

CORONAVIRUS UPDATES

Get the latest news from our Public Health Department

Week of May 2

Alameda County Health Care Services Agency Update



Please share with your networks

May 6th begins National Nurses Week; a time to honor dedicated health professionals for their knowledge and specialized skills. We uplift nurses as they continue working in physically, mentally, emotionally and spiritually demanding roles responding to COVID-19 among other health care needs. Additional observances this month include Mental Health Awareness, Older Americans and Asian American and Pacific Islander Heritage. Mental wellness is important for individuals of all ages, races, ethnicities, and genders. The last two years of pandemic living has exacerbated mental health issues and, whether we realize it or not, mental health plays a big role in overall wellbeing. Our newest [video](#) focuses on the importance of mental health from Behavioral Health Medical Director and Chief Medical Officer Dr. Aaron Chapman.

April made it clear that COVID is still a threat. COVID-19 cases continue to increase in Alameda County. Although daily reported cases and testing positivity are approaching what we observed during the Delta wave, they remain well below what we saw with Omicron. Case rates are highest among residents in their 20s through 40s, and we are not yet seeing race or place-based disparities in case rates that characterized previous waves. Hospitalizations also remain low and stable. Vaccination is our best tool for protection against COVID. Second booster doses are most urgent for older adults and those who are severely immune compromised who are farthest out from their last booster, especially if they have not had COVID-19 recently. We strongly recommend wearing masks in indoor public setting and remind residents to wear a high-quality mask to protect yourself and those around you from this highly infectious virus and stay home if you test positive or experience COVID symptoms.

As we close Public Service Recognition Week, we thank all workers for their service and role in making Alameda County a better place to live and work.

[Alameda County Dashboard](#)

[Public Health Department Website](#)

Public Service Recognition Week

Public Service Recognition Week celebrates individuals who serve our



communities as federal, state, county, local, and tribal government employees. During the past two years, public service workers have risen to the moment, bringing strength, support, and hope to our residents and the community. Enjoy the short [video](#) featuring our colleagues and their reasons for

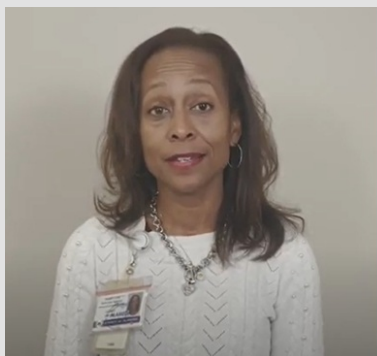
joining public service.

Free COVID Testing is Available

Free testing is available, regardless of insurance or documentation status at all County-supported community testing sites including stationary and mobile/pop-ups. Rapid testing is available at some sites too. Visit the site through their registration portal to check the latest information. Appointments are encouraged and walk-ins are accepted. Visit our website for information about [locations](#).



COVID Treatment After Testing Positive or Being Exposed



**Dr. Jocelyn
Freeman Garrick**

Deputy Medical
Director of Alameda
County Emergency
Medical Services

If you test positive for COVID-19, talk with your health care provider as soon as possible to see if you qualify for treatment. You can also find [Test to Treat locations](#) that offer COVID-19 testing and oral antiviral pills. View our new [video on treatment](#) by Dr. Jocelyn

Freeman Garrick, Deputy Medical Director of Alameda County Emergency Medical Services to learn more about therapeutic treatments and find more information on our [COVID website](#).

Epidemic Data Points (7-day lag)

- 21.5 cases per 100,000 residents per day - total population ↑
- 4.2% test positivity in the general population ↑
- 3.7% test positivity in low-income areas ↑
- 19.0 cases per 100,000 residents per day - fully vaccinated ↑
- 36.4 cases per 100,000 residents per day - unvaccinated ↑
- 52 hospitalized, 7 in ICU
- 63.2% of residents who are fully vaccinated have received boosters ↑

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

Vaccine Locations and Resources for COVID Safety Info

County supported vaccine sites serve priority zip codes throughout 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:

- 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 more [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](#).

Medi-Cal Expands Eligibility



On May 1, Medi-Cal, California's health insurance program for low-income Californians, expanded eligibility to people 50 years of age or older, regardless of immigration status. Residents should ask their medical provider if they qualify for full-scope Medi-Cal and get help applying for coverage. Residents can also call HealthPAC's Health Insurance Technician Enrollment Assistance Line at 1-800-422-9495 or the [California Department of Health Care Services](#).

Film Highlights Mental Health and Black Motherhood

Support Alameda County's [#DeliverBirthJustice](#) campaign on May 7 for a screening of "From the Ashes," highlighting Black mothers' experience with postpartum depression in the context of racial inequity in the health care system. The campaign is part of the [Perinatal Equity Initiative](#), a statewide effort to address causes of persistent inequity and health disparities that threaten Black maternal and infant health. A panel discussion about Black maternal mental health and the need for ongoing postpartum care and support will follow. Location and registration [here](#).



Screening for Hepatitis B Virus and Tuberculosis

Alameda County Tuberculosis Controller and Section Director Dr.



Amit Chitnis, MD, MPH, was interviewed on the topic “[Screening for Hepatitis B Virus and Tuberculosis](#)” for the May 2022 issue of *Gastroenterology & Hepatology*.

Discussion with Pulitzer Prize Winner Nikole Hannah-Jones

Our Behavioral Health [Office of Ethnic Services](#) welcomes Nikole Hannah-Jones for an online discussion on “[Facing Hard Parts of Our Past to Ready for The Hard Parts of the Present](#)” on Thursday, May 19. Ms. Hannah-Jones is the Pulitzer Prize-winning creator of the [1619 Project](#), the groundbreaking New York Times series that places the consequences of slavery and the contributions of black Americans at the center of our national narrative. Register [here](#).



Older Americans and Mental Health Month

Join our Behavioral Health team in strengthening the community through an Interactive [Virtual Awareness Event](#) on Tuesdays, May 10, 17, 24, and 31 from noon to 1 p.m. The four-noon hour events are co-hosted by members of the [Older Adult Division](#) and Peers Organizing Community Change (POCC) Elders Committee. Contact [Michael Kessler](#) for more information and visit [Age Friendly California](#).

Safe Kids Week May 8

Safe Kids Week is an annual awareness initiative to celebrate kids, prevent injuries and save lives. We ask parents, guardians, and grandparents to take the necessary steps to keep their kids safe. Focus on risk areas important in your community. Learn more about [Safe Kids Week](#).

Provide Feedback for a Climate-Resilient Alameda County

Alameda County is seeking public input for a new Government Services and Operations Climate Action Plan. **Join the virtual workshop on May 11th and provide feedback through the online forum open through May 17.** Review draft actions to move the County towards a more resilient, low-carbon future and participate to ensure the plan reflects the priorities of residents and businesses. Forum participation includes a chance to win a \$100 gift card and find more information [here](#).

Contribute to a Sustainable and Resilient Alameda County.

Engage in meaningful conversations with your community about the Government Services & Operations Climate Action Plan.

Online Feedback Forum
Open 24/7
April 19 to May 17

Virtual Workshop
May 11
6 to 7:30 pm

Share your thoughts!

[Click here to join our mailing list.](#)

[COVID-19 Update PDF Version](#)