



ALAMEDA COUNTY COVID-19 HEALTH EMERGENCY PRESS RELEASE

COUNTY OF ALAMEDA ★ CALIFORNIA

Office of Emergency Services
4985 Broder Blvd, Dublin, CA 94568

Alameda County Health Care Services Agency

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
June 30, 2020

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Alameda County Public Health Department

Alameda County Partners with Native American Health Center and La Clínica de la Raza to Expand Free COVID-19 Testing for All in the Fruitvale

Partnering with community health clinics increases access to testing in a zip code that has been one of the hardest hit by COVID-19 in Alameda County

ALAMEDA COUNTY – Alameda County announced the expansion of free COVID-19 testing at Native American Health Center and La Clínica de la Raza in the Fruitvale district in Oakland. Testing is available to everyone, even if you don’t have symptoms, at all community testing sites. You don’t need insurance, nor do you need to be a patient of either clinic to be tested. You will not be asked about immigration status.

- Native American Health Center: Located at 3050 International Blvd, Oakland, CA 94601, launched today, June 30th in partnership with Color and Carbon Health; Hours: Tuesday/Thursdays, 9 a.m. – 7 p.m. and Saturdays 10 a.m. – 4 p.m.; This is a pedestrian-access site. Make an appointment at color.com/nahc
- La Clínica de La Raza: Located in the parking lot at 35th Ave & E 12th St, Oakland, CA 94601 that launched June 8th; Hours: Monday – Friday, 8:30 a.m. – 12:00 p.m. and 1:00 p.m. – 5:00 p.m.; This is a drive-through site, but pedestrian-accessible appointments are accepted. Make an appointment by calling 510-535-3370.

“With the recent surge in COVID-19 cases, Alameda County must take every precaution to protect our residents and employees from further infection,” said Alameda County Supervisor Wilma Chan. “Expanded access to testing provides the County and our communities with the basic information needed to keep individuals and families safe.”

Testing is free and available to anyone with or without symptoms [at all community testing sites in Alameda County](#), and is highly recommended for health care, front line, or essential workers and anyone who attended protests or other large public gatherings. COVID-19 symptoms include cough, fever, shortness of breath or difficulty breathing, chills, muscle pain, headache, sore throat or a new loss of taste or smell.

“COVID-19 is hitting certain communities hard, like Oakland’s Fruitvale neighborhood,” said Natalie Aguilera, Chief Administrative Officer for Native American Health Center. “In order for us to continue addressing the disproportionate impact of COVID-19 on our most undeserved community members, the Native American Health Center is partnering with the County to open a new testing site, open to any community member. As a community health center, our objective is, and will continue to be the health and wellbeing of our whole community.”

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The expansion of testing at Native American Health Center and La Clínica increases access in an area of the county that is experiencing disproportionate impacts of COVID-19. Leveraging partnerships with these community clinics helps ensure appropriate follow-up care and connections to support isolation and quarantine for the people who are filling frontline and essential worker jobs.

“We risk continuing the spread of COVID-19 if we do not serve our vulnerable communities with the critical healthcare services they deserve, as their health is intertwined with ours. Expanding our joint regional testing capabilities is an important step toward ensuring those who are disproportionately affected have the resources they need to protect themselves and their families. Together, we will make a meaningful difference,” said Jane García, CEO, La Clínica de La Raza.

Street Level Health Project, an Oakland-based community center is supporting outreach for the county’s hard-to-reach populations, including monolingual, non-English speakers.

“Street Level Health Project has been improving the well-being of underinsured, uninsured, and recently arrived immigrants in Alameda County since 2002,” said Gabriela Galicia, Executive Director of Street Level Health Project. “We are grateful to be in partnership with Native American Health Center and La Clínica de La Raza to lend our expertise in reaching communities with language and cultural sensitivity to ensure all Fruitvale residents have equitable access to information, testing, and resources.”

Expanding testing plays a vital role in stopping the disproportionate burden of disease within the hard hit Latinx and African American communities. Free community testing sites are available in West Oakland, Fruitvale, East Oakland, San Leandro, Hayward, Fremont and Pleasanton.

“Our mission is to end the injustice of health disparities,” Oakland Mayor Libby Schaaf said. “Every Oaklander should have access to a free COVID-19 test today, and we will continue to work intentionally to reach our most underserved communities. I want to thank all our Alameda County Health Care Services Agency and all of our fiercely devoted community partners who brought this service to our most vulnerable neighborhoods, as well as our trusted messengers who will deliver it to our residents.”

With 11 testing sites, Alameda County has achieved nearly 90 percent of its testing capacity goal of 3,100 tests per day.

“Testing is a critical part of the response to COVID-19,” said Dr. Jocelyn Freeman Garrick. “Achieving the goal of 3,100 tests per day, alongside expansion of case investigation and contact tracing in communities like the Fruitvale, will bring us closer to reopening additional activities and businesses in Alameda County.”

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MORE INFORMATION:

- <http://www.acphd.org/2019-ncov/testing.aspx>
- <http://www.nativehealth.org/>
- <https://laclinica.org/>
- <http://streetlevelhealthproject.org/>
- <https://www.color.com/covid>
- <https://carbonhealth.com/coronavirus>

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