

COMMUNITY



Tariq Butt, MD, President of Chicago Medical Society addressing the audience. Seen in the picture: Alderwoman Debra Silverstein, Alderman Andre Vasquez, Omayra Giachello - IDPH Regional Health Officer, Mehbub S. Kapadia, MD, and Prism Health Lab Executive Officer. — All photos by Suresh Bodiwala

## Opening of Prism Health Labs Vaccination Site at Roger's park promises timely and hassle-free vaccination to thousands

PRESS RELEASE

**Chicago IL:** The news of the opening of Prism Health Lab's vaccination site at Roger's Park came about like a refreshing breeze to many who have been struggling to find vaccine appointments either for themselves or for their loved ones.

The opening ceremony event of the new vaccination site organized on March 10, 2021 at 6301 N Western Avenue, Chicago IL was graced by the presence of Alderwoman Debra Silverstein, Alderman Andre Vasquez, Omayra Giachello-IDPH Regional Health Officer, Dr. Tariq Butt - President of Chicago Medical Society along with his wife and the man behind this philanthropic mission Dr. Mehbub S. Kapadia, MD, Prism Health Lab Executive Officer along with his wife Seema Kapadia. During his address, Dr. Kapadia welcomed all the guests and acknowledged their unwavering support to his mission to support the society and to vaccinate senior citizens of the city.

Dr. Butt thanked Alderwoman Debra Silverstein, Alderman Andre Vasquez, Omayra Giachello - IDPH Regional Health Officer for all their support.

Alderwoman Debra Silverstein expressed how grateful she is for the initiative taken up by Prism to vaccinate the area that was hit very hard by the pandemic. She recalled how the covid-19 pandemic affected lives in so many ways.

Dr. Butt made special mention of the hard-work and dedication of Ms. Omayra Giachello (IDPH Regional Health Officer) for making this mission as a success. He also thanked the leadership behind the location and thanked Joe Porello for effortlessly turning it into the vaccination site overnight. Dr. Butt praised the outstanding customer services provided by the car dealership run by Joe and recommended it to everyone with a fivestar rating.

Alderman Andre Vasquez mentioned that it is the need of the hour to make sure that the most marginalized and most vulnerable population of the Chicagoland gets vaccinated. He commended the efforts of Dr. Kapadia for making that possible.

Other distinguished guests present at the event were Vinesh Virani (Community Leader & Senior Member of Art of Living & VHP), Harish Kolasani (National President of NCAIA), and Victor M. Romano (MD, Vice-Chair of the Council - CMS). For Medical help, Dr. Evan and Dr. Amaan were present. All the present dignitaries and special guests were felicitated with a bouquet of flowers.

The team also included the vaccine administering members Vaishali Shah, Priya Patel, Hemi

Patel, and Mrs. Trina Anthony-Mickle and the staff from Prism Health Labs Maya Horton, Syethia Gould, Joy Cook, Priscilla Reveles, Ava Taelby, Sarah Pledger, Jacqueline Washington, Donja, Dr. Amman, Spencer Howland, Evan, Harshad Patel, Ravi and Ranjit Kesavan.

Built on the foundation and belief of giving back to the society and to be able to help as many people as possible, Prism Health Labs, headed by Dr. Mehbub S. Kapadia and supported by his son took up the task of vaccinating Chicago as a step to giving back to the community without any external aide. The Lab is located in Chicago, on 2320 W. Peterson Ave Chicago IL 60712, a location that is accessible to all of the local communities around and also to the people who find it difficult to travel to the city from nearby areas.

Vinesh Virani from Art of Living and Harish Kolasani from NCAIA (National Council of Asian Indian Associations) helped the team in achieving its goal. NCAIA partnered with PRISM Health Labs in conducting the well-organized community vaccination camp.

Before the vaccinations started, Prism Health Lab had been spearheading many COVID testing locations throughout Chicagoland providing access to safe, accessible and affordable testing locations to thousands of people from various communities. The sites that included Cicero, West Ridge, Chinatown, Roselle, Schaumburg, Skokie, offered a wide range of services & support, and accommodated patients who speak English, Spanish, Cantonese, and Mandarin. The locations offered no-cost testing and were open to all, and were part of a joint effort with State Rep. Theresa Mah and Ald. Byron Sigcho (25th) to bring permanent testing sites to communities that needed them the most. Prism Health Lab's 6th site, located at the Chicago Public Library in Chinatown at 2100 S Wentworth Avenue. Prism Health Lab is a Chicago-based minority-owned firm founded in 1987, and is known for its diversity in staffing, and operational excellence and immaculate planning.

As stated by the top executives at Prism, the company focuses on training people in vocational skills and building-out health care capacity within the communities to bring long-lasting equitable health care to the people of Chicago.

Its training programs and community-based hiring support the local job market by creating employment opportunities. Prism also boasts of strong partnerships with diverse community-based organizations, such as Habilitative Services, Pilsen Neighbors Community Council, Healthy Hood, and Chicago Medical Society,



Mrs. Trina Anthony-Mickle giving Moderna COVID 19 Vaccine first dose.



Alderwoman Debra Silverstein addressing the audiences.



(L to R) Tariq Butt MD President of Chicago Medical Society, Rizwana Butt, Alderwoman Debra Silverstein and Mehbub S. Kapadia MD Prism Health Lab Executive Officer.



Tariq Butt MD President of Chicago Medical Society felicitated with a bouquet of flowers to Alderwoman Debra Silverstein and Alderman.

which means the City's investment in COVID-19 vaccine operations, will benefit local communities.

The partnership between CDPH and Prism promises a rapidly delivered as well as culturally competent access to life-saving vaccines to the communities that have been most severely impacted by the COVID-19 pandemic.

As always Prism stands strong on its philanthropic grounds and aims to organize mass vaccination camps throughout Chicagoland to safeguard thousands of human lives. Its leadership and the team of dedicated staff members leave no stone unturned in involving all the communities in its planning and execution to ensure an accessible and affordable option to get vaccinated.