



# AGENCY UPDATE

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

Week of August 15, 2022



*Please share with your networks*

We continue to see improvement in new COVID-19 cases and hospitalizations over the last few weeks, which reflects ongoing improvement after a very long spring wave. While COVID-19 continues to impact our communities, we strongly encourage precautions to prevent infection. *See COVID is Still With Us*

As of August 17, Alameda County has 148 probable/confirmed cases of **MPX**, formerly referred to as monkeypox. The response to the local epidemic continues to include receiving reports of symptomatic persons, connecting possible cases to testing, contact tracing, improving access to vaccine for eligible residents, and providing guidance to health care providers and information to the public.

To that end, we invite you to **join us for a MPX Town Hall** with Health Care Services Agency leaders on **August 25, 5:30 p.m. - 6:30 p.m.** The Town Hall will be held on **Zoom** (please pre-register) and include an overview of MPX and data, the local public health response, and guidance and resources, as well as an opportunity to ask questions. *See Public Health Response to MPX.*

The deadline to complete the brief Alameda County Behavioral Health Services Strategic Planning Initiative survey is August 26! Community members can offer feedback on ways to best serve the diverse needs of the county and ways to create a long-term, equitable plan. The plan will improve communication and collaboration between ACBH, its partners, and the communities it serves as well as identify and address critical gaps in programs. Help us gather more input from the community by sharing the [link](#)!


As always, thank you for your support and please share this newsletter with others.

Alameda County Health Care Services Agency  
**Community Townhall on MPX**

MPX—formerly referred to as monkeypox—is a rare but sometimes serious disease, which is caused by infection with the MPX virus.

**Join us to learn more about MPX in Alameda County and how to remain safe.**

**Thursday, August 25, 2022**  
5:30 p.m. - 6:30 p.m. PST, via Zoom

To obtain the Zoom access link, please register via the web link or QR Code below:  
<https://tinyurl.com/mpx-acphd> 

**Note:** Spanish interpretation and closed captioning will be available

**Topics of Discussion**

- MPX Overview and Data Update
- Public Health Response
- Guidance and Resources

Questions? Email us at [Monkeypox@acgov.org](mailto:Monkeypox@acgov.org)

ALAMEDA COUNTY HEALTH CARE SERVICES AGENCY PUBLIC HEALTH DEPARTMENT

The response to MPX includes interviews of all cases that have a positive result for orthopoxvirus, including identifying contacts who were exposed to the index case. Public health staff attempt to interview any contacts identified and determine the appropriate next steps, which may include referral of symptomatic persons to a health care provider or referral of asymptomatic persons to receive a vaccination if contact occurred within the last 14 days.



We continue prioritizing safe, equitable access to vaccines. Following FDA's Emergency Use Authorization for intradermal administration of the MPX vaccine JYNNEOS, the [CDC](#) and the [California Department of Public Health](#) have issued their interim guidance. This change means one vial of vaccine will contain 4 doses rather than 1 dose. This is a known method of administering vaccine and not a dilution of the vaccine.

We have advised health care providers in Alameda County who are vaccinating for MPX that they can use intradermal administration immediately. We plan to align and begin implementing this strategy once Alameda County Public Health Department vaccinators complete training and supplies are available, and are elevating the State's guidance with health care providers and recommending alignment.

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## August is Immunization Month



August is National Immunization Awareness Month (NIAM). This annual observance highlights the importance of getting recommended vaccines throughout your life. We know the COVID-19 pandemic has impacted all aspects of life, including your ability to attend to important appointments and receive [routine vaccinations](#). During NIAM, we encourage you to talk to your doctor, nurse, or health care provider to ensure you and your family are protected against serious diseases by getting caught up on routine vaccination.

As your children head back to school this fall, it's particularly important for you to work with your child's doctor or nurse to make sure they get caught up on missed [well-child visits and recommended vaccines](#). Remember to take care of yourself too! Make sure to receive any vaccines you need to stay healthy. Use CDC's [adult vaccine assessment tool](#) to see which vaccines might be right for you.

[Immunization Clinics - English](#) | [Spanish](#)

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## COVID-19 is Still With Us

### Testing

The California Department of Public Health encourages all schoolchildren to access at-

home COVID-19 testing as they return to school following breaks. Check with your school district about test kit distribution. Parents are encouraged to:

1. Test their children for COVID-19 before they return to school from break.
2. Follow [isolation instructions](#) and keep their children home for at least five days if they test positive.
3. Share the test results via the Primary.Health link sent by your school or report via Primary if you did not receive a school link by accessing [Primary.Health](#) with a smartphone (by scanning a QR code).

### **Get Free at-home COVID-19 test kits**

If you haven't already done so, households are eligible to receive a third round of 8 additional at-home, rapid COVID-19 tests from the federal government. [Order your free tests](#). Free tests may also be available through your health care or insurance provider.

### **COVID-19 School Guidance Video Series**

Dr. Joanna Locke, COVID-19 Clinical Guidance Lead, answers the most frequently asked questions regarding school-aged children and COVID-19, including vaccination/boosters, testing, wearing a mask, and more. [Watch the short videos for more information](#).



### **Masking**

Masks are strongly recommended for everyone in indoor public spaces, including schools.

Find more information and resources in our [Back-to-School Toolkit](#).

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## **California's Labor Secretary Meets Alameda County Aspiring EMS Professionals**



[Natalie Palugyai](#), California's Labor Secretary, recently visited our [Emergency Medical Services \(EMS\)](#) office to meet and learn from youth participating in the EMS Corps cohort. The workforce development program offers paid training for underrepresented community members

aspiring to become emergency medical professionals. Thank you, Secretary Palugyai, and our partners at the [California Labor & Workforce Development Agency](#) for your continued investment in our community.

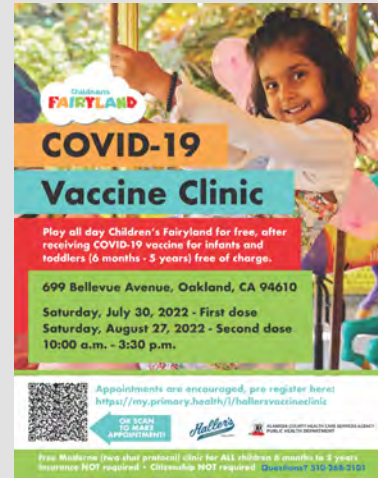
**Fun fact:** Did you know 100 percent of participants graduated from the program since it began in 2017? That's nearly 300 career opportunities and success stories right here in Alameda County!

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# COVID Vaccine Locations and Resources

## Mobile Vaccination Locations:

- Eastmont Wellness Center: Saturday, 8/20, 8 a.m. - 4 p.m. **Vaccine for Infants/Toddlers ages 6 months - 5 years old ONLY.** [Schedule an appointment](#) or call 510-268-2101
- Children's Fairyland, Oakland: Saturday, 8/27, 10 a.m. - 3:30 p.m. **Vaccine for Infants/Toddlers ages 6 months - 5 years old ONLY.** [Schedule an appointment](#)
- Roots Community Health Center, Oakland: Saturdays, 10 a.m. - 2 p.m. [Schedule an appointment](#)
- Mexico Tortilla Factory, Newark: Fridays, 8/19, 8/26, 3 p.m. - 7 p.m. [Schedule an appointment](#)
- Serenity House, Oakland: Friday, 8/19, 10 a.m. - 3 p.m. Walk-in
- Trybe, Oakland: Saturday 8/20, 12 p.m - 4 p.m. [Schedule an appointment](#)
- Oakland Frontline Healers, Oakland: Saturday 8/20, 3 p.m. - 7 p.m. [Schedule an appointment](#)



Find [vaccine](#) and [testing](#) locations 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](#).

## COVID-19 Epidemic Data Points

- 28.6 cases per 100,000 for the total population
- 13.6% test positivity in the general population; 15.2% in low-income areas
- 149 hospitalized, 17 ICU

*Correction from last issue: There were 372 deaths since Jan 1, 2022. 1,967 is the cumulative number of deaths.*

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

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Website

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