

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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GURWIN JEWISH NURSING & REHABILITATION CENTER STAFF RECEIVE SECOND DOSAGES OF PFIZER BIONTECH VACCINE

Commack, NY— Staff and residents at Gurwin Jewish Nursing & Rehabilitation who were first in line to receive the initial dose of the COVID-19 vaccine in December 2020, today received their second dose of the vaccine at the 460-bed skilled nursing facility. Administered by Walgreens pharmacist, this second round of the Pfizer BioNTech COVID-19 provides more than 90% resistance to the COVID-19 virus.

The vaccine, a two-dose regimen that provides up to more than 90% resistance to the COVID-19 virus, received Emergency Use Authorization from the FDA in December, and long-term care workers and residents were prioritized to receive the potentially life-saving vaccines ahead of the rest of the population.

“I received my second dose of the vaccine today, along with many of my colleagues and residents,” said Julia Salmon-Allen, a Certified Nursing Assistant at the Gurwin Center. “I have been worried about getting COVID-19 since March, and if this will protect me, my family and our residents, I’m happy to sign up.”

“I feel great physically, and also reassured knowing that this is a step forward,” said Stuart B. Almer, President and CEO of the Gurwin Healthcare System, which the nursing and rehabilitation center is a part of. “Our community has been on edge for months, especially our family



Julia Salmon-Allen, a Certified Nursing Assistant at Gurwin Jewish Nursing & Rehabilitation Center, receives the second dose of the Pfizer COVID-19 vaccine.

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Gurwin Jewish Nursing & Rehabilitation Center

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members who have not been able to visit since March. The vaccine is a positive step in the direction of bringing families back together with their loved ones.” NYS mandates still require nursing homes to go 14 days without any positive cases of COVID-19 among staff or residents in order to allow visitation. Walgreens staff today also began vaccinating additional staff and residents with their initial dose, and plan to return February 1st to administer the second dose.

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About Gurwin Healthcare System

The Gurwin Jewish Nursing & Rehabilitation Center is a 460-bed nursing care facility in Commack, Long Island, and is part of the Gurwin Healthcare System, a renowned health-care provider offering a full continuum of healthcare and senior living services for the frail and elderly. The Center was named by Fortune Magazine as the #1 Best Workplace in the nation for Aging Services and is the 2019 Best of Long Island award winner for rehabilitation, adult day care, health aides and assisted living. Services provided at the Center include skilled nursing care, rehabilitation therapy, advanced care, ventilator and respiratory care, on-site dialysis and infusion therapy, memory care, and palliative and hospice care, as well as both medical and social adult day programs and home care programs. The 34-acre campus is also home to Gurwin Jewish~ Fay J. Lindner Residences assisted living community, and a proposed independent living community, Fountaingate Gardens. For more information, visit www.gurwin.org. Follow Gurwin on Facebook (bit.ly/GurwinNursingRehab) and on Twitter (@GurwinJewish).

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