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Subject: COVID-19 Update - February 4, 2021

Dear Baptist Health Family,

We begin the second month of 2021 with an optimistic outlook, as it appears we are turning a corner on the recent post-holiday surge. There has been a reduction in COVID-19 cases nationally, and while Florida still has a high number of cases, the numbers are trending downward.

This Week's Numbers at a Glance

- Currently, there are **339** individuals throughout our facilities who are COVID-19 positive or suspected to be positive, which is a **decrease** of nearly 17% from last week, and nearly 20% from two weeks ago.
- We have discharged more than **11,300** patients who were treated for COVID-19.
- We have vaccinated more than **30,300** people including eligible employees, medical staff and eligible members of our community, with more than **16,700** of those having received the second dose of the vaccine.
- COVID-19 positive cases and hospitalizations are decreasing across the state and the rate of transmission is less than 1.

Vaccine Update

We continue to provide second doses of the COVID-19 vaccine to those who have already received their first dose with us. Baptist Health has also received a very limited amount of vaccines, which the state has mandated be used only for first doses for medically vulnerable patients who are under 65. We will be using these doses to fulfill vaccination appointments for patients of Miami Cancer Institute and Lynn Cancer Institute who meet this criteria and who had their original appointments canceled due to supply constraints. We are communicating with those patients directly.

All other individuals who would like to receive a vaccine should register at the state's new website, www.myvaccine.fl.gov to be notified as vaccine becomes available.

Introducing Baptist Health Medical Group North

This month marks a significant milestone for our organization. I am pleased to announce the alignment of our two esteemed Palm Beach multispecialty physician practice groups (BocaCare® and Bethesda Health Physician Group) into a single entity, now known as **Baptist Health Medical Group North**. The physicians and employees of these practice groups have cultivated professional connections and patient relationships in Palm Beach County for

decades. Operating together now as Baptist Health Medical Group North, the practices form an even more comprehensive network that is committed to helping manage patients' day-to-day health as well as advanced and long-term care needs.

This alignment further solidifies the Baptist Health presence in Palm Beach County and further unites us across our four-county service area, with Baptist Health Medical Group continuing its longtime operation of multispecialty physician practices throughout Miami-Dade, Broward and Monroe counties. Residents of and physicians working in Palm Beach County now enjoy increased referral access to our entire 11-hospital network, including our renowned centers of excellence in cancer, cardiovascular care, orthopedics & sports medicine, and neurosciences.

Lincoln Mendez, CEO of Boca Raton Regional Hospital, and Nelson Lazo, CEO of Bethesda Hospital East and Bethesda Hospital West, will work closely with Amy Cole, Chief Operating Officer of Baptist Health Medical Group North and Vice President of Physician Networks, as well as with the numerous administrative and clinical leaders of BocaCare® and Bethesda Health Physician Group. We are fortunate to have these seasoned administrators and clinicians in place in Palm Beach County to lead the future of Baptist Health Medical Group North, particularly as we continue to navigate the impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic.

Super Bowl Surprise for 10 Lucky Employees

This week, it was an honor to take part in a special surprise for our 10 healthcare heroes who were selected to attend Super Bowl LV this Sunday, thanks to our generous partners at the Miami Dolphins and the NFL. The winners in the ticket giveaway were selected at random from more than 1,300 entries. Each winner will receive one ticket to the game as well as hotel accommodations and a travel stipend of \$100. Find out more about the winners, and see their reactions on the [Pineapple Connect homepage](#) (accessible when you are on the Baptist Health network). Also, you can [click here](#) to see media coverage of the surprise on WPTV in Palm Beach. Congratulations to all of our winners. This experience for our frontline caregivers is so well-deserved, and we are proud that they will be representing Baptist Health at the Super Bowl. A special "thank you" to Stephen M. Ross, Chairman of The Related Companies and principal owner of the Miami Dolphins and Tom Garfinkel, Vice Chairman, President and Chief Executive Officer of the Miami Dolphins for providing this amazing opportunity.

I can't thank everyone enough for their tireless work all of these months. Through the challenges, there are always silver linings. I am honored to witness the countless examples of teamwork and unwavering support you have for each other and our mission, which help strengthen us every day so that we can continue to take care of the people who need us most.

Bo Boulenger

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