

Amanda: News4 Tucson's Allie Potter joins us live from Copper Canyon Assisted Living, where they are on a special list to receive that vaccine. Allie.

Allie Potter: John, Amanda, there's around 50 residents here and their executive director has said so far, they haven't had any COVID-19 cases and they hope with this vaccine they'll stay on that streak.

Juan Martinez: This has been sent out from the CDC and health organizations to all communities and skilled nursings. But as Sunshine is a corporation, we [00:00:30] felt that it was very important to get on this list as soon as possible, so we jumped at the opportunity.

Allie Potter: Juan Martinez, executive director of Copper Canyon Assisted Living says this facility on the Northwest side is on that vaccine list.

Juan Martinez: Then having the opportunity to get our residents and staff members vaccinated. It's really to give them the opportunity to get back to some sense of normalcy back with their families.

Allie Potter: Martinez says the feedback from residents and their families has been very positive

Juan Martinez: [00:01:00] Excited to be able to do this and again, get back to a sense of normalcy with visitations and things of that nature.

Allie Potter: Barbara's mom Alice lives at Copper Canyon and has only been able to see her mom through plexiglass and online.

Barbara: She said, "Well, why is this? Why don't you come in?" And I said, "Oh, it's a few" and she accepts that. But with dementia, no. We need to get the world going again.

Allie Potter: And says the vaccine is a step in that direction.

Barbara: And she's always gotten her vaccines, so I feel good about it. And I know it only [00:01:30] is like 95% effective, but having people around her having the vaccine and her having the vaccine and me having it too.

Juan Martinez: We're kind of looking at whether to make this a clinic where people can come through and do that, or if it would be solely for the residents and the staff members. At this time, I can't go either way, but it is definitely something we're trying to figure out if it may be beneficial.

Allie Potter: It's not unclear exactly when this vaccine will be released. But of course, [00:02:00] residents here at Copper Canyon will be one of the first to get it. We've got you covered on the Northwest side. Allie.