



Update from the Office of Supervisor Kuehl

Public Health Update

Given this explosive current surge in diagnoses, hospitalizations and even a slight uptick in deaths from COVID, it's even more important for us to take real steps to make sure we upgrade our masks to well-fitting medical-grade ones like N95 or KN95 as well as seriously pushing those close to us to get vaccinated and to be vaccinated and fully boosted, ourselves.

In order for us to keep our schools open it is important that all age-appropriate kids are vaccinated for their and their peers' health and safety! Vaccines are the best and most powerful way to protect all individuals from severe illness. The evidence is clear – people who are fully vaccinated and boosted are much, much safer from the threat of Omicron. Vaccines are now approved for children ages 5 and up and boosters are recommended for children 12 and up! Find vaccination locations [here!](#)

Our hospitals, ERs, and ambulance systems are stressed to the max from the influx of COVID patients and because of staffing shortages (medical staff are getting sick too!) You can help alleviate this stress on these systems by delaying or avoiding high-risk activities and only going to the hospital ER or calling 911 in case of real emergencies. People should not be going to the ER to get a COVID test or if they have only mild symptoms. Find testing locations near you [here!](#)

90 Units in 3SD

We are still facing a significant housing crisis in LA County where too many families struggle to find housing and permanent shelter. It's a problem that we face daily on our streets and need to take even more steps to address. This week the Board moved to fund a multi-family housing development in the Third District— The 90-unit Corazón del Valle II Project—which will bring critically needed family housing to the San Fernando Valley in Van Nuys.

Anti-Trafficking Month in LA County

Human Trafficking is a significant issue across all of Southern California. Here in LA County, the Los Angeles District Attorney's Office operates the Human Trafficking Section to prosecute traffickers who exploit victims. The entire issue, however, needs more attention to bring it out of the shadows.

This week the Board declared January Human Trafficking Prevention Month in LA County. If you need more information on Human Trafficking and ways to find resources, you can get additional information on the District Attorney's Human Trafficking Victim Assistance Program [here!](#)

Illegal Cannabis Operations

Illegal cannabis operations continue to undermine the hope and the will of the people who voted to legalize recreational cannabis in order to create a system that assured consumers of product safety while prohibiting cannabis access to minors. These illegal grows have caused deep neighborhood concerns, created fire and public safety issues and also been responsible for the stealing of public water resources.

This week the Board passed a motion that puts teeth in enforcement and ensures that unpermitted growers and dispensaries face stiff penalties in order to deter these operations from continuing.

You can read about the County's Office of Cannabis Management [here!](#)

Additional Resources

StayHousedLA.org -

Stay Housed LA is a partnership between the County of Los Angeles and local community and legal services providers. The site provides Los Angeles County residents with information and resources to keep people in their homes. At the Stay Housed LA website, you can find out more about your rights by participating in a virtual tenant workshop, get the legal assistance you need, and sign up for updates to stay keyed into LA County's evolving housing climate.

VaccinateLACounty.com -

Vaccinate LA County is your one stop shop for vaccine information. You can find a site nearby, learn about the vaccines, data, and find information on mobile and homebound vaccinations. Please reach out if you have specific questions - our office is here to help.

ReopeningLACounty.com -

For best practices for businesses, information regarding COVID-19, the current Health Officer Order, and more – ReopeningLACounty.com has information to help you stay healthy, safe and informed.

