



# ALAMEDA COUNTY COVID-19 HEALTH EMERGENCY

COUNTY OF ALAMEDA ★ CALIFORNIA

Office of Emergency Services  
4985 Broder Blvd, Dublin, CA 94568

Alameda County Health Care Services Agency

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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## **1 Million Alameda County Residents Are Now Fully Vaccinated** *1M of 1.5M Alameda County residents are fully vaccinated; remaining unvaccinated populations urged to get vaccinated considering recent case increases*

**ALAMEDA COUNTY, CA** - Alameda County received the first shipment of COVID-19 vaccine in December of 2020. Now, seven months into 2021, 1 million Alameda County residents are fully vaccinated against COVID-19. At this milestone, 70.7% of all eligible residents over age 12 are fully vaccinated and over 83.3% have had at least one dose. However, vaccination rates vary in communities across Alameda County and health agency officials are redoubling efforts to address disparities.

Alameda County’s Health Care Services Agency quickly organized the first Point of Dispensing (POD) in Hayward to assist St. Rose Hospital in vaccinating their health care workers while also setting precedent by including 911 first responders. At that first POD, Alameda County prioritized first responders along with residents who were at high risk of exposure during a time when vaccine supplies were limited by the State’s vaccination phases.

As eligibility expanded and supplies remained limited, Alameda County hosted the region’s largest dissemination point at the Oakland Coliseum. This site operated from February to May and administered over half a million doses. At first, it did so as a partnership between the Federal and State Governments and later as a collaboration with the State, Alameda and Contra Costa Counties. In addition, Alameda County supported hyperlocal community clinics and piloted innovations like mobile vaccine units to reach homebound individuals and moving points of vaccine dispensing deeper into communities most impacted by the virus.

“It’s been a long 7-month journey to get to this remarkable milestone in one of the largest and most diverse counties in the State,” said Colleen Chawla, Director of the Alameda County Health Care Services

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Agency. “We remain ever grateful to the health care providers and first responders who stepped forward to give and receive the first vaccines just 7 months ago. I want to recognize each resident who has had the opportunity and chosen vaccination, protecting themselves and their family and neighbors from severe disease and death. We have more work to do to get to immunity from this devastating disease and we are moving deeper into our communities to engage our residents.”

“I remember vividly the hope and excitement we felt on December 18, 2020 when we opened our first shipment of COVID-19 vaccine vials,” shared Dr. Kathleen Clanon, Alameda County Health Care Services Agency’s Medical Director. “We used those doses to support a frontline organization and vaccinated our first responder paramedics and firefighters - and were one of the first counties to do so,” she added. “We had high hopes for the vaccine rollout and vaccinating 1 million county residents in only seven months is more than we had dreamed. It’s a remarkable example of what we can accomplish when government, health care organizations, community and more get together behind a single goal.”

“I echo Director Chawla’s reminder that we have more work to do. Our efforts continue and are expanding with the Direct Outreach to Our Residents (DOOR) program providing relationship-centered conversations between residents,” said Dr. George Ayala, Alameda County’s Health Care Services Agency’s Public Health Deputy Director. “The DOOR program is a collaboration across the Public Health Department and neighborhood-based community organizations. Most DOOR workers live in the priority census tracts with lower vaccination rates, and are uniquely positioned to lead hyper-local, door-to-door outreach involving neighbor-to-neighbor conversations. Our goal is to ensure that unvaccinated residents living in communities that are hardest hit by the pandemic are equipped with information about vaccines, nearby vaccination opportunities, and on-the-spot assistance with registration.”

## Available to Media:

- B-roll footage and photos of vaccination sites
- Interviews with Director Chawla and Dr. Clanon available for schedule upon request

Alameda County has seen a rise in new cases specifically impacting those communities where vaccination rates are lowest, including in neighborhoods that have already been hit hardest by COVID-19. While a small number of generally mild cases are reported among vaccinated residents, the vast majority of new cases are occurring in unvaccinated people.

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As we move forward, Alameda County urges all residents who are eligible to get the vaccine and everyone, whether vaccinated or not, to wear a mask in indoor public settings. Anyone still undecided about vaccination should continue to follow COVID-19 safety precautions to keep from catching or spreading the virus, like wearing a mask in outdoor crowded spaces. Getting COVID-19 can still lead to severe illness, hospitalization, and death for unvaccinated individuals, including youth and young adults, and vaccination is the best protection against severe COVID-19 infection.

The Pfizer vaccine is approved for those 12+ and the Johnson & Johnson and Moderna vaccines are approved for people 18+. Vaccines are safe, effective, and FREE. No one will be asked for their immigration status or insurance information. Vaccinations are widely available at convenient times and locations in neighborhoods throughout Alameda County. Vaccine sites available for the next week include:

- Saturday, July 24<sup>th</sup>
  - Oakland Zoo & the Conservation Society of California, 9777 Golf Links Rd., Oakland, 9AM-2:30PM
- Tuesday, July 27<sup>th</sup>
  - St. Vincent de Paul Dining Room, 675 23rd St. & MLK, Oakland, 11AM-1PM (18+ drop-in only)
  - Dorothy Day House, 1931 Center St., Berkeley, 2-4 PM (18+ drop-in only)
- Wednesday, July 28<sup>th</sup>
  - East Oakland Community Projects, 7515 International Blvd., East Oakland 11AM-1PM (18+ drop-in only)
  - Dublin Senior Center, 7600 Amador Valley Blvd., Dublin, 9AM-2PM
- Thursday, July 29<sup>th</sup>
  - Will C. Wood Middle School, 420 Grand Street, Alameda, 2-3PM
  - Center of Hope by Umoja Health, 8414 MacArthur Blvd., Oakland, 10:30AM - 2:30 PM (call 1-888-763-0010)
- Friday, July 30<sup>th</sup>
  - CHORI by Umoja Health, 753 Aileen St., Oakland, 9:30AM - 1:30 PM (call 1-888-763-0010)
  - Old Decoto School, 600 G St., Union City, 4:30pm-7:30pm

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- Saturday, July 31<sup>st</sup>
  - St. Vincent de Paul Dining Room, 675 23rd St. & MLK, Oakland, 11AM-1PM (18+ drop-in only)
  - Order of Malta at the Cathedral of Christ the Light, 2121 Harrison St., Oakland, 9AM-2PM
  - Allen Temple, 8501 International Blvd., Oakland, 10am-2pm
  - Weekes Community Center, 27182 Patrick Ave., Hayward, 10am-2pm

Residents who are eligible and have not received a vaccination or haven't received their second dose of a two-dose vaccination series are encouraged to call **510-208-4VAX (510-208-4829)** or visit [bit.ly/getalcovaxed](https://bit.ly/getalcovaxed) to arrange an appointment or drop by a location near them.

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