

Speaker 1: Today we were with some of the area's most vulnerable as they got the first round of the coronavirus vaccine. KPLC's Andrea Robinson is live after spending the day at a local retirement home where the vaccines were administered.

Andrea Robinson: I'm at the Veranda Retirement Community, where today these residents got their first round of the Moderna vaccine.

Leslie Von Der ...: Are y'all excited about getting your shot?

Andrea Robinson: These eager residents just moved back to their homes at the Veranda after being displaced by [00:00:30] the hurricanes.

Leslie Von Der ...: They're ready to come home.

Andrea Robinson: Leslie Von Der Ahe is the executive director for the retirement facility. Caring for high-risk people in our society, she said it's most important to take all the precautions necessary.

Leslie Von Der ...: We're temping people at the door, making sure that their temperature is safe to come in. Of course, we're asking people to wear a mask, the normal things, and social distancing and doing that not only when they're coming in our building, but when they're out in the community [00:01:00] as well.

Andrea Robinson: Tuesday, she along with some of the residents, voluntarily got their coronavirus vaccine. The director believes that vaccines will protect residents as well as the staff.

Leslie Von Der ...: It's time to at least try something new to see if we can get past this.

Andrea Robinson: Debbie Parker is a resident of the Veranda and was surprised by how easy and painless she says it was.

Debbie Parker: It didn't even hurt.

Andrea Robinson: Getting vaccinated is just one of the initiatives to fight against disease. As part of a remodeling project, The Veranda [00:01:30] is adding ionizing filtration to the common area and the assisted living and memory care building.

Leslie Von Der ...: That is known to kill 99.4% of the coronavirus, plus numerous other viruses that our residents can be susceptible to.

Andrea Robinson: These residents' second round will be administered in late February. At your service live in Lake Charles, I'm Andrea Robinson, KPLC Seven News.