



Dear Food Ministry Essential Worker:

The Arkansas Department of Health (ADH) began receiving shipments of Pfizer-BioNTech COVID-19 vaccine and the Moderna vaccine in mid-December 2020. To better determine the process for vaccine dissemination, ADH established three priority groups: Phase 1-A, 1-B, and 1-C. We are happy to share that **Food Pantry Essential Workers are in Group 1-B** to receive the COVID-19 vaccine in February—March 2021.

Since those in priority group 1-B have not started receiving the immunization, the final directives for receiving the vaccine have not been released. Your church will provide you a letter for your pharmacist to serve as verification of your affiliation to your respective food pantry.

While we recommend receiving the COVID-19 vaccination, it is not required to continue to serve your community through your food ministry.

If you choose to get vaccinated, it will be provided to you with no out-of-pocket cost. The U.S. government is providing the vaccine to all states at no cost, including Arkansas. So the cost of the vaccine will not be billed. However, the vaccine provider will bill your insurance for the vaccine administration fee to cover their cost for giving the vaccine to you. **If you have no insurance, you will not be billed.**

Should you have any further questions, please read the materials on the [Healthy Arkansas website](#) or speak with your physician about the best steps to take regarding the vaccine.

Thank you so much for all that you do to help feed your neighbors!

Stay safe. Stay healthy. Stay blessed.

Rev. Sam Meadors

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