

Rev. Jesse Jackson gets Pfizer COVID vaccine; health officials hope it inspires minority groups

By [John Garcia](#) Friday, January 8, 2021

Health officials hope Rev. Jesse Jackson getting the COVID-19 vaccine will inspire minority groups.

CHICAGO (WLS) -- Rev. Jesse Jackson, 79, got his first dose of Pfizer's COVID-19 vaccine Friday.

Many in the healthcare community hope the image of Rev. Jackson receiving the shot will encourage more people in black and brown communities to follow his lead.

"Take the vaccination now. Keep hope alive," Rev. Jackson said.

"It's absolutely, symbolically, massively important to show one of the greatest African American leaders in history, that he's willing to get the vaccine, and he wants to inspire his people to come out and get the vaccine as well," said Tim Egan, Roseland Hospital CEO.

Hospital officials said they are finding reluctance to take the shot even among their own employees. They started a public relations campaign to overcome the historical distrust among many in minority communities when it comes to medicine and vaccines.

Former Chicago Rev. Gregory Seal Livingston lost his cousin Johnny Herman Kidd to the COVID-19. The virus also took the life of his uncle Willie Delton Hendrix. However, he said he will still wait before getting the vaccine.

"I think it's going to really take many of our black medical professionals, brown medical professionals to really do the due diligence and explain to the community that this vaccine will be a help and not a hurt," Rev. Livingston said.

Jesse Jackson moves to rehab hospital, wife in ICU for COVID

The Associated Press, **August 27, 2021**

Family members say the Rev. Jesse Jackson has been transferred to a hospital focused on physical rehabilitation after receiving treatment for a breakthrough COVID-19 infection

CHICAGO -- The Rev. Jesse Jackson has been transferred to a hospital focused on physical rehabilitation after receiving treatment for a breakthrough COVID-19 infection while his wife, Jacqueline, has been moved to an intensive care unit, according to a family statement released Friday.

Jacqueline Jackson is not on a ventilator but is receiving increased oxygen in the ICU at Northwestern Memorial Hospital, Jonathan Jackson said. Jesse Jackson is 79, and Jacqueline is 77. They were admitted to the hospital on Saturday. Jackson is vaccinated against the virus. He received his first dose during a publicized event where he urged others to receive the vaccine too. He said his wife didn't get vaccinated because she has a "preexisting condition" they were worried about.