



SHAMANN WALTON
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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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*****PRESS RELEASE*****

*****DISTRICT ATTORNEY CHESA BOUDIN AND SUPERVISOR SHAMANN
WALTON ANNOUNCE A RESOLUTION TO PROHIBIT THE HIRING OF POLICE
OFFICERS WITH PRIOR FINDINGS OF MISCONDUCT*****

SAN FRANCISCO, CA - Since the onslaught of the coronavirus pandemic, residents living on the east side of San Francisco have been disproportionately affected by higher rates of contraction and spread of COVID-19. Neighborhoods in District 10 have had a significant uptick in COVID-19 cases compared to the rest of San Francisco with 194 cases in Bayview Hunters Point as of May 28, 2020. Southeast neighborhoods including Visitacion Valley and Sunnydale have seen existing social inequities such as homelessness, unemployment, and food access exacerbated by the pandemic. Similar to the recent COVID-19 study in the Mission, the District 10 neighborhoods Bayview Hunters Point, Visitacion Valley, and Sunnydale will also conduct a COVID-19 study initiative beginning on May 30th to test all residents in select census tracts.

Through a partnership between the University of California San Francisco (UCSF), Community Partners, United in Health, and the San Francisco Department of Public Health (SFPDH), COVID-19 testing will be offered for all persons aged four years and older in two census tracts in District 10. The census tracts include 231.02 in Bayview Hunters Point and 605.02 in Visitacion Valley and Sunnydale neighborhoods. People living, working, playing, or praying within the two census tracts with or without COVID-19 symptoms are eligible for testing and can receive two COVID-19 tests: a nasal swab to test for current infection and a blood draw to test for prior infection known as antibody testing. There will also be a special initiative to test individuals who are unhoused or underhoused in the Bayview. Unfortunately, there will be no testing for individuals that are homebound at this time for this initiative. Details for each testing location are listed at the end of this release.



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“The moment we knew that COVID-19 was affecting District 10 and other vulnerable populations disproportionately, we immediately began to demand asymptomatic testing for everyone in our communities,” said Supervisor Shamann Walton. “It's been a fight, but we are making some headway. Together as a community, we have succeeded in getting more testing in District 10 communities starting this weekend. I want especially to thank UCSF and Dr. Kim Rhoads for providing the testing, Director Theo Miller of HOPE SF, Director Sheryl Davis of the Human Rights Commission, UnitedInHealth.org, all of our partners in La Mission and the Latino Task Force including Jon Jacobo and my legislative aide Tracy Brown-Gallardo, SFUSD, Rec and Park for providing our testing sites, all of our community partners, Gwen Westbrook of Mother Brown's, Michelle and Karen Pierce, SFPD, and a huge shout out to Dr. Monique LaSarre of Rafiki for bringing our community together on this.”

“There is no real treatment for COVID-19 and no vaccine to prevent it. The only way to crush this coronavirus is to identify people who are positive and potentially infectious, and to provide whatever support they need to isolate,” said Dr. Kim Rhoads, MD, MS, MPH.

“The pre-existing health disparities in the Southeast Corridor, added to the economic inequities, and now the Coronavirus, leave District 10 communities of color in dire circumstances,” said Dr. Monique LaSarre, PsyD, MA of Rafiki Coalition for Health and Wellness. “This policy will support infected community members to isolate and protect themselves and their community.”

“Given the deadliness of this virus for the populations living in the southeastern corridor of the city, it is critical to get ahead of the novel coronavirus and control its spread as much as possible,” said Michelle Pierce, Executive Director of Bayview Hunters Point Advocates. “That starts with testing and education. This initiative will be that first step.”

Organizers and city officials will be kicking off the testing initiative on Saturday, May 29 at 8:30AM at the Leola Havard School on 1520 Oakdale Ave.

The Southeast COVID-19 Testing Initiative will be at the following dates and times:

BAYVIEW:

Saturday & Sunday, May 30th & 31st



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9:00AM to 5:00PM

Location: Leola Havard School

1520 Oakdale Ave., San Francisco, CA 94124

SUNNYDALE/VISITACION VALLEY:

Monday & Tuesday, June 1st & 2nd

9:00AM to 7:00PM

Location: Herz Playground

1701 Visitacion Ave., San Francisco, CA 94134

BAYVIEW: Underhoused and Unhoused Individuals

Saturday & Sunday, June 6th & June 7th

Time and location to be determined

Testing will be available in multiple languages including: English, Spanish, Chinese, and Samoan.

As an incentive for testing, participants will receive a goodie bag with personal protective equipment (PPE), food, and other necessities. Individuals who test positive for COVID-19 will have a care plan with follow up from health providers.

Volunteers are needed to carry out this initiative. For more information on testing or to sign up to volunteer, please visit www.unitedinhealth.org.

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