

# VaxxMatters

## Why Vaccinate?

Get back to back to what you love

Here are some ways that CFS team members are getting back to doing the things that they love. Also check out more stories on YouTube <https://blog.youtube/news-and-events/covid-19-vaccines-get-back-what-you-love/>

Now that I'm fully vaccinated and can visit and be in the same place with loved ones I will Never take for granted the feeling of giving and receiving hugs and enjoying everyone's company and conversations having a meal together. Especially for birthdays and holidays!



Kristen Nelson, Administrative Assistant

Diana Collins, Asst. Director of Community services said: Generally, in my family, we get together for major holidays, birthdays and other celebrations like Mother's Day. The pandemic put a quick halt to it all. For the past year, we all made a conscious decision not to congregate and we did not visit my grandmother to ensure her safety. Because most of us are fully vaccinated we are more comfortable with getting together. Our first gathering was a small get together at my mom's with my grandmother. She was very happy to get out of the house for something other than a doctors appointment and was especially happy to be spending time with some of her children and grandchildren. I am looking forward to future gatherings to come.

It feels good to be able to take the ladies out since being vaccinated. They already have been to two restaurants with staff and on both occasions, they really enjoyed themselves. Susan went to church on Mother's Day, and she said she was happy that she got to go. It felt good to take the ladies to different stores like: Sam's Club, Walmart, Dunkin Donuts and Shop Rite. We are going to still take it slow, keep our mask on and keep space between each other to stay safe. Josie Alexander, Sr. Direct Support Professional



Valerie Bowen-Townes, Assistant Residential Director said: During the pandemic I always said that "I Live in the World and I will practice being safe at all times for myself and my family especially my 89-year mother." But since I got vaccinated in my personal life my world has exploded, I now feel that I can travel safely.

Grace Bender, Sr. DSP from Bloomfield said: Since getting vaccinated she has been able to spend time with her grandchildren again after a year of limited contact.

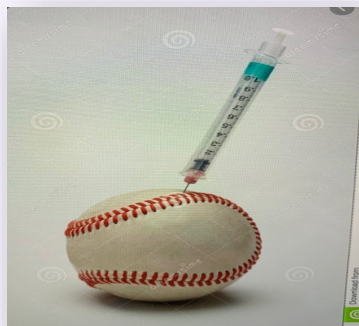


Andrew Takara, DSP from Clifton GH said: Since getting vaccinated he has been able to attend church services again.



David Joy, Nurse said: I get to go to my sons travel basketball games as he is scheduled to get his vaccine next week since he just turned 16 this past Wednesday.

## Batter up or in this case Vaccinate up!!!



"You take a vaccine shot, get a voucher, you go to that game. If that game is sold out, you can go tomorrow night or a game of your choice." Randy Levine, President of the NY Yankees. The Mets and Yankees will reopen the stadium on May 19 but with different rules and sections for vaccinated and unvaccinated people. Those who are vaccinated will be seated in sections at normal capacity but must still wear a mask. Those who are unvaccinated will be separated in a separate section that allows only 33%, six feet distance apart and must also wear a mask.

## Do I still need to wear my mask?

You might have heard that the CDC has relaxed its guidance on face coverings for fully vaccinated people. This has caused some confusion, as this is only guidance not regulation. CFS (and our state oversight agencies) still require all staff to wear face coverings. This is also true for many state and private companies. As per Dr. Sanjay Gupta, "Masks continue to be a useful tool, especially because COVID infection rates in much of the country are still elevated. It is worth remembering why masks were recommended in the first place. It was to greatly reduce the amount of virus an asymptomatic carrier might release into the air." So even with CDC guidance, it is still important to wear face covering to reduce the risk of exposure. For now, vaccination plus mask wearing are important ways for us to continue to protect ourselves and others.

A reminder that ChemRX are interested in hosting another vaccine clinic at our CFS Bronx office. They will be offering the Moderna vaccine. We do not have a date yet, but if you are interested, please email Shyanne Gadson [sgadson@cfsny.org](mailto:sgadson@cfsny.org) to be placed on a list.

If you want to share your vaxxies or if you have questions that we might be able to answer for VaxMatters please send to [jcropper2@cfsny.org](mailto:jcropper2@cfsny.org)

Don't forget to send in your vaccination card when you get vaccinated to [HRVacstats@cfsny.org](mailto:HRVacstats@cfsny.org) You can be entered into a raffle drawing and win \$100 gift.

## MTA Pop Up Vaccine Sites

Visit a vaccination pop-up stop, May 12 to 16, to get your single-dose vaccine and free MetroCard or train ticket. Just drop in, no appointment needed.

[Free Covid-19 Vaccine May 12-16 at select stations \(mta.info\)](https://www.mta.info)

Approximately 264 staff and 143 people supported at CFS have been vaccinated so far and we continue to make appointments.

We are developing relationships with various vaccination sites throughout NY and NJ. If you are interested in receiving the vaccine contact your direct supervisor and/or the following depending on state or program so that we can reach out to you.

NY Residential - Tranet Hymon  
[THymon@cfsny.org](mailto:THymon@cfsny.org)

NY Community & SDS - Linda Schellenberg  
[lschellenberg@cfsny.org](mailto:lschellenberg@cfsny.org)

NJ - Donna Messina [dmessina@cfsny.org](mailto:dmessina@cfsny.org)

This weeks Raffle Winner  
Attended the vaccine clinic in the Bronx

Arianna Vasquez – DSP  
Per Diem, SDS program

