

SHAMANN WALTON 華頌善

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE Wednesday, April 22, 2020 Contact: Supervisor Shamann Walton, District 10 - Natalie Gee 415-619-0878

PRESS RELEASE ***SUPERVISOR SHAMANN WALTON ANNOUNCES HEALTH PROVISIONS IN DISTRICT 10 TO PREVENT THE SPREAD OF COVID-19***

SAN FRANCISCO, CA - Today, Supervisor Shamann Walton along with key community advocates, service providers and medical professionals held an emergency rally at the Southeast Health Center Clinic, the site of City's first Field Care Clinic to highlight the health disparities demonstrated by the recent COVID-19 data impacting District 10, particularly the Bayview, Visitacion Valley, Little Hollywood and Potrero Hill neighborhoods that fall in zip codes 94107, 94124 and 94134.

According to the 2010 Census data, zip codes 94107, 94124, and 94134 in District 10 has the highest concentration of communities of color with 37% Asians, 20% African Americans and 20% Latinx as well as an 18% of residents living in poverty with a median family income of \$62,839 and a median household income of \$56,607 in 94124--San Francisco's median household income is \$104,552.

In light of the new <u>data released</u> by the San Francisco Department of Public Health on COVID-19 cases by zip code and deaths by race just hours before the rally, it is imperative that the public knows where each death related to the virus has taken place in San Francisco. The current data shows that out of the 1,233 confirmed positive COVID-19 cases, 99 are in 94124, 83 in 94107, 171 are in 94110, which is also in District 9. In terms of demographics, 6% of COVID-19 cases in San Francisco are African Americans, 14% are Asians and 26% are Latinx. At least 46% of COVID-19 cases in San Francisco, are people of color. Comparatively, San Francisco only has 5.6% African Americans, 15.2% Latinos, and 35.9% Asians according to the latest Census estimates from 2018.

Supervisor Walton along with several other Supervisors have been working hard to get real-time data in San Francisco on the number of COVID-19 deaths by district/zip code and by race, from the Department of Public Health (SFDPH) and the Emergency Operations Center (EOC). The current data shows that there have been 20 coronavirus deaths in San Francisco, and out of 20 deaths, 3 of them are African Americans, 11 Asians and 1 Latinx. People of color are also disproportionately more likely to die a COVID-19 related death in San Francisco and 75% of COVID-19 related deaths in San Francisco are people of color. After finally receiving the data on deaths by zip codes 40 minutes before the rally, 20% of all COVID-19 related deaths are residents of District 10.



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"This data is important because it provides insight as to how people of color may not be proactively receiving the information and support that they need especially in the more vulnerable populations," said Supervisor Walton. "As the Supervisor of District 10, I know, anecdotally, that at all 3 of the Black deaths are people who lived in District 10. This data shows that we need more resources to be concentrated in our southeastern neighborhoods as well as in Districts 6 and 9 to help save lives and prevent the spread of COVID-19 in our most vulnerable communities."

"Health disparities and social inequities have a long history of existence in District 10," said Dion-Jay Brookter, the executive director of Young Community Developers. "We have the most residents in poverty, the lowest performing schools, and the highest rates of health problems. The COVID-19 pandemic has exacerbated these issues and further emphasized the need for resources to educate and prevent the spread in our communities."

"Health disparities existed before COVID-19, but we are witnessing an exacerbation due to this deadly pandemic." said Jennifer Esteen, a registered nurse and Vice President of SEIU 1021, "Communities that Black and brown people live in are too often food deserts, underfunded and over policed. Lack of access to preventative healthcare, high quality nutrition, underfunded schools and an inability to work from home are leading to deadly consequences."

Supervisor Walton has requested the San Francisco Department of Public Health implement the following health provisions to address these inequities as soon as possible:

- 1. **Implement pop-up testing sites** throughout zip codes with the highest rates of COVID-19 cases. These sites should also test asymptomatic residents to avoid the spread and prevent increase of cases and deaths.
- 2. Additional Field Care Clinics in the areas with the highest number of COVID-19 cases in order to provide necessary medical treatment and urgent care support.
- 3. **Deployment of proper PPE** for employees and members of communities in areas more vulnerable and susceptible to contracting the coronavirus.
- 4. **Increased resources for outreach and education** in areas that need a more concentrated and culturally competent effective strategy to inform people about the latest health orders, and imperative updates in order to increase compliance in hot-spot areas.
- 5. **Immediately provide testing to our homeless population** in congregate settings such as SROs, shelters, navigation centers, and encampments including testing asymptomatic people.
- 6. **Immediately place homeless people who are capable of caring for themselves into hotels** and off of the streets to prevent further transmission in an already vulnerable population.



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To encourage the San Francisco Department of Public Health to implement these provisions to address these disparities and inequities immediately, Supervisor Walton working closely with the San Francisco Human Rights Commission, Office of Civic Engagement and Immigrant Affairs, Department of Homelessness and Supportive Housing, Human Services Agency, Department of Public Health and all City leadership.

Demographics Data:

https://default.sfplanning.org/publications_reports/SF_NGBD_SocioEconomic_Profiles/2010-2014_ACS _Profile_SupeDistricts_v3AH.pdf

SFDPH Data on COVID-19 Cases: https://datasf.org/covid19

Data on COVID-19 deaths by zip code: https://www.sfdph.org/dph/alerts/files/COVID-Deaths-ZIP.pdf