

Alameda County Health Care for the Homeless  
Outreach Provider COVID Phone Call #27  
Wednesday, September 9, 2020; 2:00pm-3:00pm

**68 Participants/ Programs Represented:**

Swords to Plowshares, Tiburcio Vasquez, City of Fremont/HSD, LifeLong Medical, Bay Area Community Health, East Bay Community Law Center, City of Berkeley, LavaMae, CAL-PEP, Bay Area Legal Aid, Operation Dignity, CityTeam, Kaiser Fremont Hospital

1. **Introduction:** This is the 27th weekly call hosted by the Alameda County Health Care for the Homeless program. Calls will be **every Wednesday from 2:00pm-3:00pm.**

- The purpose of this call is to bring together countywide outreach providers to share updates, knowledge, practices, build supportive community, and develop effective responses to protect our health and the health of the persons living unsheltered in Alameda County.
- We'll hear questions and take them to public health for response if we can't answer them.
- If teams have specific issues or challenges with individuals who may be symptomatic, infected or at-risk of COVID-19, please email details to ACHCH at [achch@acgov.org](mailto:achch@acgov.org) for follow up.
- To be added to the email list for additional updates contact Kathy Barron at [kathryn.barron@acgov.org](mailto:kathryn.barron@acgov.org).

2. **Situation Report:**

**David Modersbach, Alameda County Health Care for the Homeless**

- Refer to [Alameda County COVID-19 Dashboards](#)
  - Countywide totals as of 9/9/2020: 19,496 confirmed cases, 303 deaths
  - 5.2% positivity rate for clinic testing county-wide
  - Alameda County is giving 3,500 tests per day
  - Alameda County has 132 case investigators; 31 CBOs for contact tracing
  - 132 unsheltered people tested positive for COVID-19; 66 sheltered, 64 unsheltered
- ACHCH:
  - Outbreak response: 49 responses to shelters or street sites
  - 1500 tests given; positivity rate for homeless is a little over 3%
  - Transmission continues to disproportionately impact communities of color
  - Highest rates of getting the infection in Hispanic/Latnix communities
- Check Alameda County Public Health website for testing sites; <https://covid-19.acgov.org/testing.page>

- ACHCH has bottled water resources for distributing to unhoused people. The warehouse is located at 4450 Tidewater Avenue (near high street bridge in Oakland). Open: Tuesday/Thursday: 10am-12pm and 2pm-4pm.
- Native American Health Center in Fruitvale offering free COVID-19 testing to first responders and frontline workers; 3030 International Blvd, Mondays and Fridays.
- Roots Community Health Center; every Tuesday at 10am; 15-minute COVID-19 update; [www.facebook.com/rootsempowers/live\\_videos/](http://www.facebook.com/rootsempowers/live_videos/)
- Frontline Workers Counseling Project; [fwcp.org](http://fwcp.org)
- Air quality: ACHCH will be distributing N95 masks to be handed out at encampments. Visit our website: <https://www.achch.org/air-quality-emergency-resources.html>

We appreciate all of you and your creativity to support the unhoused community. Please continue to remind people to wear a mask, wash hands, and practice social distancing.

### 3. City and County Update:

#### **Lucy Kasdin, Alameda County Health Care for the Homeless**

- Project Roomkey: Sites are getting close to being full – we’ve reached County goal of 1,200 units; Oakland 75+% full and filling fast, Livermore 50% full. Continue to follow up on referrals made, identify those individual’s, and using scattered sites as an option.
- Operation Comfort: still space available
- Thank you for all that you’re doing.

#### **Jennifer Vasquez, City of Berkeley**

- Opening cooling centers,
- Roomkey sites almost at capacity
- Distributing N95 masks for smoke
- Planning on winter shelters

#### **Tara O’Flaherty, LifeLong Medical**

- Conducting testing events; last week’s East Oakland COVID popup was slow only 78 tests, no positive.
- Wood Street testing event: don’t have a set plan as of yet. Referring to Project Roomkey was not something they were wanting to do at the event; maybe ACHCH can help support with that.

#### **Laurie Flores, City of Fremont**

- Getting ready to open housing navigation center in a couple of weeks; capacity of 25 beds (will expand to 45 beds once COVID-19 is manageable)
- Opened a cooling center; over 100 degrees and the air quality is 150 or higher, we will activate a cooling center near senior center
- Passing out N95s in Clean Start Project

- Opening a winter shelter (November)

**Liz Torkington, Tiburcio Vasquez Street Health**

- Training and rolling out new team in San Leandro/Alameda area; Unincorporated getting started next week
- First testing event is this Friday

**Kate Dettmer, Abode Services**

- Newark Safer Ground is at full capacity

**David Modersbach, Alameda County Health Care for the Homeless**

- Be mindful of when you are taking breaks or are at work with coworkers - continue to wear a mask & distance. Shared a situation where staff of a congregate setting were very careful around patients, but in their free-time/breaks were not protected, and spread COVID among themselves. Have a discussion with your staff to remain vigilant and not have a false sense of security or let their guard down when around coworkers.
- We have face shields. If you need supplies, please email David.

**5. Highlights**

- Free COVID-19 testing September 12<sup>th</sup> and 13<sup>th</sup> [POSTPONED](https://unitedinhealthoakland.org/en/fruitvale)  
<https://unitedinhealthoakland.org/en/fruitvale>
- Roots Community Health Center; every Tuesday at 10am; 15-minute COVID-19 update  
[www.facebook.com/rootsempowers/live\\_videos/](http://www.facebook.com/rootsempowers/live_videos/)
- Need face shields? Please contact David Modersbach at david.modersbach@acgov.org
- Continue to stay vigilant
- Reach out to your community for resources you need

**Thank you all for the coordinated efforts being made to support persons living unsheltered!**