

COVID-19 Huddle 7/20/21

Government Relations

COVID-19 Impact on Education for SELA Families

South East Los Angeles (SELA) was one of the hardest-hit regions by COVID-19, yet we have very little information on how deeply COVID-19 affected our communities. AltaMed partnered with Great Public Schools Now to develop a survey measuring the impact of COVID-19 specifically on education for SELA families with students in K-12. The full report and analysis of the survey is now available, click [here](#).

Redistricting Training in Spanish

AltaMed and the NALEO Educational Fund will host a redistricting training in Spanish on Monday, August 2. This training will focus on the communities of Southeast Los Angeles in anticipation of the Public Input meeting by the California Redistricting Commission which will take place on Sunday, August 15. The training will provide tools and resources for individuals to become more involved in the current redistricting process.

For information, [download](#) the flyer or contact [Jonathan Flores](#), Civic Engagement Specialist at AltaMed.

In addition, AltaMed clinic and PACE site leadership received an email communication from the Civic Engagement team regarding the internal redistricting campaign and materials were sent via-interoffice starting Friday 7/16.

¡Ándale! ¿Qué esperas? A campaign by AltaMed Health Services

Through the upcoming ¡Ándale! ¿Qué esperas? campaign collaborative, AltaMed in partnership with subawardee partners seeks to reach low-to-middle income Latinos in medically underserved areas of California through grassroots COVID-19 vaccine outreach, education and support services. These communities face large-scale systemic inequities that have exacerbated and deepened the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic. Additional details to follow.

Top News Lines

Federal

- Surgeon General Vivek Murthy said the U.S. is seeing a “proliferation of misinformation online,” as false information regarding COVID-19 and vaccinations is being amplified on social media platforms. More info [here](#).
- U.S. Surgeon General Vivek H. Murthy said that he supports individual counties reinstating mask mandates to combat local surges of the coronavirus among unvaccinated people as the delta variant drives a spike in infections. More info [here](#).
- Public companies and nongovernmental organizations have quietly rolled out passports of their own. American Airlines, United, and The Commons Project Foundation, a digital health non-profit, have all created their own passports that collect and store data pertaining to the COVID-

19 vaccination status of individuals. This information can be shared with third-party companies, including customs and border officials, business affiliates, contractors, and marketing providers—often for profit. More info [here](#).

- A federal judge in Texas on Friday [ruled](#) that Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals, the Obama-era program shielding certain undocumented immigrants from deportation, is not legal and blocked new applicants. The ruling would bar future applications. It does not immediately cancel current permits for hundreds of thousands of people. More info [here](#).

State

- Gov. Gavin Newsom avoided answering a question Monday about whether he might impose a new statewide mask mandate, instead stressing the importance of vaccinations. The rate of Californians testing positive for COVID-19 in the last week, known as the positivity rate, has ticked up steadily for days and is now at 4.1%, the highest it's been since February. Instead, local counties throughout the state has reinstate mask mandates on their own. More info [here](#).

Local

LA County

- Los Angeles County is now recording more than 10,000 coronavirus cases a week — a pace not seen since March — an alarming sign of the dangers the Delta variant poses to people who have not been vaccinated and heightening pressure on health officials to reverse the trend. More info [here](#).
- The Los Angeles County Health Officer Order was modified to require masking for everyone while indoors, regardless of vaccination status. The L.A. County indoor masking requirements for everyone is effective Saturday, July 17 at 11:59 p.m. More info [here](#).
- The Los Angeles County Sheriff announced that his department will not enforce a reinstated mask mandate, saying it is not backed by guidelines from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. More info [here](#).

Orange County

- Recently rising COVID-19 cases – particularly since vaccinations rolled out broadly earlier in the year – are being seen in Orange County, in part due to the Delta variant of the virus. The OC Health Care Agency reported an adjusted daily case rate of 2.6 per 100,000 residents. More info [here](#).

Infection Prevention Medical Director

- The recall situation with the Governor may be impacting the way that the mask mandate is being handled. There is a mask mandate in LA County. Please let your friends, community members know that COVID-19 is real – it is crucial to wear a mask indoors and in large crowded settings.
- Please ensure that children are wearing their masks – avoid indoor gatherings and indoor parties.
- Individuals who are vaccinated will have a less severe reaction to the delta variant, but can still rarely get COVID-19 and spread it to others.

Human Resources

- Leaders – Employee Health sends out a list of all the COVID screening results to the LDI population every afternoon. You should be reviewing this file daily to make sure that any employee who is in the office that day has submitted a response. If they have not, send them to the entrance to be screened and enter their results in the survey. The survey is required for everyone who enters any AltaMed building. A link will be provided in today's notes.
https://altamedhr.iad1.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV_0jONxJrwYV9HceV
- Employees who want to get a COVID vaccine should contact Employee Health (Employeehealth@altamed.org) or 323-765-6153 to schedule an appointment. If you have submitted the declination but have changed your mind and want to receive a vaccine, please contact Employee Health.