September 03, 2021

To: DFHV Grantees

Re: Mayor Bowser’s Order: 2021-099

Dear Grantees:

Thank you for your continued service to the residents of the District of Columbia through your grant partnership with the District. Your efforts have been especially appreciated during the District’s response to the COVID-19 public emergencies.

While significant strides have been made to combat the spread of COVID-19, new, more contagious variants of the virus pose a significant threat, and vaccinations remain the best method for mitigating the spread of these variants. COVID-19 vaccines are highly effective in protecting persons from COVID-19 and its variants currently circulating in the United States and our region. Vaccines prevent the worst consequences of the disease: hospitalization and death. Vaccines also help protect close contacts of vaccinated persons from contracting the disease. In the District of Columbia, vaccines are readily available and cost-free through walk-up vaccination sites, as well as at pharmacies, clinics, and health care providers across the District. We all have a duty to help curb the threat posed by this disease.

DFHV is requesting each grantee comply with the Mayor’s Order starting no later than September 19, 2021 to report to their DFHV Project Lead your grantee’s, sub-grantee, contractor’s staff, or intern vaccination status. For example, the DFHV Grant Team will be developing a grant program certification of compliance of vaccination/testing report template for any driver, escort aide, front line staff, or program manager who comes into contact with the general public they serve by reporting the following information within the Zoomgrants’ portal, or upon request:

- first name, last name of staffer,
- Staffer’s role (grant intern, grant staffer, grant driver, grant manager, or contractor),
- Vaccination Status (Yes/No), or
- Weekly COVID-19 Test (Positive/Negative Results), and
- Date(s) of COVID-19 Test.

DFHV is urging all grantees and their contractor’s staffers (including volunteers and interns) affiliated with DFHV to obtain a COVID-19 vaccination. However, if an individual is unable or objects in good faith and in writing, pursuant to the procedures established by the City Administrator, would violate their sincerely held religious beliefs or medical condition, the individual must agree to weekly COVID-19 testing and submit the results. Individuals needing such an exemption, should review and follow all of the required mandates listed within the Mayor’s Order 2021-099.
COVID-19 vaccines are an important tool to help stop this pandemic. Everyone affiliated with DFHV services and grant programs should continue to follow all the current DC guidelines to protect yourselves and others.

We look forward to working in partnership with your organization to ensure that all grantees are doing their part in the fight against COVID-19. If you have further questions, please consult with your grant administrator.

Sincerely,

David Do, Director
DEPARTMENT OF FOR-HIRE VEHICLES