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# LOCAL NEWS

## Vaccines to All by April 19 Governor's order to get more shots in arms



Gov. Kate Brown

All Oregon residents age 16 and up will be eligible for the COVID-19 vaccine on April 19.

In announcing the news, Gov. Kate Brown said the state will pass the threshold of 2 million vaccines administered on Tuesday and is focused on vaccinating as many frontline workers and people with underlying conditions as possible in the next two weeks.

People of color, who have been disproportionately affected by COVID-19, make up a large percentage of those groups, said Brown, a Democrat.

Hundreds of thousands of Oregonians became newly eligible for shots Monday, including frontline workers, their family members and those age 16 and up with underlying conditions.

"We are locked in a race between vaccine distribution and the rapid spread of COVID-19 variants," Brown said in a statement. "Today, Oregon will pass the threshold of 2 million vaccine doses administered. And yet, in communities across Oregon, COVID-19 is spreading at concerning rates. We must move as quickly as possible to get more shots in arms."

Brown also said she is working with the White House to make sure Oregon receives a fair share of the federal vaccine supply after the director of the Oregon Health Authority expressed concerns that the state wasn't receiving as many doses per capita as other states, such as Kansas and Wyoming.

Currently, four Portland area healthcare systems, Kaiser Permanente, Legacy Health, OHSU and Providence, are working side by side to operate an All for Oregon COVID-19 vaccination clinic at the Oregon Convention Center in northeast Portland. Visit [getvaccinated.oregon.gov](http://getvaccinated.oregon.gov) or call 211 for vaccine registration information.

## Anti-Asian Hate Targets Candidate School leader shares story to raise awareness

Amidst a rise in anti-Asian hate crimes nationally, Hoa Nguyen, a candidate for David Douglas School Board, was recently the target of a hate crime at her home in East Portland. Nguyen is now sharing the story publicly to raise awareness about the lived realities of Asian Americans in our community and in the public spotlight.

The crime happened at 6 a.m. on Friday, March 19th, Nguyen said, when there was a knock on her door and an anonymous racist note was left at her doorstep. The note stated "Kung Flu" handwritten in sharpie on a white piece of paper.

"My first reaction upon receiving this note was to brush it off, ignore it and go about my day. That is what we are so often conditioned to do in the face of racism. As the day progressed and I shared this incident with those close to me, my thoughts and anger started to grow, and I felt the responsibility to take action, not just for my own personal safety but for my community."

She followed up by reporting the incident to local and state authorities, including to Portland Police, the Oregon Department of Justice and the Portland United



Hoa Nguyen

Against Hate coalition.

With the increase of reported hate incidents against Asian Americans in the Portland area and nationally, Nguyen said the last few months have been an especially trying time for the Asian American community.

"I am still processing the recent events of the mass shooting of the six Asian American women in Atlanta and finding ways to best show up for my community and myself as an Asian American woman and leader," she said. "The timing of the racist incident, as well as my candidacy for Da-

vid Douglas School Board has made me feel vulnerable and that my safety has been compromised. A hostile stranger knew that I am Asian, knew where I call home, and made an effort to leave an offensive note."

Nguyen said the incident points to a lifetime of racial trauma for many people of color, including students and youth of color who have to endure bias and micro aggressions in and out of school.

"How many times have we swept micro aggressions and bias under the rug to make racists and the status quo feel comfortable? I realized how much we have normalized this behavior of hate towards communities of color. Hate crimes aren't just about physical safety, but our mental wellbeing and the value we have to our community," she said. "We are not providing the tools and safe environment for our young people to address these injustices."

Nguyen is a second generation Vietnamese-American child of refugees. She graduated high school and college in Oregon and has spent her career serving public schools students and families, most recently as a school attendance coach in Portland Public Schools.

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