

Hello friends! My name is Carla, and I believe the COVID-19 vaccine saved my life. Despite some of my family members being adamant that I should not receive the COVID-19 vaccine due to their fear of the potential side effects, it was my choice to receive the vaccine. As an individual who works closely with others and because I am immune-compromised, I felt it was important for me to get the vaccine as soon as possible. I received two doses of the Moderna COVID-19 vaccine in early 2021 with moderate reactions to both vaccines. I remained free of illness for the next several months, but in early September, I received a COVID-19 breakthrough diagnosis. I thought it was a sinus infection at first until I called my mother who I had seen two days prior, and she was now sick as well. I decided to be tested for COVID-19 as a precaution. I was sick for two weeks with every symptom of COVID-19 except for severe chest pain, and I was more scared than I had ever been in my life. Fortunately, my symptoms improved, my health was restored, and I was able to marry my partner of nearly ten years in October.

I do not believe that with my preexisting conditions I would have survived COVID-19 without having had the COVID-19 immunizations earlier in the year. I chose to get the booster as soon as I could so that I can continue to be healthy, happy, and able to support my clients.