



## COVID-19 VACCINE TASK FORCE

### COVID-19 Vaccine Task Force Meeting #16

October 27th, 2021

10:30AM – 11:30AM

Meeting Minutes

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### Task Force Committee Members Attendees

#### **Emergency Services**

Vince Pierucci, EMS - *Absent*

Chief Jonathan Stornetta, Fire

Sheriff Ian Parkinson, Law Enforcement - *Absent*

#### **Bioethicist**

Luis Ochoa, MD - *Absent*

#### **Community Health Centers**

Stephen Clarke, MD - *Absent*

Jose Guzman

#### **Pharmacies**

(Maronee Hollister, PharmD)

#### **Long Term Care**

Karen Jones, Ombudsman, SLO County

#### **Business Community**

Kristen Yetter, Promega Biosciences - *Absent*

#### **Occupational Health**

Brian Roberts, MD, MedStop

#### **Hospitals**

Mark Lisa, Tenet - *Absent*

#### **Health Insurers**

Paul Jaconette, CenCal – *Absent*

Terri Howell, CenCal - *Absent*

Nicole Bennet, CenCal

Gaby Labraña, CenCal - *Absent*

#### **Education**

Dr. James Brescia, County Office of Education

Courtney Kienow, Cal Poly-Higher Education

#### **Child Care**

Raechelle Bowlay, CCRC - *Absent*

#### **Corrections**

Christy Mulkerin, MD, Jail CMO

#### **Religious Leaders**

Pastor Tim Thuele - *Absent*

Rabbi Janice Mehring - *Absent*

Monsignor Ed Callahan - *Absent*

#### **Organizations serving racial and ethnic groups**

Erica Ruvalcaba-Heredia, Latinx - *Absent*

Cheryl Vines, NAACP

**Organizations serving people with disabilities**

Diva Johnson, Tri-Counties Regional Center

**Organizations serving people with limited English proficiency**

Irebid Gilbert, Herencia Indigena

Griselda Reyes Basurto / Mixteco/Indigena Community Organizing Project

**Community Representatives**

Lynn Enns, Health Commission

Betsy Whitaker, Med Anthropologist

**Hospice**

Kim Chartrand, ASPC - *Absent*

**Homeless Serving Organizations**

Janna Nichols

**Voluntary Organizations**

Rick London, United Way - *Absent*

**Behavioral Health**

Jill Bolster-White, Transitions Mental Health Association

**Utilities**

Samantha Caldwell, PG&E Diablo Canyon, Energy - *Absent*

Bill Robeson, City of Arroyo Grande Water/Wastewater/Trash - *Absent*

**Agriculture**

Brent Burchett, Farm Bureau

**Transportation**

Geoff Straw, SLORTA

COVID-19 Status in SLO County as of 10/27/21

Dr. Borenstein reported that the County has been experiencing a plateau of new COVID-19 cases. 625 people were diagnosed with COVID-19 over the past two weeks. SLO County has seen a 50% decrease in the number of hospitalizations since past month. Currently, 12 people are hospitalized, 4 of which are in the ICU. Increases in the County's COVID-19 related deaths has been ongoing since the September 22<sup>nd</sup> report. To date, 339 people have died due to COVID-19 and at least 7 deaths are pending final certification.

**Community Transmission – SLO County**

The following 7-day metrics are from the week of October 20<sup>th</sup>- October 26<sup>th</sup>. San Luis Obispo County has met the State's metrics to move from the High (Red) Tier into the Substantial (Orange) Tier. The current COVID-19 case rate among SLO County residents is 62.17 per 100,000. San Luis Obispo County's requirements for the masking mandate still applies. Please view the [Health Officer Order requiring Facial Coverings](#) for more information.

**SLO County Outbreak Data**

There has been a reduction of COVID-19 viral outbreaks occurring within SLO County. Outbreaks remain most prevalent in youth and congregate settings. SLO County currently has active cases in 33 K-12 Schools, 5 outbreaks in Preschool/Childcare locations and 9 outbreaks in congregate settings.

## **SLO County Vaccine Status of COVID-19 Cases**

Unvaccinated individuals are disproportionately impacted by COVID-19. Since June 15, 2021, SLO County residents who are not fully vaccinated encompass at least 78.1% of COVID-19 cases, 83.7% of hospitalizations, and 76.0% deaths.

In SLO County, 72.6% of the 12+ population have received at least one dose. By comparison, 80.3% of Californians aged 12+ have received at least one dose.

## **Vaccination Rates by Race/Ethnicity in SLO County**

Although Latino residents constitute 24.3% of the County population, the COVID-19 case rate for this group is 533 per 100,000. Conversely, White residents encompass over 2/3 (67.3%) of the County population and have a COVID-19 case rate of 317 per 100,000. These findings suggest SLO County Latino residents are disproportionately impacted by COVID-19.

## **Neighborhood Level Outreach**

On July 26<sup>th</sup>, 2021, SLO County Public Health Department launched an outreach campaign to provide COVID-19 vaccine services and educational awareness in prioritized neighborhoods. Volunteers have walked over 408 miles, contacted over 7,363 households, and distributed over 19,738 materials. 154 mobile vaccine clinic events have been held.

## **Vaccine Communication Plans**

Tara Kennon, Public Information Officer, discussed communication strategies for the County's COVID-19 response. Several strategies were implemented during the April-October period. Mass communication campaigns were used to promote information county-wide. Vaccine champion activities and relationship-based outreach fostered beneficial relations with residents. Vaccine misinformation, COVID-19 vaccine polarization, and structural barriers continue to inhibit goals for increasing vaccinations in SLO County.

These strategies have been modified for anticipated reception by the public. Mass communications will continue broad messaging with tone focused on positive associations. Audience-specific campaigns will be tailored based on national research and Vaccine Planning team insight. Priority audiences includes pregnant/recently pregnant people, uninsured/limited care persons, older adults (65+) for booster or first/second doses, parents of age 5-11, rural and agricultural communities.

## **Pediatric Vaccine Doses Administered by Provider**

Pediatric doses administered for the 12-18 age group within SLO County:

- Pharmacies (48.4%)
- Public Health Clinics (47.6%)
- Medical practice offices (3.2%)
- CHC (0.6%)
- Other - Home Health, Long Term Care, Hospital (0.2%)

## **Healthcare Provider Updates**

CHC - Dr. Clarke was unable for comment. Provider updates will be given at the December 8<sup>th</sup> meeting.

CenCal Health - has developed a vaccine response plan to support vaccine uptake in SLO and Santa Barbara Counties. Their primary strategy is increasing amount of healthcare providers who will administer vaccine. Strategies include outreach partnership and incentives for vaccine administrators. Vaccine recipients will receive a \$50 incentive for first dose received. CenCal is actively promoting mobile vaccination clinics for SLO County. CenCal provided the following information which will be shared as an attachment to the meeting minutes:

- Member incentive mailer's (English & Spanish)
- Member incentive website update- <https://www.cencalhealth.org/giftcard/>
- Unvaccinated Member survey
- Provider Incentive
  - Available to PCP's – FQHC's and non-FQHC's
  - PCP will receive \$50.00 per member who receives their first dose of the COVID-19 vaccine. The max a provider can earn per member is \$50.00.
  - Limited to vaccines rendered between October 2021 and March 2022.

Long term care and hospital facilities Karen Jones was unavailable for comment.

Public Health and Private Medical Offices: Pharmacies and Public Health Clinics encompass the majority of administered pediatric doses. Private medical offices are encouraged to increase pediatric vaccine uptake.

### **Boosters for Moderna and J&J**

FDA, CDC, and Western States Scientific Safety Review Workgroup have approved boosters for all vaccine brands, including Moderna and Johnson & Johnson. See below for booster doses eligibility. Public Health and mobile vaccine clinics now offer boosters based on *all* eligibility guidelines.

Heterologous (Mix and Match) doses refer to getting a different COVID-19 booster than the primary dose series. All COVID-19 vaccine boosters result in robust protection from COVID-19 infection. Individuals eligible for the booster may receive the same or different COVID-19 vaccine as a booster dose, depending on convenience, availability, health care provider opinion, and individual preference.

### **Booster Eligibility**

Use this chart to help determine when to give COVID-19 vaccine based on age or health conditions:

[COVID-19 Vaccine Eligibility \(eziz.org\)](https://www.eziz.org/COVID-19-Vaccine-Eligibility)

#### Moderna + Pfizer:

- Eligible 6 months or more after receiving their 2-dose series:
- 65 years and older
- Age 18+ living in long-term care settings
- Age 18+ have underlying medical conditions
- Age 18+ work or reside in high-risk settings
- Age 18+ who are at an increased risk of social inequities

#### J&J vaccine (age 18+):

- Eligible 2 months or more after receiving the initial dose

### **Pediatric Vaccines for Age 5-11**

On October 26<sup>th</sup> the FDA Advisory Committee discussed vaccine eligibility for 5-11 yr. olds. Currently awaiting approval from several advisory boards, such as the CDC and Western States Scientific Safety Review Workgroup. Estimated date for Pfizer vaccine age 5-11 eligibility is early November 2021.

### **Vaccine PSA Campaigns**

Local Vaccine Champions are sharing their calls to action for community members to get the vaccine. Please help share these powerful messages:

- **Local OBs Dr. Stanislaus and Dr. Thomas**  
 Dr. Thomas (30 seconds): <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=nQLgLdnb48w>  
 Dr. Stanislaus (30 seconds): <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=DwHyHjxMEjc>  
 Dr. Thomas and Dr. Stanislaus (30 seconds):  
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=6wKHxvpeTyQ>  
 Dr. Thomas and Dr. Stanislaus (3 minutes): <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=riRLoIV-3-l>
- **RACE Matters**  
 Get the Facts, Get Vaxxed: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=jCzyvgPrUHO>  
 I Got the Vax: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=PaNKEpeC7dM>  
 Vax for the Economy: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=9ZDjj80ROi8>
- **Vax4Us Campaign**  
 Vax4Us: English: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=uULYAH3XxAE>  
 Vax4Us: Spanish: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=M9b94TnQmF8>
- **Patrick Laird**, local athlete and NFL player: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=SGDJ427l0k8>
- **Teens, Tweens, & The COVID-19 Vaccines**  
 Parent forum hosted by the San Luis Obispo County Office of Education. Streamed live on 8/10/21  
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=8Enyhmbj-WY>

#### **Vaccine FAQs and Resources:**

- COVID-19 information for SLO County: <https://www.emergencyslo.org/en/covid19.aspx>
- Local FAQ, RecoverSLO: <https://www.recoverslo.org/en/vaccine-faqs.aspx>
- Testing information: <https://www.emergencyslo.org/en/should-i-be-tested.aspx>
- Booster and Third Doses: <https://www.recoverslo.org/en/third-dose-of-the-covid-19-vaccine.aspx>
- Tough FAQs: <https://publichealthcollaborative.org/faq/>

#### **Reliable materials addressing prevalent vaccine concerns:**

- [Fertility and the COVID-19 Vaccine](#)
- [Adolescents and the COVID-19 Vaccine](#)
- [COVID-19 Vaccine & Myocarditis](#)
- [Getting the Vaccine Even if You've Had COVID-19](#)
- [What are mRNA Vaccines?](#)
- [COVID-19 Vaccine & Preventing Virus Mutations](#)

#### **Closing Comments**

Upcoming meeting was changed due to the Thanksgiving holiday.

Next meeting: **December 8, 2021 10:30AM- 11:30AM**

Meeting notes, and slides available at:

<https://www.recoverslo.org/en/slo-county-vaccine-taskforce.aspx>

Adjourned at 11:36am.