



AGENCY UPDATE

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

Week of January 16, 2023



Please share with your networks

We hope you had a joyous New Year despite the heavy rains much of California experienced this month. We remind residents to [prepare for future storms](#) by [making a plan](#) and [signing up for AC Alert](#).

As we look forward to what 2023 will bring, we also remind residents that the winter respiratory virus season isn't over. Please continue to take precautions to protect yourselves and others from becoming sick.

This month we honor Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.'s legacy and remember his quote, "Of all the forms of inequality, injustice in health care is the most shocking and inhumane." A robust health care safety net is a key shared priority for the Health Care Services Agency's departments. Below we provide updates on CalAIM and Medi-Cal. *See CalAIM's Changes and Medi-Cal Redetermination.*

We are excited for what we can accomplish together in 2023 and thank you for your partnership and support.

Two Years since First COVID-19 Vaccine Administered in U.S.



In Alameda County, more than 86% of residents have received their COVID-19 primary vaccination series.

Vaccinations prevented millions of hospitalizations and saved millions of lives. [Stay up to date on vaccines](#) to protect yourself and your loved ones and continue to take additional safety measures to prevent getting and spreading

COVID-19 and other respiratory viruses:

- Stay home if you're sick.
- Wear a high-quality, [well-fitted mask](#) indoors.
- [Test for COVID-19](#) and seek treatment immediately if you are positive and have symptoms.
- Cover your coughs and sneezes, and [wash your hands frequently](#).

At-Home COVID-19 Tests Are Reliable and Convenient

Positive results from at-home tests are highly reliable according to the [CDC](#). These tests provide rapid results and can be taken anywhere. [If you have health insurance](#), test kits are covered and can be ordered directly through health care providers, reimbursed, or picked up at big box pharmacies. Check with your insurance provider for details. Every household in the U.S. can [order](#) four free test kits. People without insurance may access free at-home tests from community health centers or testing sites. Before you dispose of an expired test kit, check to see if the kit's [expiration date has been extended](#).



CalAIM's Changes to Enhanced Care Management (ECM) and Community Supports (CS)



Starting this month, [CalAIM's Enhanced Care Management \(ECM\)](#) benefits expand to two more populations of focus including adults living in the community who are at risk for long-term care institutionalization and nursing facility residents transitioning to the community.

Also, Medi-Cal Managed Care Plans (MCPs) in all counties may elect to offer additional [Community Supports \(CS\)](#). In Alameda County, new CS services offered by Alameda Alliance for Health and Anthem Blue Cross include:

- Short-term post-hospitalization housing
- Nursing facility transition/diversion
- Community transition services/nursing facility transition to a home
- Sobering centers

To learn more about CalAIM's ECM or CS services, including eligibility, Alameda Alliance for Health members may visit <https://alamedaalliance.org/providers/calaim/> or <https://providers.anthem.com/california-provider/patient-care/calaim> for Anthem Blue Cross members.

Medi-Cal Redetermination and Future Expanded Coverage

All Medi-Cal beneficiaries are advised to ensure that their contact information is up-to-date and are encouraged to respond to requests for updated information, including submitting their completed annual redetermination forms.



To report changes in your contact information or Medi-Cal Redetermination inquiries, please contact [Alameda County Social Services Agency](#) for more information.

Beginning no later than January 1, 2024, full scope Medi-Cal coverage will expand to

include income-eligible individuals, aged 26 - 49, regardless of immigration status. This expanded coverage will mean 15,000+ residents enrolled in the [Health Program of Alameda County \(HealthPAC\)](#) would be eligible for full scope Medi-Cal. HealthPAC is a comprehensive health access program for low-income, uninsured Alameda County adult residents who do not qualify for full scope Medi-Cal.

Mental Health Moments with Ms. Nancy



[Behavioral Health Care Services'](#) youth interns Carmen, Miles, and Angell recently created an interactive social media campaign to engage and help young people who are feeling alone, sad, or if they have questions about social and emotional issues. The interns have created polls that will be featured on HCSA's [@Dare2BWell](#) Instagram page to seek input and identify social issues impacting young adults like them. They have partnered with Nancy Jones, Clinical Case Manager (pictured), from the [REACH Ashland](#)

[Youth Center](#) to offer tips on ways to improve mental health. Check out this series on Instagram and encourage the young people in your life to participate.

COVID-19 Vaccine Locations and Resources

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](#).

A flyer for COVID-19 vaccine at Weekes Community Center. The flyer is yellow and white with blue accents. It includes the following text: "Free COVID-19 Vaccine", "Weekes Community Center", "27182 Patrick Avenue, Hayward, CA 94544", "Open to All Immigrant Status | 925.438.6610", "Saturdays: 10:00 AM - 2:00 PM", "UPDATED BOOSTERS (5+) AND FLU VACCINES (6 MONTHS+) NOW AVAILABLE!", "VACCINES: Pfizer (5+), Moderna (5+), Novavax (12+), Flu (6 Months+)", "Walk-ins Welcome, Appointments Encouraged", "NO identification (ID) required", "APPOINTMENTS: Call 925-438-2108, Text VAX to 855-315-1373, alamedacountyvax.org", "Safe, Effective, Free", and logos for Alameda County Health Care Services Agency, Public Health Department, and MAACP.

COVID-19 Epidemic Data Points

- 13.3 cases per 100,000 for the total population
- 9.8% test positivity in the general population; 9.9% in low-income areas
- 124 hospitalized, 5 in ICU

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

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