

COVID-19 Huddle 6/29/21

## Government Relations

### **LAUSD Redistricting Southeast LA Workshop This Wednesday!**

AltaMed is hosting a Los Angeles Unified School District Redistricting workshop for Southeast Los Angeles residents on Wednesday, June 30<sup>th</sup> at 6PM. This workshop is in collaboration with the SELA Collaborative, Latino Equality Alliance, and Communities for a Better Environment, among others.

During the workshop, redistricting basics will be discussed, as well as, how to advocate for your community and neighborhood so it can have the resources and ensure your communities political power is not diminished. The workshop will happen via Zoom in English and Spanish translation will be available. We encourage you to share with your staff that might live in Southeast Los Angeles.

Please reach out to Jonathan Flores, Civic Engagement Specialist, at [jonaflores@altamed.org](mailto:jonaflores@altamed.org) if you would like to RSVP for this LAUSD redistricting workshop or have any questions.

## **Top News Lines**

### **Federal**

- The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention has extended a moratorium on evictions until July 31. The ban was set to expire this week, which raised concerns that there would be mass evictions with approximately 7 million tenants currently behind on their rent. More info [here](#).
- The Biden administration is likely to miss its goal of providing at least one COVID-19 vaccine dose to 70% of adults by July 4. The White House now estimates that it will hit the 70% threshold only for those aged 27 and up by July 4<sup>th</sup>. The current U.S. rate of average shots per day is 1 million, slowing down from the more than 2 million shots per day in early May. More info [here](#).
- The CDC says 323 cases of heart inflammation have been verified in people who received the Pfizer or Moderna COVID-19 vaccine, between the ages of 12 and 39 years old, mostly after the second vaccine dose. Most people who have experienced this side effect have recovered from symptoms and are doing well, per data presented by the CDC. Officials say that this side effect is extremely rare. More info [here](#).
- The FDA plans to move rapidly to add a warning to fact sheets for Pfizer and Moderna's COVID-19 vaccines about the rare risk of developing inflammatory heart conditions. More info [here](#).
- The Biden administration is proposing several changes aimed at boosting access to high-quality, affordable health insurance through Affordable Care Act marketplaces, according to a proposed rule released Monday. CMS wants to give people an additional 30 days to enroll in marketplace plans by expanding the annual enrollment period. It currently starts on November 1 and ends

December 15, but the new plan would give people until January 15 to enroll in coverage beginning in 2022. The agency also plans to establish a monthly special enrollment period to allow people with low incomes more opportunities to enroll in a premium-free silver plan. More info [here](#).

- The Supreme Court on Monday left in place a decision that allowed a transgender student to use the bathroom that corresponded to his gender identity, a victory for the LGBTQ community that has been fearful the high court would take up the case and reverse a lower court opinion. More info [here](#).
- Health and Human Services Secretary Xavier Becerra pressed Congress on Monday to overhaul the nation's immigration system after he visited an emergency shelter for migrant children on the Fort Bliss military base near El Paso. The number of migrant children housed at the Biden administration's largest emergency shelter for those who crossed the U.S.-Mexico border alone has dropped by more than 40% since mid-June. More info [here](#) and [here](#).

## State

- The Governor and legislative leaders announced a \$262.2 billion state budget deal late last week, which includes Medi-Cal expansion to all Californians regardless of immigration status for individuals 50 years or older. The deal also extends its eviction moratorium through September 30<sup>th</sup> and cover back rent and utility payments for people who fell behind during the pandemic under a \$7.2 billion plan. There is also \$8 billion in stimulus checks for middle-income Californians and expanded funding for homeless aid. The budget must be signed by July 1<sup>st</sup>. More info [here](#). And [here](#).
- California banned government travel to 17 states with laws deemed discriminatory to LGBTQ people to 17 states. More info [here](#).
- The Delta variant now makes up 14.5% of California coronavirus cases analyzed so far in June, up from 4.7% in May. More info [here](#).
- California's rate of vaccination against COVID-19 has slowed down in the past couple of weeks, with more than a quarter of eligible residents still not vaccinated. California is averaging 91 thousand daily shots as of last week, signaling a 25% decline from the previous week average. So far, 71% of Californians 12 and older, those eligible for a shot, have received at least one dose and 57% are fully vaccinated according to the CDC. Among Californians 65 and older, nearly 93% have received at least one dose and about 75% are fully vaccinated. More info [here](#).

## Local

### LA County

- With the highly contagious Delta variant of the coronavirus continuing to spread statewide, the Los Angeles County Department of Public Health is recommending that all residents wear masks in public indoor spaces — regardless of whether they've been vaccinated for COVID-19. More info [here](#). And [here](#).
- LA County has seen a slight uptick in the number of confirmed cases of COVID-19 in the past week. Sunday's figures brought the county's totals to 1.2 million cases and over 24 thousand fatalities since the pandemic began, according to the LA County Department of Public Health. More info [here](#).
- With the rise of the delta variant in LA County, unvaccinated people are continuing to spread the variant across the county. The county has detected 64 delta cases since April, indicating the variant is widespread, Hilda Solis, chair of the county Board of Supervisors said in a media briefing Monday afternoon. As of Monday, 67% of LA County residents 16 and older had received at least one dose of vaccine, and 58% were fully vaccinated. More info [here](#).

### Orange County

- The OC Health Care Agency reported that 54% of Orange County residents were fully vaccinated for COVID-19 as of Friday, June 25. A total of 3.6 million doses have been administered with at least 1.9 million people having received at least one dose. More info [here](#).

### Human Resources

- As a result of the Joint commission audit, all patient-facing employees are required to complete the Lippincott Professional Development module on Patient Identification. Dr. Talamantes sent out a memo regarding this. Please log in and complete immediately if you have not already done so. You can access Lippincott Professional Development from Town Square. A cheat sheet will be provided in today's notes.
- Leaders – as we approach a new quarter, please make sure the mandatory Q2 training is complete before the Q3 training is assigned. Also, for new employees, be sure they are taking the Employee Handbook training and acknowledging the handbook when they come on board.
- Please remind your employees if they are experiencing symptoms of illness, they should be calling or emailing Employee Health and not coming in person to see them. Symptomatic people need to be honest when completing the Qualtrics survey and follow the instructions that pop up to not report to work and contact Employee Health.
- Employees who want to get a COVID vaccine should contact Employee Health ([Employeehealth@altamed.org](mailto:Employeehealth@altamed.org)) or 323-765-6153 to schedule an appointment.