



# Stony Brook School of Social Welfare

Office of the Dean  
Health Sciences Tower, L2, 092  
Stony Brook, NY 11794-8231  
TEL. 631.444.2139  
FAX 631.444.7565

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Dear Students,

Our spring semester is off and running and I extend a warm welcome back. I hope you had a restful and restorative winter break, and that it has energized you as we returned to classes last week.

As the pandemic continues, understandably, there is a lot of concern and anxiety around when students, staff and faculty will be receiving the COVID-19 vaccine. I know that many of you, as I am, are eager for the vaccination. Many of SBU's healthcare professionals and front-line essential workers including some of our students in on-site field placements who are designated essential, were among the first to receive the vaccine. When my time comes, I too will be getting the vaccination and I strongly encourage all of you to do the same. The vaccine warrants great hope for the future and is a stepping-stone toward a return to normalcy. I am excited about the prospect of being together again in-person as a campus community. Inoculating as many people as possible is the best strategy for defeating the virus and ending this devastating pandemic.

We recognize that there are concerns and myths surrounding the vaccination and there is hesitancy from some of you and your clients.

**Please take 25 minutes to hear from our very own experts!** In this video conversation with Maria Torres, PhD, Associate Professor, School of Social Welfare and Dr. Farah Haq, MD, MPH, Director of Occupational and Environmental Clinical Medicine and Clinical Assistant Professor in the Department of Family, Population and Preventive Medicine at SBU, you will learn more about the vaccine and about how to address vaccine concerns with your clients.

View the video: <https://youtu.be/IIFv1CLVGBg>

To stay informed, we suggest the following websites for up-to-date **evidence-based** information:

- <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/vaccines/index.html>
- **NYSDOH Eligibility website:** <https://am-i-eligible.covid19vaccine.health.ny.gov/>  
<https://covid19vaccine.health.ny.gov/frequently-asked-questions-0>
- [https://www.stonybrookmedicine.edu/patientcare/COVID-19\\_vaccine\\_info](https://www.stonybrookmedicine.edu/patientcare/COVID-19_vaccine_info)  
Stony Brook University's Vaccine Information page
- <https://www.stonybrook.edu/comingback/>

## Remember to Help Keep Us All Safe This Spring, Too!

- Wash your hands or use sanitizer when soap and water aren't available.
- Maintain a physical distance of at least six feet from other people.
- Wear a mask.
- Cover coughs and sneezes and avoid touching your eyes, nose and mouth.
- Clean/disinfect frequently touched surfaces in your workplace every day.
- Avoid using other people's phones, desks, offices, tools and equipment.
- Stay home if you're sick.
- Avoid large gatherings.
- Get tested regularly

We are all in this together, and we will all get through this together. Remember the ABC's & D's of COVID:

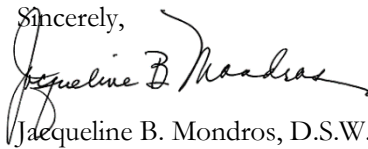
All hands on deck!

Beat it together!

Crush the curve!

Defeat Covid-19!

Sincerely,



Jacqueline B. Mondros, D.S.W.

Dean & Assistant Vice President, Social Determinants of Health