

MILWAUKEE CHAPTER 102
PAUL MORIARITY, PRESIDENT

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To: Wisconsin State Disaster Medical Advisory Committee (SDMAC)

From: Veterans for Peace Chapter 102, Milwaukee, Wisconsin

To Whom It May Concern:

In reading your report about plans for COVID vaccine distribution, we are concerned about the priorities in group number one. We would request that your committee include in priority No. 1, those who are involuntarily confined, and are packed into small quarters without the possibility of being physically or socially distanced from others. We believe that being incarcerated in Wisconsin is not meant to be a death sentence. But for many in our DOC, and local prisons or jails, this will be the case unless you act promptly and take effective action.

We understand the reason the prison guards and staff will be part of priority group No. 1, but those folks are not living in what has become COVID dangerous quarters. This also reflects, we are afraid, the attitude of the state towards warehousing prisoners rather than correctional and transformational programing and living situations.

The story from the Dept. of Corrections during COVID 19 has been a tragedy and we hope that vaccine distribution will show a more progressive, and humane approach to caring for all who are under the care of the state.

We are also concerned about residents in the three state veterans homes, but assume they will be included in the first priority along with other nursing home patients.

Thank you for considering our message and we look forward to your response.

In Peace and Justice for All,

Written on behalf of Milwaukee Veterans for Peace, Chapter 102.

Bob Hanson United State Navy, Vietnam Era