



# AGENCY UPDATE

Public Health - Emergency Medical Services - Behavioral Health - Environmental Health  
Homeless Care & Coordination - HealthPAC - Center for Healthy Schools & Communities

Week of November 7, 2022



*Please share with your networks*

November is Native American Heritage Month, and we pause to reflect on this country's difficult history with this land's native peoples. We honor the contributions of native nations and elevate the traditions and culture of native people across the country, including in Alameda County which sits on the ancestral and unceded land of the Chochenyo Ohlone. To learn more about the geography of native lands across the Americas and other parts of the world, please visit <https://native-land.ca/>. See *Honor Native American Heritage Month*

Several survey opportunities are available to provide input to Alameda County and the Health Care Services Agency. We encourage you to respond and share with your networks. See *Health Care Services Agency Surveys and Share Your Thoughts on County Climate Action*

As the Veterans Day holiday weekend begins, we thank the service people who are on active duty, previously served, or sacrificed their lives for this country. We extend gratitude to HCSA staff who have served in the military and their families.

We appreciate your continued readership. Please share with your networks.

## Health Care Services Agency Surveys

### *Health Care Services Agency Opinion Survey*

We have received more than 300 responses to the HCSA Opinion Survey so far. If you haven't yet, please take 10 minutes before the **end of day, Sunday, November 13** to share what the Alameda County Health Care Services Agency and its departments (Behavioral Health Care Services, Department of Environmental Health, Office of the Agency Director, Public Health Department) mean to you, including your experiences with or what you know about behavioral health, public health, environmental health, homelessness, schools, and Emergency Medical Services (EMS) in Alameda County. Responses will remain



anonymous.

### [Alameda County Behavioral Health Care Services Mental Health Services Act Community Input Survey](#)

Alameda County Health Care Services Agency's Behavioral Health Care Services (ACBH) team encourages Alameda County residents to take a community input survey to shape the local delivery of mental health services and treatment. The data collected from the online survey, along with a variety of community engagement events will help guide Mental Health Services Act (MHSA) services and programming for the next three years. Alameda County uses MHSA funding to support a comprehensive approach to community-based mental health for residents through a broad continuum of services and supports, including prevention, early intervention, and innovation.



The survey is available in English, Spanish, and Traditional Chinese. Responses must be received by January 31, 2023.

## Share Your Thoughts on County Climate Action and Enter to Win



What's your vision for a sustainable and resilient Alameda County? Community input has already informed the draft Alameda County Climate Action Plan for Government Services and Operations. Now, see what others say about the draft plan's recommendations for efficient and resilient operations and local climate preparedness. Let us know how to improve and implement the proposed actions.

[Check out the draft](#) and provide feedback by November 15. Registered commenters will be

entered to win a \$100 gift card!

## Respiratory Syncytial Virus (RSV) and Flu Season

[RSV](#) and flu are circulating in the Bay Area. We expect to see more respiratory illness in the coming weeks. Local health officials are closely monitoring the impacts of RSV and flu by communicating with health care partners about what they are [seeing in their facilities](#).

Limit transmission by staying home if sick and avoiding close contact with sick people, washing your hands often, and cleaning and disinfecting surfaces.

Wearing a high-quality, well-fitted mask (N95, KN95 or KN94) over the nose and mouth is one of the best tools to protect against respiratory infections. [Watch this video](#) from Dr. Erica Pan, State Epidemiologist, pediatric infectious disease doctor and former Alameda County Interim Health Officer, for more information.

# Do you or someone you know suffer from FOMO?

FOMO FO-MO | fō | Noun *informal*

Abbreviation of fear of missing out; anxiety that an exciting or interesting event may currently be happening elsewhere.



According to a study published in [JAMA Network Open](#), more than 40% of Americans lied or misled others about their COVID-19 status or precautions they were taking. After

nearly three years of the pandemic, setting boundaries may be difficult and some of us continue to experience anxiety with being around people who say they just have the sniffles or a cough.

We know layers of protection help keep ourselves and our families healthy this gathering season: get the COVID-19 updated booster and annual flu vaccine, wear a high-quality, well-fitted mask in indoor spaces, and gather outdoors or improve indoor ventilation. Actions like washing your hands often help protect against other respiratory viruses, and protect others by testing before events and staying home if experiencing symptoms.

This season, friends or family may experience FOMO. We encourage open, non-judgmental, and honest conversations to keep everyone healthy and comfortable.

## COVID-19 Vaccine Locations and Resources

A flyer for COVID-19 and flu vaccines. At the top, it says "Free COVID-19 Vaccine" with icons of people. Below that, "Weekes Community Center" is listed with the address "27182 Patrick Avenue, Hayward, CA 94544" and "Close to W. Temppson Road | ADA Accessible". The hours are "Saturdays: 10:00 AM - 2:00 PM". A section titled "UPDATED BOOSTERS (5+) AND FLU VACCINES (6 MONTHS+) NOW AVAILABLE!" lists "VACCINES" including Pfizer (5+), Moderna (5+), Novavax (12+), and Flu (6 Months+). It also states "Walk-ins Welcome, Appointments Encouraged" and "NO identification (ID) required". At the bottom, it says "APPOINTMENTS Call 510-268-2101 Text VAX to 855-315-1373 alamedacountyvax.org". Logos for Alameda County Health Care Services Agency, Public Health Department, NAACP, and others are at the bottom.

Updated COVID-19 boosters and flu vaccine are available at **Weekes Community Center**, 27182 Patrick Ave, Hayward on Saturdays: 10:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m.

Find more COVID-19 [vaccine](#) and [testing](#) locations on 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](#).

## COVID-19 Epidemic Data Points

- 8.2 cases per 100,000 for the total population
- 4.4% test positivity in the general population; 2.8% in low-income areas
- 67 hospitalized, 9 in ICU

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

## WIC Announces New Website

The Alameda County WIC Program is thrilled to

announce the launch of an [updated website](#)! Share with your family, friends, and community! New features of the redesigned site include:

- Detailed information on how to apply
- Online application process
- Access to online classes
- Breastfeeding support and videos
- Family Resources
- Information for health professionals and community partners



## White Paper on Whole Person Care



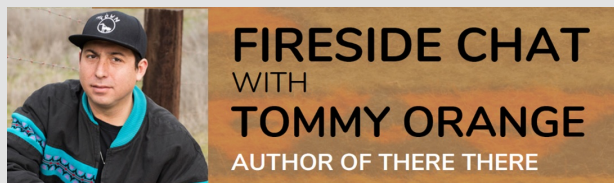
The Alameda County Health Care Services Agency issued a white paper, [Making Change at the Speed of Trust: Whole Person Care in Alameda County](#), highlighting achievements of the whole person care pilot **Alameda County Care Connect**. The whole person care approach was instrumental in addressing socioeconomic disparities and establishing a coordinated response across multiple sectors to provide essential health and human services.

Programs developed during the pilot (from 2016 - 2021) paved the way for the transition to the California Advancing Innovation in Medi-Cal (CalAIM) in January 2022, as Medi-Cal eligible recipients facing complex physical, mental, and housing challenges received the care and services needed to improve overall health, address housing needs, and reduce unnecessary crisis system utilization.

Watch the [Care in the Safety](#) video series to learn more about the whole person care journey through clients' voices.

## Honor Native American Heritage Month

[Register to join](#) Behavioral Health Care Services on Friday, November 18, 1 p.m. - 2:45 p.m., for a celebration of community and healing in recognition of Native American Heritage Month.



The virtual event includes a 45-minute fireside chat with Tommy Orange (Cheyenne/Arapaho), author of the New York Times bestselling novel, [There There](#), followed by a round table conversation on the state of Native American health and well-being in Alameda County. The discussion will be moderated by Anthony Guzman (Northern Ute), [Native American Health Center's](#) first-ever Chief Cultural Officer, and include health experts from the community.

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