



ALAMEDA COUNTY COVID-19 HEALTH EMERGENCY

COUNTY OF ALAMEDA ★ CALIFORNIA

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

Alameda County Health Care Services Agency

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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The Oakland Coliseum Mass Vaccination Site Scheduled to Close on May 23

After Administering more than 500,000 Doses and Vaccinating more than 100,000 Essential Workers

OAKLAND, CA – Operating since mid-February 2021, the Oakland Coliseum mass vaccination site will close after the last scheduled appointment today, May 23. The site’s operation began as a State and Federal partnership between Cal OES and FEMA. At the time there was just one other site like it in the country.

The site functioned as a hub and spoke model, with a large stationary site at the Coliseum and multiple mobile units that went out into the community each day. At the peak, 6,000-8,000 doses of COVID-19 vaccine were administered per day.

In mid-April, a partnership with the State and the Counties of Alameda and Contra Costa extended the site’s operations.

On May 5, Alameda County announced it would assume control, in partnership with Carbon Health and with continued support of FEMA and Cal OES, to complete second doses for all who need them and close the site permanently on May 23. Native American Health Center, Lifelong Medical, Bay Area Community Health, and La Familia partnered with Alameda County to complete second doses at the community sites visited by the FEMA-Cal OES mobile units.

To date, over 18 percent of fully vaccinated Alameda County residents were vaccinated at the Coliseum or through the mobile units. Over 55 percent of all doses administered were delivered to Alameda County residents and one of every six doses administered to Alameda County residents were administered at the Coliseum or the mobile units.

Since Alameda County began joint operations with Cal OES and Contra Costa County, 125,000 vaccine doses were administered. Of those, over 21,000 doses have been delivered since Alameda County fully took over operations.

“The Coliseum has been an essential part of a multi-pronged strategy to vaccinate Alameda County residents quickly,” said Dr. Kathleen Clanon, Alameda County Health Care Services Agency’s Medical Director and the County’s lead on vaccine planning. “We could not have met the initial mass demand for vaccine without the Coliseum and the many local, state and federal agencies and volunteers who came together for a critical mission to vaccinate thousands of people daily against this deadly virus.”

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While the fixed site struggled to reach communities of color, the FEMA mobile clinics in partnership with community partners, like True Vine Ministries, Allen Temple Baptist Church, Native American Health Center and La Familia, were more successful in reaching priority communities and neighborhoods disproportionately impacted by COVID-19.

“The success of the FEMA mobile units has informed our strategy to add more small scale and pop-up sites in order to reach people where they are rather than focusing on getting as many people as possible vaccinated through a single location in a short amount of time,” said Kimi Watkins-Tartt, Alameda County Public Health Director. “We are working with community partners to reach residents within zip codes where we are seeing lower vaccination rates. Residents may be experiencing barriers to access or need time to learn more before they make their choice. When they are ready, we will be there to vaccinate them.”

When the Coliseum launched in mid-February, vaccine supply was still limited. Now, with stable supplies of three safe and effective vaccines, more vaccination appointments are available than ever before.

All Alameda County residents, 12 and older, are eligible and can access appointments by contacting their health care provider or visiting a local pharmacy (visit MyTurn.CA.GOV) or a County-supported Community Point of Dispensing (pre-registration is encouraged, but not required: call 510-208-4829 or visit bit.ly/AlCoSignUp).

Children, ages 12 to 15, are newly eligible to receive the Pfizer COVID-19 vaccine with parent or guardian consent. Clinical trials show that the Pfizer vaccine is safe and effective, and parents/guardians of children 12 and older are encouraged to have them vaccinated. Family days, when Pfizer and the Johnson & Johnson vaccine are available at the Community PODs, are opportunities for everyone to get vaccinated. Visit <https://covid-19.acgov.org/youthvaxfacts> to learn more.

“I’m thankful for all the local, state, and federal partners who came together to make the Coliseum site a success,” said Alameda County Supervisor Nate Miley. “If you have been waiting to get vaccinated, if you haven’t gotten your second dose, now is the time. The best way to protect yourself and your loved ones from COVID-19 is to get vaccinated.”

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