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United Hebrew of New Rochelle Administers its First COVID-19 Vaccines to Residents and Staff

104-Year Old Resident First in Line

New Rochelle, NY—January 8, 2020...United Hebrew of New Rochelle, a multi-faceted organization which provides supportive care services to seniors, administered its first COVID-19 vaccines to its nursing home residents and staff today. With its pharmacy partner, Pharmscript, and following the guidelines of federal and state health authorities, United Hebrew gave the first dose of the Pfizer vaccine to over 360 residents, short-term rehabilitation patients, and staff members. The second dose will be administered within the next 28 days.

Among those vaccinated was Mary Mignona, a 104-year-old resident who has lived through two pandemics — surviving both with flying colors. She was born in 1916 and was just two years old when the Spanish flu pandemic struck the United States. While she averted illness during her first pandemic, Mignona tested positive for COVID-19 last fall. Isolated for two weeks, she fortunately remained largely asymptomatic from the virus and eventually recovered.

“It’s amazing to be a two-time pandemic survivor,” said Mignona. “I’m very happy to be vaccinated. Now I’m looking forward to seeing my family in-person.”

Mignona is counting the days her two children and five great-grandchildren — all boys — can visit her at United Hebrew, according to her daughter, Christina D’Angelo. “Because of Covid, we’ve only been able to see each other virtually or through a window at the nursing home since last March. My mom has significant hearing loss, so interacting with her [in these ways] is difficult. This vaccine brings us closer to seeing each other in person.”

Located in New Rochelle, United Hebrew was at the epicenter of the pandemic outbreak last March and has cared for hundreds of COVID-19 patients since the beginning of the health crisis. Rita Mabli, president & CEO, said the arrival of the vaccine provides tremendous relief, and brings hope that there are brighter days ahead.

“This is a momentous occasion for us,” she said. “We are deeply grateful for all who worked so hard to get the vaccine to us. Needless to say, it’s been a challenging year for our staff, residents, and their loved ones.” Health authorities have said, from the very beginning, that

people over 65 are at a much higher risk of becoming very ill from COVID. Adds Mabl: “This vaccine will go a long way toward protecting them and their caregivers, who are still working so tirelessly to keep them well. Our campus will be one of the safest places to be.”

About United Hebrew of New Rochelle

United Hebrew of New Rochelle (uhgc.org) is a vibrant not-for-profit, non-sectarian, multiservice campus of comprehensive care nestled on 7.5 acres. United Hebrew has been serving the Westchester metropolitan area since 1919, and today, serves more than 1,000 residents and clients daily on its Harry and Jeannette Weinberg Campus and within the Westchester community. Services include: Long-Term Skilled Nursing (The Kramer and Skalet Pavilion); Burke Rehabilitation at United Hebrew; Willow Towers Assisted Living (The Beverly and Alfred J. Green Pavilion), Memory Care at Willow Gardens; The Phoenix Neighborhood and Griffen Program at Willow Towers; and Nightingale Neighborhood at United Hebrew; Independent Senior Housing at Soundview (Low-Savin Residence) and Meadow Lane Senior Apartments); Health at Home (AZOR Licensed Home Health Care and Certified Home Health Agency); and Private Geriatric Care Management Services (Raven Care Advocates). United Hebrew has received accolades locally, regionally and nationally for its patient-centered care, including a five-star rating from the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid, a “High Performing” short-term rehab rating from *U.S. News & World Report*, the American College of Healthcare Administrators (ACHCA) Eli Pick Facility Leadership award, and the Women’s Choice Award. For more information, call (914) 632-2804 or visit www.uhgc.org