



February 9, 2021

Ferry County Residents,

Aaron Edwards, CEO of Ferry County Hospital, has tirelessly worked to keep Ferry County safe during the COVID-19 pandemic. He's committed to closely following guidelines; he has been engaged, proactive; and on the forefront of the hospital, clinic, and community response to limit the spread of the virus.

Aaron had the foresight to set up a testing and vaccination site on the hospital campus as well as procure the only 'ultra-cold' freezer in the Tri County area to be ready for the Pfizer vaccine well before the vaccine was delivered. He worked closely with Karen Quinell in the lab to have testing available early on and was also able to get in-house molecular testing for COVID-19, which allowed for test turnaround times to be cut down to an hour, rather than days.

When the vaccine did arrive, he and his dedicated staff including Ferry County Search and Rescue, had the vaccine given in just a few days. This was in addition to their already very active drive-through testing. Aaron has also gone the extra mile and helped out other counties by driving to Tonasket several times, spending hours in dangerous conditions to procure available Pfizer vaccine.

From the beginning, Aaron has made every effort to offer any service Ferry County Health offers to others in need. Northeast Tri County Public Health District is deeply indebted to his service and material support. He has been an inspiration to me, and I am constantly surprised by his resourcefulness, integrity, and courage to fight for his community. His staff from administration all the way to engineering is exemplary in their team effort—all a result of Aaron's example and leadership.

As an employee of Ferry County Hospital as well as the health officer for the Tri County area, I appreciate his dedication to excellence and desire to be better. He cares about his staff both professionally and personally and makes every effort to ensure we have the tools needed to provide excellent care. He is honest, transparent, and sincerely cares for his community.

As we strain forward with many uncertainties about the immediate future, I am honored and reassured to having Aaron as a teammate. He is a champion for his staff and community to help keep them safe and well-equipped to respond in any circumstance.

With gratitude,

Sam Artzis Health

Officer

Northeast Tri County Health District Medical

Program Directory, Ferry County

Med Staff

36 Klondike Rd, Republic, WA 99166
P. (509) 775-3333 x255 F. (509) 775-3866