



COVID-19 Huddle Notes for November 16, 2021

California Redistricting Commission Releases Draft Maps

On Wednesday, the California Redistricting Commission released the final draft maps to the public for the Congressional, Senate, Assembly and Board of Equalization Districts. These are the final draft maps that will be approved by December 27, creating the new districts for the next ten years.

These draft maps show the East LA and Southeast LA Congressional District, currently represented by Congresswoman Roybal-Allard, being put together with Congressman Lowenthal's district from Long Beach. In April, the U.S. Census Bureau released population data that confirmed California will lose one Congressional seat, for the first time in history, during this redistricting process.

The commission will hold multiple feedback sessions on these draft maps from Nov 17 to Nov 20 and from Nov 22 to Nov 23. Please visit <https://www.wedrawthelinesca.org/meetings> for the meeting links and times. We encourage you and your staff to participate and have your voices heard!

If you have any questions about redistricting please contact Jonathan Flores, Civic Engagement Specialist, at jonafloros@altamed.org

Federal Infrastructure Packages

Bipartisan Infrastructure Bill (H.R. 3684, the Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act) – SIGNED BY PRESIDENT BIDEN

- Yesterday, President Biden signed the \$1.2 Trillion bipartisan infrastructure bill, [H.R. 3684, the Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act](#) into law. The bill provides \$550 billion in new federal spending for roads, bridges, transit, airports, and other traditional infrastructure. It also includes \$65 billion to improve broadband infrastructure.
- Impact to California:
 - In addition to the \$3-4 billion typically received yearly for these programs, [California](#) expects to receive over \$35 billion in additional funds for items including highway infrastructure, public transportation options, expansion of electric charging network, protection against wildfires, and expansion of broadband access. Specifically:
 - **A minimum of \$100 million to help provide broadband coverage across the state.**
 - This will bring broadband access to approximately 545,000 Californians who currently lack it.

- Approximately 27% of Californians will be eligible for the Affordability Connectivity Benefit, which will help low-income families afford internet access.

Government Relations is also continuously focused on the Build Back Better Act through our direct advocacy to Members of Congress. The vote on this legislation is expected to take place this week.

If you have any questions on our policy advocacy, please contact Olivia Lee, Manager of Legislative and Advocacy Affairs, at olilee@altamed.org.

Top News Lines

Federal

- Pfizer asked U.S. regulators to allow boosters of its COVID-19 vaccine for anyone 18 or older, amid concern about increased spread of the coronavirus during holiday travel and gatherings.
https://www.latimes.com/world-nation/story/2021-11-09/pfizer-asks-fda-to-ok-covid-19-booster-shots-for-all-adults?utm_id=41662&sfmc_id=493740
- On Friday, a federal appeals court put the Biden administration's rule requiring large companies to mandate COVID-19 vaccines for employees on hold, citing it was "staggeringly overboard". Several businesses sued the Biden administration over the rule, as well as the states of Texas, Louisiana, Mississippi and South Carolina. As previously mentioned, this does not impact AltaMed, as we are covered by other vaccine mandates on the state level.
<https://www.reuters.com/world/us/federal-appeals-court-affirms-stay-biden-vaccine-mandate-2021-11-12/>

State

- Last Thursday, Dr. Tomás Aragón, Director and State Public Health Officer announced that no fully vaccinated adult in California should be denied a COVID-19 booster shot. In the state's letter, Aragón directed vaccine providers to allow patients themselves to determine whether they're at risk — which would qualify them for the booster, according to the CDC's criteria.
https://www.latimes.com/california/story/2021-11-11/everybody-is-eligible-all-california-adults-should-get-a-covid-booster-officials-say?utm_id=41863&sfmc_id=493740

City

- The Los Angeles City Council on Friday voted to make changes to the city's COVID-19 vaccine proof mandate that went into effect for many indoor venues. The council voted to make clear that the SafePassLA vaccine requirement applied to all patrons 12 or older. The council also asked to remove malls and shopping centers from the list of indoor locations that must check for proof of COVID-19 vaccination.
<https://ktla.com/news/local-news/city-council-oks-tweaks-to-l-a-covid-vaccine-proof-mandate/>



Infection Prevention Medical Director

Dr. Brown had the opportunity to go to our West Covina site on Saturday to see the pediatric patients ages 5-11 get vaccinated. She would like to thank all the staff and pharmacy for helping draw up the vaccines. There will be another event at our South Gate site on Saturday November 20th. Right now we are providing pediatric Pfizer vaccines ages 5-11 at our CHLA, Westlake Peds, Goodrich and Anaheim sites every day. We are working really hard to get the Pfizer Peds vaccine out to many more sites in the coming weeks.

Some of our flu campaign winners were announced today. There was a challenge for all of the clinics to have 100% vaccination by October 31 unfortunately we did not have any site that actually had 100% vaccination, but we did have several sites turn in all of their vaccination records including declinations. Several sites were 93% and above so we did a drawing out of those and Pico Passons is the site that won the catered lunch for the month of October. Dr. Brown would still like to encourage everyone to get vaccinated.

For the month of November there will be a new challenge. All the sites that have 90% or higher vaccinations will be eligible to participate in a catered lunch drawing as well. If your site is still in the running please get vaccinated if you have not yet done so. We have already had an influenza related death in Southern California and we need to make sure that we are protecting ourselves and others. Over a third of our company has already been vaccinated for the flu.

We had 2 \$100 raffle winners for two sites.

1. First winner was *Odelia Flores* from PACE Lynwood.
2. Second winner was *Luis Bolivar* from our Pico Slauson site.

We will make sure to get those gift cards out to you thank you for getting vaccinated by October 31. In addition to those gift cards we had 50 \$25 gift cards from Door Dash that we raffled and those names will be included in the COVID alert on Wednesday. Congratulations to everyone that won!

It is extremely important for everyone to get vaccinated as the Holidays approach us. We need everyone to be safe and protected. Dr. Brown will be talking about pediatric vaccines today at the COVID Grand Rounds at 12:15pm, please tune in.

Human Resources

As we near the end of 2021, there are some deadlines fast approaching that I wish to remind you of.

First, the Quarter 4 Compliance training is due to be completed by Friday, December 3rd. This training covers various topics such as the Social Media Policy, Ethics in Healthcare, and Cultural and Linguistic Competence and Interpreter services. We ask that you continue to remind your staff of the need to complete these trainings by the deadline. To identify which of your direct reports are still pending completion, please visit the Talent Management portal, located under "Company Links" within the My HR Services Dashboard.

Second, we have entered the final week of our Annual Open Enrollment Period. Any employee that is interested in making modifications to their benefit elections for the upcoming 2022 Calendar year, the changes must be entered by no later than Friday, November 19th. This week



we are scheduled to have 2 more information sessions educating employees of our current benefit offerings and any changes we foresee for the upcoming year. We in fact have a session set to start shortly after this update concludes. We encourage you all to visit TownSquare for the details and links to these sessions.

Last week 2 memos were sent on behalf of Veronica Gomez our Vice President of Human Resources, providing some exiting news which directly impact our staff. The first, which was sent on November 9th to all leaders informing them of an appreciation grant that will be awarded to all employees who serve as an individual contributor (non-leaders). A notice is scheduled to be disbursed today to all employees informing them of this grant.

Separately, to fulfill the CEO's commitment to deliver annual performance bonuses to eligible staff by the end of January 2022, leaders will be expected to complete this year's Performance Review before the end of the year in order to pay out performance bonuses no later than January 15, 2022. Additional information from Human Resources is forthcoming.

The second memo sent on November 11th, informing all employees of 2 holidays that traditionally is observed by the organization on a "half day" basis will be observed for the full day. The holidays impacted are Thursday, December 23rd observing Christmas Eve and Thursday, December 30th Observing New Year's Eve. Leadership from patient support departments such as Health Services, PACE, and Medical Management, will coordinate the possible closing of clinics and centers, or the reduction of staff in anticipation of these holidays.

As you touch base with your employees we ask that you remind them that AltaMed is committed to supporting and thanking our employees for their ongoing commitment throughout this challenging year. We extend our continued gratitude to them with this one-time appreciation grant and well-deserved extra time to celebrate and recharge.