce and many employers. We need to offer these essential child care workers the protection of a vaccine so they feel confident and safe working in this close environment.
- Without our employees some of our partnering child care centers would shut down temporarily, potentially permanently. We have received this actual verbalized feedback from some of our clients.
- The way we operate as a company, our staff have the convenience to travel from center to center. Travelling as a substitute, although necessary, increases the risk of COVID-19 spread. This vaccine would protect our employees and reduce the spread, therefore allowing our staff to be placed on more short-term shifts vs long term. This will help more centers in the long run by having additional short-term temporary help when needed.
- Many centers are also short staffed due to the child care crisis – introducing new staff to their center by way of substituting could eventually lead to a permanent placement for a center enhancing the center’s employee retention.
- We need to offer protection for child care workers so they do not leave the industry. Without child care or the child care workers, parents will not be able to return to work which will ultimately affect the workforce and many employers. We need to offer these essential child care workers the protection of a vaccine so they feel confident and safe working in this close environment.

Thank you for your consideration.

Emily Penz



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From: [Kara Guist](#)
To: [DHS SDMAC](#)
Subject: Support For School Staff Prioritization Under Phase 1b
Date: Thursday, January 14, 2021 12:20:58 PM

Dear Wisconsin State Disaster Medical Advisory Committee,

I am writing to you today to show my support for all staff serving daycare, preschool, K-12, and higher education to be included in vaccination phase 1b.

These educators play an essential role in our children's lives and in order for us to safely return to in-person learning, I feel they should be considered the next priority.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,

Kara Guist

From: [Norda Gromoll](#)
To: [DHS SDMAC](#)
Subject: VACCINE
Date: Thursday, January 14, 2021 12:18:51 PM

Greetings,

As a life long resident of Wisconsin (72 years old). I urge you to distribute the vaccine to child care providers and teacher before people over 70 and residents of nursing homes. Working parents need to have their children in day care and school. Old people have had a life already. Thanks you for considering this.

Norda Gromoll

From: [Nicole Sudhoff](#)
To: [DHS SDMAC](#)
Subject: Public Comment regarding a subset of phase 1B - childcare providers
Date: Thursday, January 14, 2021 11:20:12 AM

Hello!

I am a "family" (unregulated) child care provider in the Madison community since 2012. I do not work at a child care facility; I provide daycare in my own home. I am not licensed or certified - I operate within the statutes that govern this type of care - so I am not registered with authorities other than through my taxes. I am curious HOW (not when) you will be providing opportunity for providers like me to get the COVID vaccine when appropriate within phase 1B. Will we be able to produce taxes or some other "proof" that we are in the group? Can we coordinate with our local school or some other community site that will have a vaccination provider on site? I would like to challenge you to make sure the hours are compatible with the schedules of child care providers - many of us begin work on weekdays before 8 am and have kids until almost 6 pm. Is there a plan for this? I'm aware and I'm ready to be very proactive about accessing this, I just want to make sure there will be adequate doses and a plan at some location.

I have been informed by two different agencies that we still aren't very far into phase 1A, and believe me, I GET IT. But I am a stakeholder in this decision making process, and knowing whatever there is to know at this point would be a comfort. I am ok with an answer that sounds like, "at the appropriate time, the procedure will be: XYZ," without having exact, or even estimated, dates on that process. On the other hand, a reply that sounds like "we don't know and we're not providing any information because we're not in that phase yet" feels incredibly dismissive.

If you are looking for community members to be part of a board or to provide perspective for those of us who are out here in the community, I would be happy to participate. My phone number is 608-658-9815 or you can reply to this email address.

Thanks!

Nicole
Cole's Castle Care

From: [Mara Helmke](#)
To: [DHS SDMAC](#)
Subject: Vaccine priority to Education
Date: Thursday, January 14, 2021 9:50:32 AM

Hello,

I support the prioritization of all staff serving daycare, preschool, K-12 and higher education receiving priority in the vaccination program.

Thank you,
Mara Helmke
Verona, WI



From: [Gertrude Winchel](#)
To: [DHS SDMAC](#)
Subject: 1b vaccine rollout comment
Date: Thursday, January 14, 2021 8:33:51 AM

Hello, I think it is very important that education and childcare staff should be included in 1b vaccine roll out phase. These staff are so important to our youth in their education and care that we need to protect them. This year has been so crazy for these children and not only did they all do their part, they went above and beyond. They are a hugely important role in our society. Please consider protecting are educators and child care workers. Thank you Gertrude winchel from Cashton, WI (mom of 5).

From: [Gail Snowden](#)
To: [DHS SDMAC](#)
Subject: Comment on priorities for vaccination recommendations
Date: Wednesday, January 13, 2021 10:27:59 PM

I am 71 years old. I also have an autoimmune condition and a compromised immune system due to drugs that I take. Nevertheless, I support giving the vaccine first to teachers and child care workers, as well as all other staff in those facilities. There is a strong need to open schools while keeping teachers and staff healthy and safe. I support putting myself after these important people in our society. I can stay home, order groceries online, and avoid contact with other people. Teachers cannot. Please support teachers and our public education. Thank you.

Gail Snowden



From: [Angela Wells](#)
To: [DHS SDMAC](#)
Subject: Tier 1b Comment
Date: Wednesday, January 13, 2021 9:36:15 PM

To whom it may concern,

As an early childhood director, I would implore you to keep early childhood educators under tier 1b. The children we serve and work with are unable to socially distance, and many are too young to wear masks.

We have been putting our own health at risk during the entire pandemic to keep the nation running. I'm thinking of my staff, who themselves have health issues coming to work daily with a smile on their face to provide continuity and a safe space for the littlest of learners.

Thank you for your time and consideration,
Angela Wells
Director
Coulee Children's Center
La Crosse, WI

From: [Mark Wirtz](#)
To: [DHS SDMAC](#)
Subject: COVID Vaccine for our educators!
Date: Wednesday, January 13, 2021 9:21:46 PM

SDMAC

I strongly urge you to keep those in child care and education settings prioritized and in the 1b subgroup of COVID vaccination plan. There are so many gaps in education right now, taking away a group of staff due to lack of vaccine will only further hurt our kids.

Please advocate for our teachers and children!

-Mark Wirtz

From: [Jessica Spiegel](#)
To: [DHS SDMAC](#)
Subject: Advocating for teachers to be next in line for the vaccine
Date: Wednesday, January 13, 2021 8:44:55 PM

Dear DHS staff,

I would like to express my strong support for teachers and childcare workers to receive priority in the next tier of COVID vaccinations. Their level of prolonged contact in small spaces puts them at greater risk of contracting the virus than many of the other groups listed in tier 1B. Teachers are already making huge contributions to our society by keeping school going virtually or in-person, and child care workers are as well. They deserve to be protected as early as possible for these absolutely essential jobs.

Thank you for considering.

Sincerely,

Jessica Spiegel



Sent from my iPhone

From: [Amy Fewel](#)
To: [DHS SDMAC](#)
Subject: Please Consider
Date: Wednesday, January 13, 2021 7:59:08 PM

This email serves to let you know that I fully support childcare workers, educators, and anyone working in a setting that allows children to participate in in-person learning. The vaccination needs of these individuals should be top priority along with healthcare workers. Please keep their needs and voices at the forefront of your recommendations.

Thank you,
Amy Fewel

From: [Eric Brey](#)
To: [DHS SDMAC](#)
Subject: Vaccination stage 1b
Date: Wednesday, January 13, 2021 3:25:22 PM

I'm writing to urge you to include education and childcare workers in the next vaccination phase. These people are performing a critical service in order to allow other essential workers, like myself, to be able to perform their duties. These education and childcare workers are faced with exposure to families who are often not following guidelines or who have higher risks of exposure due to socioeconomic conditions. It's critical that these people have access as they are both essential and in riskier environments.

Thanks
Eric Brey
Verona, WI

[Sent from Yahoo Mail on Android](#)

From: [Heather Reekie](#)
To: [DHS SDMAC](#)
Subject: Please include education and childcare in Group 1b
Date: Wednesday, January 13, 2021 3:22:11 PM

Dear SDMAC Vaccine Distribution Subcommittee,
Thank you for keeping education and childcare workers in your committee's final recommendation to Wisconsin's DHS to be included in Vaccine Priority Group 1b. With many schools across the state increasing in-person instruction, there will be more exposure and community spread of COVID-19. Your justification for and continued support of the inclusion of educators and childcare providers as frontline essential workers in Vaccine Priority Group 1b is much appreciated and will go far toward decreasing community spread of COVID-19. Thank you.

Heather Reekie, MS CCC-SLP
Speech and Language Pathologist
Savanna Oaks Middle School, New Century Charter School
Pronouns: she, her, hers

From: [Kathryn Jones](#)
To: [DHS SDMAC](#)
Subject: Comments on Phase 1b
Date: Wednesday, January 13, 2021 2:51:50 PM

Good afternoon,

I am the parent of a child in the 4K Verona program and a 6 month old that will be starting daycare in April. I also work as an academic advisor (official title: student services coordinator) at the University of Wisconsin-Madison. I am writing this email to express strong support for including educators & support staff with direct student interaction (daycare workers, preschool teachers, K-12 teachers, long term substitutes, bus drivers, and building/support staff, faculty and staff in higher education that have direct student contact) in the 1B phase.

My daughter has been in-person since July and her 4K program has done a tremendous job at keeping everyone healthy, but I still worry for the safety of her and everyone there. In Verona and in surrounding areas, there is a strong push to send all the kids back to in-person instruction. As a parent, it makes me nervous doing so without vaccinating our teachers and K-12 staff. I think if we want to get kids back to school, then we need to prioritize these groups in the vaccine rollout.

As for higher ed, I strongly support prioritizing those with direct student contact that have to be on campuses right now (faculty/staff teaching in-person, residence life staff, building/facilities managers that work in high trafficked buildings or residence halls, medical support staff). I primarily do academic advising, and while I would love to get my vaccine early, I am able to do my job remotely right now and do not need to be on-campus yet. There are others though that directly work with students that need to be on campus and I think those should be prioritized.

I hope you will consider my comments in your decision on phase 1b.

Thank you for your time.

Kathryn Jones

From: [Suzanne Olajos](#)
To: [DHS SDMAC](#)
Subject: Please prioritize educators
Date: Wednesday, January 13, 2021 2:01:11 PM

To Whom It May Concern:

I wish to express support for educators to be prioritized to receive the COVID-19 vaccine, including teachers and staff for pre-K through 12th grade.

With the mutations our nation is facing, those who are teaching in person have a significantly increased risk. They are such important people. Let's treat them as such.

Thanks sincerely,

Suzanne Olajos



From: [Kelly Haslam](#)
To: [DHS SDMAC](#)
Subject: Letter of Support for Vaccination Priority to Essential Workers (including teachers)
Date: Wednesday, January 13, 2021 1:45:51 PM

Hello,

I'm writing to express my support for vaccination priority to essential workers and the other groups identified in the Recommendations for COVID-19 Vaccine Priority Group 1b. Thank you for your thoughtful consideration of most vulnerable groups based on their characteristics and/or due to the essential work they provide to the community.

I wanted to particularly call out the importance of the inclusion of workers at childcare settings, preschools, and K-12 schools. It has been disheartening that there has been a greater focus on maintaining the operations of certain businesses (such as bars and restaurants) than there has been on K-12 schools. For this reason, I think it is very important that childcare, preschool, and K-12 employees be given vaccination priority in this next round of vaccinations.

Many thanks,
Kelly Haslam

From: [Curtis Rueden](#)
To: [DHS SDMAC](#)
Cc: [Anna Rueden](#)
Subject: Please recommend vaccination for teachers & child care workers as soon as possible
Date: Wednesday, January 13, 2021 1:45:31 PM

Dear DHS:

We are writing to add our voice about prioritizing vaccination for daycare and education staff. What would help our family the most right now is for our kids to return to school. But it is also vital to continue slowing the spread of the virus for at least another few months. Later this month, our school district is switching to two full days a week of physical instruction, despite the risks of doing so. The state government needs to help schools reopen as safely as possible in this scenario, and that includes vaccinating teachers ASAP. Please make sure teachers are included as part of phase 1b.

Thank you for everything you are doing to protect Wisconsin families during this terrible crisis!

Regards,
Curtis & Anna Rueden

From: kmhauser@charter.net
To: [DHS SDMAC](#)
Subject: prioritization
Date: Wednesday, January 13, 2021 12:17:33 PM

I am writing to urge that Pre-K - 12 educators be a high priority for vaccination, especially now that many districts are moving to in-person education, even as the virus spread increases at an uncontrolled rate. Educators are at much more risk than many medical workers. Many educators work in crowded buildings with poor ventilation, with large groups of individuals, over a sustained period of time. Educators are not provided with PPE by their employers. They are subjected to many individuals who will not or cannot appropriately use masks. Many parents in districts that already have in-person instruction have been dishonest about sending sick children to school, have refused testing, and have casually and knowingly exposed other people because their own symptoms have not been serious. Unless the Department of Health Services takes steps to end in-person education, which would be the logical thing to do in a pandemic, school staff should be at the front of the line for COVID vaccination.

Kathleen Hauser
Fitchburg

From: [Cheryl Bourne](#)
To: [DHS SDMAC](#)
Subject: 1b vaccination recommendations
Date: Wednesday, January 13, 2021 11:19:13 AM

Hello,

Thank you for drafting recommendations about how to prioritize distribution of the COVID-19 vaccines.

I agree that education and childcare workers should be prioritized, especially those who work with infants through 12th grade.

Thank you,
Cheryl Bourne
Verona WI

From: [Kris Becker](#)
To: [DHS SDMAC](#)
Subject: Prioritizing Educators in the Vaccine Roll out
Date: Wednesday, January 13, 2021 10:48:20 AM

Dear Committee Members,

I am writing this letter as a parent, former teacher and very concerned citizen in an effort to have educators and support staff (including all Early Childhood and K-12 personnel) included in the next phase of vaccine roll out. The personnel holding these positions should be considered front line workers in every sense. The positions described here involve the personnel to be working with large groups of children and often in small spaces that may not be well ventilated especially in the winter months. As a former teacher with over 25 years of experience, I can state from personal experience that even with the best safety protocols in place, children require their needs met in ways that are often not conducive to social distancing and separation. The simple provision of allowing the staff member to have the vaccine, could easily allay the fear of having "in person" experiences and allow for children to get back to school and away from being isolated at home. We know that this virus is airborne and a school day commands that the adults be exposed for many hours at a time with large groups and vaccination (along with all the other safety protocols) will allow school to once again be the excellent, positive experience for students and their families.

As a parent of 3 adult children and 1 still in high school, I have first hand knowledge of the importance of education and will continue to advocate for both educators and students. Allowing school personnel the opportunity to be vaccinated very soon would show that the State of Wisconsin also prioritizes education and the support to families that schools have always offered. These educators have worked tirelessly to continue to provide instruction in any way that their employer has asked whether that is virtual, hybrid or in some cases completely in person and it would be a solid expression of appreciation and value to put them at the forefront of the vaccination opportunity.

Thank you so much for reading my note and thank you for your continued work to help fight this pandemic.

Sincerely,

Kristine Becker

From: [Sara Rem](#)
To: [DHS SDMAC](#)
Subject: COVID-19 Vaccine Distribution - Daycare/Schools
Date: Wednesday, January 13, 2021 10:40:20 AM

To whom it may concern,

I would like to express my support for including **all** staff serving daycare, preschool, K-12, and higher education regardless of face-to-face interaction with students.

Thank you for your consideration,
Sara Rem

From: [Andrea Keyser](#)
To: [DHS SDMAC](#)
Subject: Vaccines
Date: Wednesday, January 13, 2021 10:18:10 AM

I fully support those work in education and childcare to get the vaccine quickly. I know many teachers and daycare teachers that are at risk of complications from COVID. Please save their lives so they can improve the mental health of our kids. Their lives come first, but second is getting our kids socialization skills to help them survive in their world.

We have canceled almost all social interactions to help our kids go back to school but the older children in Dane county have not been so lucky. Please help them and families as soon as possible. It's very difficult to get kids to sit 6 feet apart in masks so they are very lonely right now and suffering greatly. Not to mention they are always hungry and thirsty can't wear a mask and eat and drink. They need this though to focus at school.

Thank you!

Andrea Scott of Fitchburg

Sent from my iPhone

From: [Ellis, Ellie](#)
To: [DHS SDMAC](#)
Subject: I support essential workers including education and childcare settings receiving vaccinations for Covid-19 be prioritized in 1B
Date: Wednesday, January 13, 2021 10:13:35 AM

Dear WI DHS,

I am writing to support front line essential workers, which includes those in education and childcare settings (This includes all staff serving daycare, preschool, K-12, and higher education) be prioritized for 1B round vaccinations.

Thank you,

Ellen Ellis



Ellie Ellis
Director, H2 Innovation Center

CUNA Mutual Group
1.800.356.2644, Ext. 665.4317 | (C) 608.215.7658
ellen.ellis@cunamutual.com | www.cunamutual.com

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From: [Bonnie Gulley](#)
To: [DHS SDMAC](#)
Subject: Please prioritize childcare and education staff for next round
Date: Wednesday, January 13, 2021 10:12:31 AM

Hello,

My name is Bonnie Gulley and am a resident of Verona, Wi.

I'm writing today to request prioritization for childcare and education staff for the next round of COVID vaccinations. As a full time working mother of a 3 and 6 year old, I have experienced first hand what it is like to try and WFH plus oversee their development when they should have been in school. The first 12 weeks of this was an absolute nightmare, mentally and emotionally for my whole family.

My husband and I are fortunate enough to work for a company that has prioritized the health and safety of their employees with flexible work schedules, learning resources, covid screening, etc. in this challenging time. I have also witnessed children, educators and daycare staff pivot on so many levels in the face of a global pandemic so that our family and community remains safe and provide continued learning/development during this crucial time. We must take care of them. They are the foundation in which provide children the environment they need and deserve. Please do this, this will allow for more children to be brought back to daycare/school and help bring back numerous parents back to the workforce. This is so important on so many levels and appreciate DHS consideration.

Thank you,
Bonnie Gulley

Sent from my iPhone

From: [Brenda Valitchka](#)
To: [DHS SDMAC](#)
Subject: Vaccinations for educators and childcare providers
Date: Wednesday, January 13, 2021 9:55:39 AM

Good morning,

I am writing to support the inclusion of educators and childcare providers under phase 1b for vaccinations. Please prioritize them in phase 1b so we can protect them and move toward in-person schooling for our children.

Respectfully,
Brenda Valitchka
Verona, WI

From: [Sara DeTienne](#)
To: [DHS SDMAC](#)
Subject: I support essential workers including education and childcare settings receiving vaccinations for Covid-19 be prioritized in 1B
Date: Wednesday, January 13, 2021 9:52:44 AM

Dear WI DHS,

I am writing to support front line essential workers, which includes those in education and childcare settings (This includes all staff serving daycare, preschool, K-12, and higher education) be prioritized for 1B round vaccinations.

Thank you,

Sara DeTienne

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

Sara DeTienne '95
Senior Director of Development
UW Department of Neurological Surgery
She/Her/Hers
Wisconsin Foundation and Alumni Association
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From: [coachoochee](#)
To: [DHS SDMAC](#)
Subject: vaccine
Date: Wednesday, January 13, 2021 9:51:53 AM

Please allow childcare worker's and teachers to receive the vaccine. School is essential!

Thanks,
Melissa Swanson

From: [Jeanene](#)
To: [DHS SDMAC](#)
Subject: COVID Vaccination - Phase 1b Prioritization
Date: Wednesday, January 13, 2021 9:09:16 AM

To whom it may concern,

I am writing this letter to the SDMAC Vaccine Distribution Subcommittee and DHS as it relates to their decision for the Phase 1b vaccination plan. I strongly encourage DHS to keep daycare, preschool, K-12, and higher education staff in the Phase 1b plan. It is vital that the remaining schools in Wisconsin return to in person learning, and it is our responsibility to ensure the safety of our educators and school staff.

Thank you for your consideration,

Jeanene Ennis
Fitchburg, WI Resident

From: [Julia Hirscher](#)
To: [DHS SDMAC](#)
Subject: Prioritization of employee groups
Date: Wednesday, January 13, 2021 9:08:23 AM

Hello,

I support front line essential workers, which includes those in education and childcare settings, being prioritized in vaccine distribution. I have small children who attend both daycare and public school. Ensuring those educators serving our children are protected is important.

Sincerely,
Julia Hirscher

From: [Kelly Dolphin](#)
To: [DHS SDMAC](#)
Subject: Vaccination Priority
Date: Wednesday, January 13, 2021 9:08:10 AM

Good morning,

As a parent of a 4-k, 3rd and 6th grader, I am writing to you in support of prioritizing daycare, early childhood, and K-12 educators as part of the phase 1b. Daycare and early childhood instructors have been in-person teaching since the onset of the pandemic with limited access to PPE. These instructors have prioritized the well-being of thousands of children in this state and deserve immediate access to the vaccination.

I am also in support of prioritizing K-12 instructors. Thousands, upon thousands, of children in this state and millions of children across the country are being negatively impacted by virtual instruction. Prioritizing K-12 instructors will provide an additional means of protecting instructors from COVID-19 and allow children to return to the classroom sooner rather than later. This is not only a COVID-19 health concern, this is also about the well being of these children who are struggling, not only academically, but physically, emotionally, and mentally.

Please give priority to these essential employees.

Respectfully,

Kelly Dolphin

From: [Nicole Osten](#)
To: [DHS SDMAC](#)
Subject: Teachers and childcare workers first
Date: Wednesday, January 13, 2021 9:08:08 AM

To Whom It May Concern,

Please prioritize your essential childcare workers in daycare centers, preschools, and in-home daycares, as well as school staff in public and private schools in Wisconsin. This includes teachers, administrators, bus drivers, cooks and other support staff. They make the world go round. Our children NEED to be in person for learning. This has gone on too long and children are suffering emotionally and mentally with virtual learning. Please give the teachers their vaccines as soon as possible so we can return to more normalcy for children in our state.

Thank you,
A former public school teacher and current public school mother of 3

Nicole Osten
Verona, WI

Sent from my iPhone

From: [Sherrol Yurs](#)
To: [DHS SDMAC](#)
Subject: Vaccines
Date: Wednesday, January 13, 2021 9:01:32 AM

To whom it may concern,

Please include all those working in daycare and educational facilities as part of the phase 1b group to receive vaccinations.

This is extremely important to keep our kids in school! If staff become sick, schools will have to close and this would defeat the whole purpose of bringing our kids back.

Thank you!

Sherrol Yurs

From: [Mary Beth](#)
To: [DHS SDMAC](#)
Subject: Early Childhood Teachers in 1B
Date: Tuesday, January 12, 2021 8:51:36 PM

I'm writing to encourage you to include Early Childhood Teachers in 1B. Our programs are open and we're exposed. I work in Milwaukee. Our infection rates are very high. We need the vaccine so we can continue to care and teach the youngest, vulnerable members of our State.

Thank you for your time,
Mary Beth Adams

Sent from my iPhone

From: [Chris Miskowiak](#)
To: [DHS SDMAC](#)
Subject: Phase 1b in WI
Date: Tuesday, January 12, 2021 3:57:32 PM

To Whom it may concern,

Please consider child care workers as part of the phase 1b covid19 vaccine group.

I am currently pregnant with a due date of 03/27/21. I have been trying to secure child care since November 2020 for late August of 2021 for our baby. The child care center in our area is struggling. The director cannot take new babies until she can improve staffing. We are currently checking in with her monthly as the health emergency evolves. If child care workers were part of phase 1b, our child care center would be able to safely bring back more staff, which would then allow our baby to attend.

I am also a special education teacher at a K-12 school in Dane County, if I cannot secure childcare, this inhibits my ability to work full time. The state of Wisconsin is in a teacher shortage, and has been prior to the health emergency. If we are to get teachers and students back in schools, we must also consider the child care workers who are caring for teachers' own children.

Thank you for considering,
Christine Burton