

CORONAVIRUS UPDATES

Get the latest news from our Public Health Department

Week of April 18

Alameda County Health Care Services Agency Update



Please share with your networks

Alameda County continues to require quarantine of unvaccinated and not fully vaccinated residents who are close contacts of someone who has COVID, regardless of their symptom status. Local COVID-19 cases are gradually rising and we move cautiously with quarantine requirements as we continue evaluating the impact of the BA.2 variant and changes in masking policy. *See [Alameda County Continues COVID Quarantine Requirements](#)*

As cases increase, we urge residents to continue prevention measures to keep themselves and others safe. We strongly recommend masking in indoor public settings, especially in crowded or poorly ventilated spaces. Getting vaccinated and boosted, when eligible, is the best protection against severe disease. Although a vaccine mandate may not be in place for school-aged children for the upcoming school year, [COVID can make some children very sick](#). We strongly encourage families to get their eligible children vaccinated as soon as possible in anticipation of summer activities. *See [Vaccine Mandate Delayed for Students Until 2023-24 School Year](#)*

Last week, the first-ever Homeless Mortality Report was released by the Health Care Services Agency (HCSA). This sobering report will inform our work and efforts to reduce premature deaths among unhoused residents. *See [Alameda County Releases the First-Ever Homeless Mortality Report](#)*

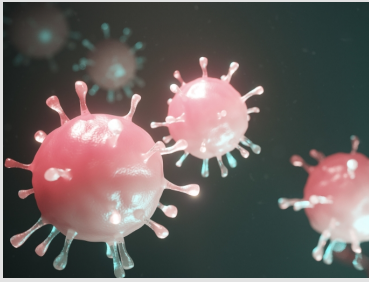
We continue responding to COVID-19 and recognize that communities hardest hit by this pandemic need additional support and resources to recover and grow more resilient. We thank community members who attended the recent American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) funding listening session and encourage organizations and small businesses impacted by the pandemic to learn more about the ARPA Cash Grants available through the Board of Supervisors' offices. *See [Alameda County ARPA Listening Session and Cash Aid Grants](#)*

You'll find this week's [COVID-19 Update](#) to the Alameda County Board of Supervisors posted to our [response](#) page. Please share this information with others and thank you for maintaining a safe and healthy Alameda County.

[Alameda County Dashboard](#)

[Public Health Department Website](#)

Adequate Supplies for COVID Treatment



We continue working with local pharmacies and health care providers to facilitate allocations and orders for antiviral doses based on State determinations. Our efforts include partnering with health care providers to ensure the availability of therapeutics that respond to the prevalent variant. Currently, we have adequate supplies for treatment of all eligible individuals. We remain focused on improving access to therapeutics for patients as we discuss availability with Alameda County health care providers. We are also reminding residents of availability and the importance of testing to receive treatment. Please visit the [Test to Treat Locator](#) or [Therapeutics Locator](#) to find pharmacies and medical facilities where patients can fill prescriptions for therapeutics in Alameda County. [Educational flyers](#) and information about access are available on our [website](#).

Alameda County Continues COVID Quarantine Requirements

Alameda County [announced](#) that it will maintain current [quarantine requirements](#) and continues to use the CDC's [definition of close contact](#). Alameda County is aligned with the [State's K-12 and childcare quarantine guidance](#) and this announcement does not impact children and youth in these settings. The City of Berkeley is an independent local health jurisdiction and has aligned its quarantine guidance with the State.

- People who are not vaccinated or not fully vaccinated should stay home and away from other people for at least 5 days after their last contact with a person who has COVID-19. They may leave quarantine after day 5 if they test negative on or after day 5, if they have no symptoms.
- People who are symptomatic or who test positive must follow [isolation requirements](#).
- Quarantine is not required for people who have had COVID within the last 90 days or for people who are fully vaccinated and asymptomatic.

These requirements will continue until Alameda County announces alignment with the State's quarantine guidance and definition of close contact. Alameda County cases are gradually increasing, and we will review case data weekly to determine if continuing CDC's quarantine guidance is necessary to protect public health.

Vaccine Mandate Delayed for Students Until 2023-24 School Year

The State will delay the COVID-19 vaccine mandate for students as it waits for the FDA's full approval of vaccines for school-age children. The earliest California would implement a vaccine requirement after full FDA approval is July 1, 2023. COVID-19 vaccines are effective in preventing serious illness and we strongly encourage our families

to get all eligible children vaccinated. More than 65 percent of Alameda County children ages 5-11 have received their first dose and more than 82 percent of 12-17-year-olds are fully vaccinated. View our new [video](#) about the effectiveness of the vaccine from Dr. Nicholas Moss, Alameda County's Health Officer.



CDPH Strongly Recommends Continued Masking While on Public Transit and Indoors in Transit Hubs

The Biden administration is appealing the recent federal judge's order that voided the mask mandate for transit and transit hubs. Such settings are often crowded with limited and inadequate ventilation. Local and regional transit agencies can choose to continue requiring masks. Alameda County currently does not have a local order that requires masking in transit settings.

Alameda County ARPA Listening Session and Cash Aid Grants

HCSA recently held a [listening session](#) for community leaders to provide perspectives on how American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) funds should be allocated for Capacity Development and Community Outreach, and Resource Navigation in Alameda County. Feedback from the session will help inform future procurements and funds will be disbursed through a Request For Proposal process. [Sign up](#) for Alameda County's online newsletters to receive information about contracting opportunities in the coming weeks.



The County of Alameda Board of Supervisors is offering ARPA Cash Aid Grants to address the negative economic, health, and safety impacts of the COVID pandemic on local non-profit and business organizations. Visit [ARPA grants](#) to learn more and apply.

Vaccine Locations and Resources for COVID Safety

Vaccines are available throughout the week and some locations offer weekend hours for people unable to get away during the week:

- [Allen Temple Baptist Church](#), East Oakland: Saturdays, 10:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m.
- [Hoover Elementary](#), West Oakland: Saturdays, 10:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m.
- [Weekes Community Center](#), South Hayward: Saturdays, 10:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m.
- [Coyote Hills Elementary School](#), Newark: Saturdays, 10:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m.
- [San Lorenzo High School](#): Wednesdays, 3:30 p.m. - 7:30 p.m.

Mobile Vax Clinics:

- [Glad Tidings, Hayward](#): Thursday, April 28, 10:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m. [Pre-Registration](#)
- Alameda County WIC Program, Hayward: Saturday, April 30, 9:00 a.m. - 1:00

- p.m. *free diapers for WIC families [Pre-Registration](#)
- MCC East Bay, Pleasanton: Saturday, May 7, 11:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m. [Pre-Registration](#)
 - [Oakland Zoo](#): Saturday, May 7, 10:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m.*free Zoo Family Pass [Pre-Registration](#)
 - [Livermore Springtown Library](#): Tuesdays, May 10, and 31, 3:00 p.m. - 7:00 p.m. [Pre-Registration](#)

Find [vaccine](#) and [testing](#) locations or [make an appointment](#) by visiting our [website](#). Additional resources on our COVID-19 website include a [ventilation interactive tool](#), guidance for [isolation and quarantine](#), [mask and face coverings](#), [workplace recovery](#), and [community resources](#).

Epidemic Data Points (7-day lag)

- 10.7 cases per 100,000 residents per day - total population
- 2.7% test positivity in the general population
- 2.9% test positivity in low-income areas
- 9.5 cases per 100,000 residents per day - fully vaccinated
- 15.7 cases per 100,000 residents per day - unvaccinated
- 41 hospitalized, 3 in ICU
- 62.6% of residents who are fully vaccinated have received boosters

Please visit our [dashboard](#) for more data on COVID-19.

Alameda County Releases the First-Ever Homeless Mortality Report



HCSA recently [released](#) the County's first-ever [Homeless Mortality Report](#), a retrospective report on homeless deaths from 2018 to 2020 in Alameda County. In total, 809 homeless individuals died in Alameda County between 2018 and 2020. Data compiled shows an 89% increase in the number of annual homeless deaths along with racial and gender disparities. This comprehensive report, developed by the Health Care

for the Homeless and Community Assessment, Planning, and Evaluation teams confirms the magnitude of the health impacts and other challenges people face when homeless. HCSA strongly believes no one should die alone or unknown in homelessness and a responsible and just community must work to be closely aware of the deaths of all its members and strive to learn from those deaths. This review will help our health and housing partners develop interventions to reduce deaths among those experiencing homelessness.

TAY Talk Discussion Series Supports Transitional Age Youth

HCSA's Behavioral Health Department will host the next *TAY Talk* on Thursday, April 28th from 5:00 p.m. - 7:00 p.m. via Zoom. TAY Talks share resources to increase mental wellness, engagement with other transitional age youth, and connections to community partners. TAY Talks focus on decreasing



barriers to mental wellness support and services for youth. These sessions help participants identify barriers when seeking mental health support, and provide wellness strategies and resources. TAY Talks are open to all and require registration. Please see the [flyer](#) for more information including registration.

April is National Child Abuse & Neglect Prevention Month

HCSA's Court Appointed Special Advocates (CASA) program was recently featured on the April cover of *Money Pages Oakland*. The story helped educate and amplify the program's mission to provide meaningful mentorship opportunities for children living in the complex foster care system. With the support of court-appointed advocates, the program collaborates with child welfare and legal professionals to assist youth in legal proceedings, family visitations, educational support, and medical and mental health needs. CASA is currently recruiting new volunteers and board members. This [video](#) provides a great overview of the positive impact that volunteers have on the life of a child in the foster care system. CASA's [website](#) also offers information and questions may be directed to CASA's Executive Director [Ginni Ring](#).



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