

COVID-19 Huddle 6/22/21

## Government Relations

### **Great Public Schools Now (GPSN) Survey Finding and Press Conference**

AltaMed partnered with Great Public Schools Now to measure the impact of COVID-19 specifically on education for SELA families with students in K-12 by developing a survey to measure the impact of COVID-19 on education for SELA families in partnership with community partners who reside and provide service directly to SELA residents.

Last month, our Civic Engagement team presented the results of the AltaMed and Great Public Schools Now survey which measured the impact of COVID-19 on education with families in Southeast Los Angeles. Learn more about the survey findings by going on AltaMed's Civic Engagement youtube channel or clicking [here](#).

There is also a scheduled press conference tomorrow June 23<sup>rd</sup> to share the findings of this study and how COVID-19 impacted students and families in Southeast Los Angeles.

Please reach out to Cynthia Romo, Civic Engagement Program Manager, at [cynromo@altamed.org](mailto:cynromo@altamed.org) if you have any additional questions about the GPSN survey.

## **Top News Lines**

### **Federal**

- The U.S Supreme Court voted last week 7-2, to uphold the Affordable Care Act from the latest legal challenge, preserving the insurance coverage for millions of Americans. The court ruled that Texas and 17 other states, lacked standing to bring the case to federal court. More info [here](#).
- The White House on Monday detailed plans to allocate 55 million Covid-19 vaccine doses being donated overseas, saying the shipments would likely take longer than President Biden's initial target of sending them out by the end of June. White House officials said the delays were related to logistical challenges in countries set to receive the vaccines. It also will no longer immediately send doses of AstraZeneca's vaccine following problems at a production plant. More info [here](#).
- The CDC director, Rochelle Walensky, said that the Delta variant of the coronavirus will probably become the dominant strain in the United States in the coming months, since it is more transmissible than the Alpha variant or U.K. variant. Walensky also told governors yesterday that the Delta variant makes up nearly 10% of U.S. cases in June, up from 2.7% in May. More info [here](#).
- Young adults remain the least likely to be vaccinated against the coronavirus — and their weekly rates of vaccination are declining. The CDC analyzed adult vaccination rates by age through May

22, finding 80 percent of adults older than 65 had been vaccinated compared with just 38.3 percent of 18- to 29-year-olds. More info [here](#).

- WhatsApp and the CDC have partnered to deliver information on the coronavirus vaccine to Spanish-speaking users. Per the Kaiser Family Foundation ,36% of Latinos have had at least one vaccine dose compared to 45% of their white counterparts as of June 14. This partnership could help counter misinformation and mistrust. More info [here](#).
- A CDC advisory committee will meet Wednesday to evaluate the risk of heart inflammation in teens who get the Pfizer or Moderna vaccines. More info [here](#).

## State

- On Friday, California launched a website to access or download a digital copy of COVID-19 immunization records, though they stressed the state would not make it mandatory to carry the vaccine credentials. Businesses will be able to verify the authenticity of digital “vaccine cards” by scanning a QR-code. The nearly 20 million vaccinated Californians can access their data at [myvaccinerecord.cdph.ca.gov](http://myvaccinerecord.cdph.ca.gov)  
More info [here](#).
- This launch has had a rocky start, with nearly 70,000 troubleshooting forms submitted online by residents looking to correct or complete their information and only a fraction of the 558,000 digital records have been successfully created since Friday. More info [here](#).
- California regulators last week approved revised workplace pandemic rules that will now conform with general state guidelines that took effect Tuesday by ending most mask rules for vaccinated people. This should not impact AltaMed, as we are a healthcare organization and held to a higher standard, so please follow the guidance set forth by Dr. Brown and HR.  
More info [here](#).
- Yesterday, Gov. Newsom announced that California will pay off all the past due rent that accumulated in the state because of the fallout from the pandemic. Federal eviction protections are set to expire on June 30<sup>th</sup>, but an extension of the eviction ban seems likely for the state. California has \$5.2 billion to pay off people’s rent, money from multiple aid packages approved by Congress, which will cover all the unpaid rent in the state according to the Governor’s office.  
More info [here](#).

## Local

### LA County

- LA County has now managed to limit the spread of the coronavirus at a higher rate than the Bay Area, after trailing the Bay Area since the start of the pandemic. LA County’s current data is reporting about two deaths per day, in comparison to the Bay Area, which is reporting four

deaths a day

More info [here](#).

- Four LA County vaccinated individuals were chosen last Tuesday to receive \$1.5 million as part of the grand-prize drawing in the state's COVID-19 vaccine incentive program.

More info [here](#).

### **Orange County**

- As of Monday, Orange County has reported almost 256 thousand cumulative cases to date, with 5,000 deaths total and administered 3.3 million vaccine doses.

<https://ocCOVID19.ocaliforniahealthinfo.com/coronavirus-in-oc>

### Infection Prevention Medical Director

- The reopening in California took place on 6/15. If we are vaccinated, we can take our masks off when visiting stores, etc. In-person schooling can return.
- Prior to the pandemic, we were not doing telehealth. Telehealth came about following the pandemic. 3-6 months of personal protective equipment is available. We have tested over 90,000 individuals for COVID-19, setup testing centers, have administered over 60,000 vaccines, have deployed a work from anywhere strategy that is ready to be deployed if needed. Screening is taking place at every site, countless policies have been written/revised, have secured grant funding, have gotten through the HRSA and Joint Commission audits. All of this has been possible due to the hard work and dedication that everyone has put in. It is very well deserved to be able to be in an environment again where we can socialize with others.
- COVID grand rounds will take place at 12:15pm today.