



**OFFICE OF THE LIEUTENANT GOVERNOR**

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**\*\*\*PRESS RELEASE\*\*\***

**Lt. Governor Molly Gray Joins NAACP, State Employees, for BIPOC Vaccination Clinic in Rutland, Encourages “Millennials” to Register for the Vaccine**

Montpelier, Vt. – On Saturday, April 10, 2021 Lt. Governor Molly Gray joined the Rutland area NAACP as well as State of Vermont employees in volunteering at a vaccination clinic for Vermonters who identify as black, indigenous, or people of color (BIPOC). Over the course of the day, Lt. Governor Gray supported the vaccination of over 150 Vermonters, volunteering as an intake worker for those receiving the first dose of the Pfizer vaccine.

“I was pleased to join healthcare workers who have worked tirelessly to deploy vaccines as well as volunteers from the Agency of Agriculture and the Department of Environmental Conservation in helping eligible Vermonters receive their first vaccine. I’m proud to be part of the effort to ensure that individuals and families who are at a higher risk are prioritized and to do my part to bring this pandemic to a close.”

The clinic was coordinated by La’Keiah M. Gillespie, NCMA, NCPT, “It was an honor that the NAACP reached out to me to be the Coordinator of the Rutland BIPOC Covid Vaccine Clinic. We had an amazing turnout on both April 3<sup>rd</sup> and April 10<sup>th</sup>. 401 people vaccinated in our community.”

Gillespie continued, “It filled my heart to be able to help the BIPOC community and their families to understand what the vaccine is and why it’s important for us as a community to get the vaccine. I think everyone loved the personal touch of me being able to call and talk to each individual person to answer questions and get them scheduled and not a machine or computer. The staff with the Vermont Department of Health was amazing. I couldn’t have asked for things to go any better.”

On Monday, Lt. Governor Gray who is 37 years old, joined Vermonters 30 years of age or older in registering for her vaccine. With cases rising amongst young people in Vermont in recent weeks, Lt. Governor Gray encouraged “millennials” to register for the vaccine. Gray stated, “So many millennials have been on the front lines of this pandemic managing essential work and caregiving, I know I join so many fellow millennials in breathing a sigh of relief knowing our day has come!”

To register for a vaccine visit: <https://www.healthvermont.gov/>

BIPOC Vermonters, and their families, can register for prioritized vaccination here:

[https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSdUqsRyNi7AvHxoEoCsmynw8ZnZj3pBy2KXtbqKA0\\_VX8Euhg/viewform](https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSdUqsRyNi7AvHxoEoCsmynw8ZnZj3pBy2KXtbqKA0_VX8Euhg/viewform)

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*Pictured in attached photos (left to right): Steve Cash of the VT Agency of Agriculture, Nicole Woods of the VT Agency of Human Services, Lt. Governor Molly Gray, La'Keiah M. Gillespie of the Rutland Area NAACP*