

Speaker 1: Busy senior community in Sandy Springs is making plans today for COVID vaccines to protect its workers and residents.

Speaker 2: The Hammond Glen Retirement Community wants early access to vaccines from those promising trials. CBS 46's special assignment reporter Sally Sears found the neighbors that are super eager.

Sally Sears: Just how fast can the vaccine get here? That's what plenty of people are saying all across the country. And in Sandy Springs, nobody is watching the news and paying more attention more carefully than Lila [00:00:30] Blake. Ms. Blake has lived in Atlanta for decades, missing her children and grandchildren since COVID closed the doors in February.

Lila Blake: I miss that weekly interaction with my family. And your whole life has changed.

Sally Sears: Hammond Glen uses CVS Pharmacies regularly to provide flu vaccines in normal years. And now, its corporate owner is signing up with the CVS Program that's based on Centers for Disease [00:01:00] Control and Prevention guidelines. When supplies are limited though, Emory physician Dr. Paul Root Wolpe says, "Vaccinate the workers, kitchen and maintenance staff, too. And do that first."

Pam Poucher: Because it gives that added layer of protection and it helps us have a sense of normalcy as we get back to reuniting our families with the residents.

Lila Blake: Even with a mask and social distancing, I still... I'm not all that comfortable. I just... So I will be more comfortable [00:01:30] when that happens, and I have confidence that it will work.

Sally Sears: She is sharing her confidence widely. In Sandy Springs, Sally Sears, CBS 46 News.