#### **Longwood University**

#### Digital Commons @ Longwood University

Spring Showcase for Research and Creative Inquiry

Office of Student Research

Spring 4-14-2021

#### COVID-19 Vaccine Distribution for the Homeless Population in Virginia

Brandi Joyner

Hunter Gillespie

Terika Williams

Follow this and additional works at: https://digitalcommons.longwood.edu/rci\_spring



Part of the Biology Commons

#### **Recommended Citation**

Joyner, Brandi; Gillespie, Hunter; and Williams, Terika, "COVID-19 Vaccine Distribution for the Homeless Population in Virginia" (2021). Spring Showcase for Research and Creative Inquiry. 175. https://digitalcommons.longwood.edu/rci\_spring/175

This Article is brought to you for free and open access by the Office of Student Research at Digital Commons @ Longwood University. It has been accepted for inclusion in Spring Showcase for Research and Creative Inquiry by an authorized administrator of Digital Commons @ Longwood University. For more information, please contact hamiltonma@longwood.edu, alwinehd@longwood.edu.



# COVID-19 Vaccine Distribution for the Homeless Population in Virginia

By: Brandi Joyner, Terika Williams & Hunter Gillespie

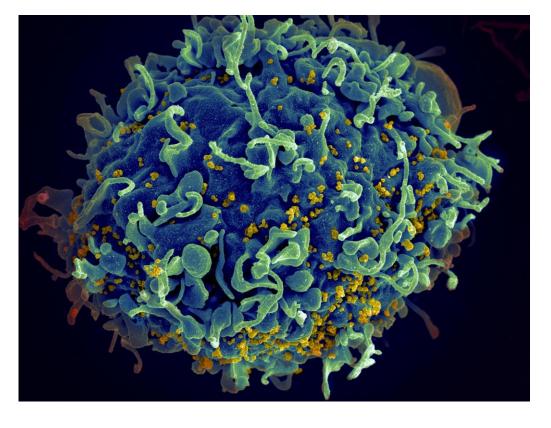


## Background Information

- •The homeless are likely to have poor standards due lack of clean water, food, shelter, and improper personal hygiene practices, which makes them vulnerable to infections<sup>1</sup>
- •They are disproportionally more likely to have compromised immune systems due to drug use, HIV/AIDS, etc. <sup>2</sup>
- •As of April 2021, there is not a systematic approach to distribute the COVID-19 vaccine to the homeless population.



A group of homeless people



HIV



Heroin



COVID-19 Vaccine

### Our Ask

How can the state of Virginia provide the COVID-19 vaccine to the homeless population widespread?



## House Of Delegates

- One of the two parts of Virginia legislative body
- Compromised of 100 members
- Located in Richmond, VA.



## Methods

Locate local popular shelters, community centers, and food banks



Set up vaccine drives in these locations



Distribute vaccines along with sterile masks

# Challenges --> Rebuttals

Vaccine hesitation Educate about vaccination

Follow up for 2nd Dose

Johnson & Johnson vaccine

Lack of technology

Location





## Conclusion

The homeless are extremely vulnerable to COVID-19 and it is urgent that the VA House of Delegates implement this plan to distribute vaccines to this population.

Scan for references!