

Gabby Moreno: Residents at the Brook Ridge Retirement Living Community are breathing a sigh of relief today.

Robert Snyder: No reaction, no pain. Everything's good.

Gabby Moreno: 80 residents and 30 staff members received their first dose of the Moderna COVID-19 vaccine. Residents were eager to be among the first to receive it.

Elsa Rios: Everybody is super excited. Of course when we announced that we were having the vaccines, it was like, "I want to be the first in line." So it is very exciting for them as well.

Gabby Moreno: Because they are an independent living facility, Executive Director Elsa Rios [00:00:30] says securing the vaccine was more challenging than it would have been if they were assisted living.

Elsa Rios: We just had to try our best to try and get somebody to come and do it here, rather than take our residents, and make a line to be able to get them vaccinated.

Gabby Moreno: Residents like Robert Snyder were grateful for the opportunity.

Robert Snyder: Oh, thank the good Lord. Yeah. I'm glad they pushed it through, got it done, and I'm very comfortable with it. [inaudible 00:00:58] No pain, nothing.

Gabby Moreno: Residents were monitored for 15 [00:01:00] minutes after the vaccine for signs of a reaction. Only three residents who had had reactions to medications in the past did not receive the vaccine.

Robert Snyder: We lived through swine flu, S1N1, we've lived through all of them. This one will pass just like the rest of them did.

Gabby Moreno: For valleycentral.com in Pharr, I'm Gaby Moreno.