

MILITARY & VETERANS SECTOR UPDATE

CORONAVIRUS
DISEASE 2019 (COVID-19)

FRIDAY, JUNE 25, 2021



Thank you to everyone who was able to join us for our last telebriefing for military, veterans, and their families!

TELEBRIEFING SCHEDULE UPDATE:

June 24, 2021 was our last Military & Veterans COVID-19 Sector telebriefing.

Starting July 9, Gary Johnston and Dr. John Malone will provide COVID-19 updates on the SDVC Monthly Meetings.

Please join us and SDVC on the first Friday of each month from 8:30 a.m. – 10:00 a.m. [Click here](#) to join the Zoom meeting. [Click here](#) to view the SDVC Monthly Meeting Calendar.

Special Thanks to our June 24th Telebriefing Guest:



Ron Stark, MBA, LAADC-CA
President
San Diego Veterans Coalition (SDVC)

County Resources for Military & Veterans



Visit our [County site for Military/Veterans/Families and Serving Organizations](#)

General COVID-19 Frequently Asked Questions – [Click here](#)

Military and Veterans-Specific Frequently Asked Questions – [Click here](#)

Benefit Information & Assistance and Other Professional Services for Military Veterans and Dependents – [Click here](#)

In Case You Missed It...



The San Diego Veterans Coalition (SDVC) was organized in 2009, and incorporated as a non-profit in 2012, to serve the needs of San Diego regional Veterans, their families and significant others. SDVC's main mission is to improve collaboration and coordination among community service providers in all sectors (non-profit, county, state, federal, informal councils, Veteran groups) so that

delivery of services is more comprehensive and Veteran Family-centric. Many of the organizations that belong to SDVC (over 150) specialize in one field (e.g. education, housing, employment, and healthcare), to offer comprehensive support to our local Veteran community. SDVC also proudly works alongside a wide variety of non-profit and for-profit organizations, as well as governmental agencies and civic minded individuals to serve the veteran community and its members. To learn more about SDVC, [click here](#).

Resources and Links from the June 24th Telebriefing

Guest Speaker Presentations

[SDVC Presentation](#)

[Ron Stark Biography](#)

County of San Diego Presentations

[Reopening Updates](#)

[Vaccine Updates](#)

[Military & Veterans Sector Transition Plan](#)

Upcoming Events

[Veterans 3rd Annual Art Exhibition](#)

[Courage to Call Food Distribution Flyer](#)

[North County Stand Down Flyer](#)

Links

[CDPH Beyond the Blueprint Guidance](#)

[CDPH Face Covering Guidance](#)

[CalOSHA COVID-19 Emergency Temporary Standards](#)

[County Website Updated Face Covering Signage](#)

[SDVC Website](#)

[Military & Veterans COVID-19 Sector Webpage](#)

[County of San Diego -- COVID-19 Vaccination Dashboard](#)

Events and Announcements

Courage to Call is hosting another drive-thru food distribution event at 10 a.m. on Saturday, June 26 at 3322 Sweetwater Springs, Spring Valley, CA 91977. Food is distributed on a first come, first serve basis. No RSVP required, but please bring your Military/Veteran ID.

SDVC Monthly Meeting active duty military, veteran's and their families are invited to attend the San Diego Veteran's Coalition's next monthly meeting at 8:30 a.m. on Friday, July 9. For details, visit sdvetscoalition.org.

Wellness Wednesday is a virtual event hosted by Courage to Call to teach military members, veterans, and their families about wellness topics and helpful resources every Wednesday at 4:00 p.m. To participate in Wellness Wednesday, visit the [Courage to Call Facebook page](#) and join through Facebook Live.

North County Veterans Stand Down is a four-day event that enables homeless veterans to receive much-needed services in a safe, friendly, drug-free and secure environment. It will be held on September 16-19, 2021. For details, visit NCStandDown.org.

The 3rd Annual Art Exhibition for Veterans, hosted by San Dieguito Art Guild (SDAG), is inviting artists the opportunity to exhibit, sell, and be awarded ribbons by a professional judge. Art will be shared in the SDAG gallery on September 28-October 23, 2021. The deadline to submit your art piece is August 1, 2021. Send your application to SDAGMonthlyShow@gmail.com or Peter.Lanham@cox.net. For more information about SDAG's event, [click here](#).

With Tiers Gone, County Reopens

With COVID-19 vaccinations high and infection rates low, the state and the county reopened on June 15 after 15 months of closures.

The disappearance of the state's tier system brings no capacity limits or physical distancing restrictions for the public in most businesses and activities in the region. Essentially, all sectors of the economy can return to pre-pandemic capacity levels.

"The tiers are gone but the pandemic is not," said Wilma Wooten, M.D., M.P.H., County public health officer. "People should continue getting vaccinated so that cases go down even further." All County offices and facilities are [now open to the public](#). Hours of operation vary at different [departments](#) and people are recommended to check ahead.

To read the full County News Center story, [click here](#). To view a list of vaccination sites in San Diego County, [click here](#). To learn more about COVID-19 vaccination rates in San Diego County, [click here](#).

CDPH Face Coverings Guidance

Starting June 15, 2021, masks will not be required by fully vaccinated individuals, **except** in the following settings where masks are required for everyone, regardless of vaccination status:

- On [public transit](#)
- Indoors in [K-12 schools](#), [childcare](#), and other youth settings
- [Healthcare settings](#), including [long-term care facilities](#)
- State and local [correlational facilities and detention centers](#)
- [Homeless shelters](#), [emergency shelters](#), and [cooling centers](#).

Masks will be required for unvaccinated individuals in indoor public settings and businesses.

The following individuals are exempt from wearing a mask at all times:

- Persons younger than two years old.
- Persons with a medical condition, mental health condition, or disability that prevents wearing a mask.
- Persons who are hearing impaired, or communicating with a person who is hearing impaired, where the ability to see the mouth is essential for communication.
- Persons for whom wearing a mask would create a risk to the person related to their work, as determined by local, state, or federal regulators or workplace safety guidelines.

To learn more about CDPH's face coverings guidance, [click here](#).

Masks in the Workplace

Cal/OSHA updated their mask guidance on June 17 for employees in the workplace.

- Fully vaccinated employees do not need to wear face coverings except for certain situations during outbreaks and in settings where CDPH requires all persons to wear them. **Employers must document the vaccination status of fully vaccinated employees if they do not wear face coverings indoors.**
- Employees are **not required to wear face coverings when outdoors regardless of vaccination status** except for certain employees during outbreaks.
- Employees are explicitly allowed to wear a face covering without fear of retaliation from employers.
- **Physical distancing requirements have been eliminated** except where an employer determines there is a hazard and for certain employees during major outbreaks.

For the full Cal/OSHA guidance document, [click here](#).

Digital COVID-19 Vaccination Records

- CDPH and California Department of Technology are unveiling a Digital COVID-19 Vaccine Record for Californians
- The Digital COVID-19 Vaccination Record enables residents to manage their personal vaccination record and share at their discretion
- Follows national standards for security and privacy

[Click here](#) to receive a digital copy of your vaccine record.

Your Shot to Win Padres Tickets!



The County is teaming up with the Padres to help the region reach herd immunity against COVID-19! You can enter a drawing for a free pair of Padres tickets to a future game. To enter to win Padres tickets you must receive a dose of the COVID-19 vaccine at a participating COVID-19 vaccination mobile clinic operated by the County of

San Diego from June 3-June 30th and submit a registration form at the clinic site. The vaccination drawing will award a total of 200 tickets, and winners will be chosen weekly at random. Each winner will receive two Padres tickets for one home game in July or August. For questions, contact VaxDrawing@browncando.com. For more information on how to enter, [click here](#). For a list of participating COVID-19 Vaccination Mobile Clinics, [click here](#).

Youth 12+ Are Eligible for COVID-19 Vaccines

Young people 12 years and older are now eligible to get the vaccine, and it's important that young people and their parents are informed about the COVID-19 vaccine. [Click here](#) for social media resources that will help your organization spread the word about the vaccine's safety and effectiveness. If you have a group of teens or parents that would like to learn more, we have *Talk with a Doc* discussions where small groups will have the chance to meet with a County Physician to ask questions, discuss myths, and have their concerns addressed. E-mail LiveWellYouth@sdcounty.ca.gov to make a request!

New Monoclonal Antibody Regional Center (MARC) Location!

Monoclonal antibody treatment is available for persons with mild or moderate COVID-19 whose symptoms developed within the last 10 days and are at high risk of getting very sick from COVID-19. It is recommended to receive the potentially lifesaving treatment within 72 hours of when COVID-19 symptoms begin. The Monoclonal Antibody Regional Centers (MARC) in Poway and Chula Vista are open 7 days a week to treat all persons for free who are medically eligible, regardless of health insurance or immigration status. **If you think you qualify, please call (619) 685-2500 to schedule an appointment or with any questions. You are also encouraged to talk to your doctor** to see if you are medically eligible for this treatment and to receive a referral. For more information about monoclonal antibody treatments and MARC, [click here](#). If you have any questions or concerns, please e-mail COVIDtreatment@sdcounty.ca.gov.

Safe Transportation Practices During COVID-19

Taking extra precautions when making necessary trips can help protect your health and the health of others. The "Safe Transportation Practices During COVID-19" video provides best practices when using public transportation, ride share services, and other transportation alternatives. To learn how to safely utilize transportation services during COVID-19, [click here](#).

County of San Diego 2021 Emergency Rental Assistance Program

San Diego County residents financially impacted by COVID-19 who need help paying their rent and utilities may qualify for assistance.

Applications for the County of San Diego's Emergency Rental Assistance program (ERAP) 2021 serves all areas of the San Diego region except for the cities of San Diego and Chula Vista. The application will be open until all available funding has been used.

The application is available in six different languages (English, Spanish, Arabic, Vietnamese, Tagalog, and Mandarin) on the website. If someone does not have internet or needs help, they can call 858-694-4801 and a county representative can assist with questions and/or take the application over the phone.

If you are a resident of the cities of San Diego and Chula Vista, or if you are not sure which program serves your area, [click here](#) for more information. For veteran-specific rental assistance, [click here](#).

Mental Health Resources

Courage To Call. Every day, current and former service members and their families deal with the complex maze of issues that accompanies military life. Often times the most difficult problem is not knowing where to turn when you need help. Courage to Call is a free, confidential, veteran-staffed, 24/7 helpline dedicated to assisting active duty military personnel, veterans, reservists, guard members, and their families, regardless of discharge status. For more information or to chat with a veteran, visit www.courage2call.org, or call 1-877-698-7838, or 2-1-1.

The County's Access and Crisis Line (ACL) is confidential, toll-free, and available 24/7. If you or someone you care about is experiencing a suicidal or mental health crisis, please call 1-888-724-7240.

VA Veteran Suicide Prevention and Crisis Line, 1-800-273-8255 and Press 1 to talk to someone, or Send a text message to 838255 to connect with a VA responder.

The National Suicide Prevention Lifeline, 1-800-273-8255, provides 24/7, free and confidential support for people in distress, and prevention and crisis resources for you or your loved ones.

More resources to help you manage mental health and cope during the COVID-19 pandemic can be found [here](#).



Additional County of San Diego COVID-19 telebriefings are available throughout the week (via Zoom) for a variety of community sectors. For information, updates, and Q&A with other sectors, view the full telebriefing schedule [here](#).

COVID-19 Resources



To request English or Spanish posters for your installation, please e-mail COVID-Military-Veterans@sdcounty.ca.gov with your contact information, drop-off location, and delivery instructions. A member of our Outreach & Education Team will contact you to coordinate delivery and obtain any additional details (if necessary).

Additional resources and materials are available [here](#) for your use.

If you work or reside at a skilled nursing or long-term care facility and have not yet been contacted to schedule your COVID-19 vaccine appointment, please send an e-mail to COVID-HealthcareStatus@sdcounty.ca.gov

Continue to Stay Informed



[County Coronavirus Website](#)



[Resources for Military, Veteran's & their Families](#)



[Resources & Materials](#)



[Testing Information](#)

