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Neetu Balram Public Information Manager Alameda County Public Health Department eoc-pio@acgov.org

Alameda County and Alameda Health System Launch Free COVID-19 Testing in Oakland

OAKLAND, CA – On Tuesday, October 27, the County of Alameda and Alameda Health System will launch a new COVID-19 testing site at the Henry J. Kaiser Center (10 10th Street) in Oakland. You do not need a doctor's note or insurance and you will not be asked about immigration status.

Any adult can receive a test on Tuesdays, Thursdays and Saturdays from 8:30 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. and 12:30 p.m. to 4 p.m. Essential workers will be prioritized for appointments from 8:30 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. on Tuesday and Thursdays. Children, two and older, can be tested on Saturdays.

Appointments can be made at https://ac.fulgentgenetics.com/

"Thanks to this partnership with Alameda Health System, we are able to place a centrally-located COVID-19 testing site in Alameda County's most impacted city," said Dr. Jocelyn Freeman Garrick, Deputy Medical Director of Alameda County Emergency Medical Services and Lead for Alameda County's Testing Taskforce.

The City of Oakland has 8,913 COVID-19 cases, the most in Alameda County. Oakland's case rate of 2,120.2 per 100,000 population is second highest in the County.

"COVID-19 continues to impact Alameda County. Getting tested and knowing your status are critical steps in reducing the spread of the disease, especially if you develop symptoms. As the holiday season approaches, it's even more critical that we remain vigilant and take steps to protect one another. We encourage you to come down to the site and get tested," said Felicia Tornabene MD, Alameda Health System, Associate Chief Medical Officer.

Alameda County's coordinated testing strategy prioritizes placing testing sites in areas to best reach disproportionately impacted communities of color, including the Latinx, African America and Black, and Pacific Islander communities.

"COVID-19 has hit the communities we serve hard," said Dr. Noha Aboelata Alameda Health System, Board of Trustees President. "And although we're currently seeing a reduction in the number of cases, COVID-19 is still among us. In order for us to continue to address the disproportionate impact of COVID on our most underserved community members we've partnered with Alameda County to test and welcome all members of our community."



Alameda County Health Care Services Agency



"At Alameda Health System we don't serve some, We Serve All! And we're grateful to be able to partner with Alameda County to continue in that spirit and offer COVID testing at no cost to anyone who comes to the site regardless of the language they speak, their immigration status or their health coverage. By opening this testing site, we are being part of the solution," said Delvecchio Finley, Alameda Health System, Chief Executive Officer.

Alameda County is leveraging Fulgent's Community Testing Platform to manage the back-end logistics of the testing site in order to deliver results directly to patients within 2-3 days of being tested.

Over 5,000 tests of Alameda County residents are conducted daily, well past the goal of 3,100 tests per day. Additional free community testing sites are available in West Oakland, Fruitvale, East Oakland, San Leandro, San Lorenzo, Hayward, Fremont, Livermore and Pleasanton. More information is available at <u>covid-19.acgov.org/covid19/testing.page</u>

"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 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."

A person can spread COVID-19 with or without having symptoms. Simple precautions like wearing a face covering when you leave home, maintaining at least six feet of distance, washing your hands frequently and avoiding gathering with people you don't live with has helped slow the spread of COVID-19.

