

## Building Bridges to Health Webinar Meeting Weekly COVID-19 Update

August 20, 2020 | 10:30 – 11:30 a.m.

Minutes

[www.BuildingBridgesToHealth.org](http://www.BuildingBridgesToHealth.org)

### Welcome & Introductions (attendees in bold)

Jhoana Molina/All

- American Cancer Society
- **American Red Cross – Ellen Metzger**
- Animals & Humans in Disaster – CJ Anderson
- Arizona Alliance for Community Health Centers – Emily Oake
- Arizona Commission For Deaf and Hard of Hearing (ACDHH) – Carmen Smith
- ASU Center for Health Promotion & Disease Prevention
- **Arizona Commission of African American Affairs & Nat’l Coalition of 100 Black Women, Celerion – Sharon Jaycox**
- **Consulado General de Guatemala en Phoenix – Sara Monzon**
- **Consulado General de México en Phoenix – Rocio Rodríguez, Leticia Martinez**
- **Crisis Response Network – Whitney Hensiak**
- First Things First – Sheri Collins
- **Keogh Health Connections – Claudia Maldonado**
- **Muhammad Ali Parkinson Center – Gloria Chavez**
- Native Health
- Phoenix Rescue Mission – Pamela Morrison
- **St. Vincent de Paul – Norma Carrillo**
- **The Arizona Partnership for Immunization (TAPI) – Laura Smith, Blanca Barrera**
- The Centers for Habilitation (TCH) – Bert Diehl
- Valleywise Health – Claudia Inabet
- **Maricopa County Department of Public Health (MCDPH) – Jhoana Molina, Angela Moreth, Laurie Thomas**
- **Diocese of Phoenix Catholic Schools Office - Mary Bartsch**

### COVID-19 Update (Maricopa County only)

Jhoana Molina,  
Media & Community Relations  
Coordinator, MCDPH

- Latest cases & deaths, trends; Press conference updates
- Testing in more locations & September flu clinics
  - Our websites: [maricopa.gov/COVID19](http://maricopa.gov/COVID19) or [Maricopa.gov/COVID19es](http://Maricopa.gov/COVID19es) (Spanish)
  - We update numbers every morning at 9AM
  - Today’s cases are up to **130,605** (320 more than yesterday) and deaths are at **2,726** (+24 from yesterday), hospitalizations are at **14,104** (11% of cases), intensive care unit (ICU) admissions at **1,166** (1% of cases). These are TOTAL number of cases since the beginning of the pandemic in January.
  - We’re now averaging in hundreds of new cases, not thousands like we were a month ago

- Our [additional data interactive dashboard](#) (click blue Additional Data button) shows epidemic curve (“epi curve”), overall cases, age groups, race and ethnicity data (though know that we don’t have ethnicity information for all of the cases for various reasons), and data on care facilities.
  - Numbers are a week/week and half behind since there is lag in reporting time from labs, etc.
  - Last Friday we started including probable cases in our case counts (mostly including antigen cases), less than half of 1% of the cases during the whole pandemic so it doesn’t impact our epi curves (the state has always done this)
  - Mexican Consulate has heard some new cases where people who are transferred to Maricopa County hospitals, but they are not residents, are they counted in our cases? A: we investigate each case, so if a positive case is found to be from another county, they will be deducted from our numbers
  - Overall Cases tab, seeing more women than men with cases
  - Age groups, which ranges the highest. The 65+ group has highest numbers of hospitalized cases.
  - Seen increase of people getting sick with it in the 20-44 age group, anyone can catch it. Also the younger ones 0-19 count for 12% of cases and 5% of the hospitalized cases.
  - Wearing a face shield by itself doesn’t give full protection, droplets can still escape – they’re more effective in addition to the mask. Several layer masks most effective, if you have cloth masks, wash them after EVERY USE
  - Have symptom checker button on both of our English and Spanish COVID websites
- **Press Conferences by Maricopa County agencies**
    - Had one yesterday at 1pm to discuss rental assistance and school guidelines/benchmarks
    - To watch ours in the future or past: visit and follow the County [Facebook](#) or [YouTube](#) pages
    - Questions and Answers during the conferences are in English and Spanish, with ASL interpreter for the English
    - The press conferences are involve our unified command center of multiple agencies working together on the pandemic response
      - School guidelines and benchmarks
        - Maricopa County works with schools and districts, doing this for years with epidemiologists to report outbreaks in schools or various diseases
        - We don’t create policies for the schools
        - We launched a new dashboard for school decision makers with a map by zip code, school district, City with data they can use to decide if it is appropriate to reopen
        - Can type name of the school, zip code or school district, click the map to see details on what our recommendations are
        - Also post benchmarks for community spread and if it is safe to open school in person, online or hybrid
        - Guidance and resources posted

- **Returning to School Risk Decisions graphic** in English and Spanish is available for both schools and parents to reference: [English version](#) and [Spanish version](#)
- Is the decrease in COVID-19 case counts due to a decrease in testing?  
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=hEURtyRGqQc> Dr. Rebecca
- Cases seem to be going down due to mask mandate we saw case decreases
- We'd like to be 5% positivity rate in testing
- View ADHS' Reopening Benchmarks, "[Safely Returning to In-Person Instruction.](#)"
- View the [ADHS School Data Dashboard](#)
- ADHS School Benchmarks by County:  
<https://www.azdhs.gov/documents/preparedness/epidemiology-disease-control/infectious-disease-epidemiology/novel-coronavirus/covid-19-school-benchmarks-county.pdf>
  
- Rental assistance
  - Here's Who Is Benefiting From Maricopa County Rental Assistance  
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=TfMc9nDJQgU> Dir. Bruce Liggett
  - Many people lost jobs, got sick, lost homes or couldn't pay rent
  - The County has a program to help people afford rent who have suffered hardship directly due to COVID-19
  - [www.Maricopa.gov/COVIDRentHelp](http://www.Maricopa.gov/COVIDRentHelp)
  - Just covers rent, not mortgages
  - This is not available for Phoenix or Mesa residents since they have their own CARES act monies
  - Rocio: is that page info in Spanish? A: if you go to the Community Action Offices, call one of those numbers for your region where you live and ask
  - 2-1-1 can go for utility, housing assistance, talk to a live person, 24/7 now. It is the conduit to get to the crisis counseling program in their region, also statewide
  - Also [www.findhelpphx.org](http://www.findhelpphx.org) or [www.encuentraayudaphx.org](http://www.encuentraayudaphx.org)
  - [www.211arizona.org](http://www.211arizona.org)
  - [www.resilientarizona.org](http://www.resilientarizona.org)
  
- **September Flu Clinics**
  - We want to vaccinate as many people as possible so we don't have hospitals battling flu and COVID-19 at the same time
  - If you're interested in hosting flu clinics, please let me know
  - We'll be working with schools, churches, child care, and this Building Bridges to health network especially if you serve high risk groups like food banks, shelters, consulates
  - Still follow social distancing guidelines
  - Our children's immunization clinics will still be vaccinating for flu for kids 0-19

- These vaccines we're talking about will be for adults, and possibly children as well at these special clinics
- Chicanos por la causa might have capacity for this

- **Mask Distribution Update**

- Not everyone received their masks they signed up for yet
- We're looking into what happened with the vendor currently, may reach out with questions
- Everyone who ordered adult masks should have them now
- Children's masks were delayed greatly and will be sent out next week
- Keogh got their adult masks
- Guatemalan Consulate received theirs, so did Consulate of Mexico
- Sharon J got the adult masks, giving them out on Saturday on monthly food pantries
- **Please fill out this survey *after* you get your masks and preferably after distributing <https://forms.gle/AbDn754Zo5KRTbhY9> - results going right to Jhoana**
- **Please send Jhoana photos** by email of you giving out the face masks, or even in the boxes after you receive them...we want to create an album of community receiving the face masks
- Catholic Diocese got theirs, still giving out the masks
- Red Cross did not get masks

## **Maricopa County COVID-19 Testing Available**

**Jhoana Molina,**  
Media & Community Relations  
Coordinator, MCDPH

- Who can get tested, where, how, hours
- Free? What people need to bring
  - Maricopa County contracted with vendors to provide testing in the community
  - Some are closed to the public, but they are for hard to reach populations
  - Valle del Sol, Equality Health, Southwellness, Native Health
  - Visit [www.maricopa.gov/Covid19Testing](http://www.maricopa.gov/Covid19Testing) or [www.maricopa.gov/Covid19Pruebas](http://www.maricopa.gov/Covid19Pruebas) for upcoming testing and locations this month
  - Interactive map, tells you if it is free, is it indoor or drive through, appointment required?
  - Next up is Saturday, 8/22 from 8am-2pm in Tolleson by Southwellness  
<https://www.southwellnesscovidtest.com/home-espaol>
  - Many more events scheduled (mostly Central Phoenix and West Valley) through September
  - 2-1-1 is helping us direct people to closest testing

## **Announcements**

**All**

- **Excessive Heat Warning through today at 8pm**
  - Heat tips and shelter maps: [www.heataz.org](http://www.heataz.org) or [www.caloraz.org](http://www.caloraz.org)
  - We partner with MAG who puts together a map of emergency heat relief shelters where people can go to cool off and get some water

- There are also water donation spots as well
- Heat-related illnesses page, other tips to stay cool, heat statistics and energy assistance program information
- **Questions about September Preparedness and Wellness Expo**
  - Due to pandemic, we cannot hold same thing
  - Working with Spanish media to work on a virtual type of event for Spanish speakers, promote flu vaccinations, COVID-19 testing
  - Offering mammograms, done through mobile coach – about 100 mammograms during month of September
  - If you're interested, or hosting a flu clinic, we will promote your events at those town halls
  - Wanted to see if Red Cross

### **Social Media Messaging from Maricopa County Public Health**

- We use these channels every day to post the numbers and post information because it is changing so much
  - Facebook:
    - English: [www.Facebook.com/MCDPH](http://www.Facebook.com/MCDPH)
    - Spanish: [www.Facebook.com/SaludPublicaMaricopa](http://www.Facebook.com/SaludPublicaMaricopa)
  - Twitter:
    - English: [www.twitter.com/MaricopaHealth](http://www.twitter.com/MaricopaHealth)
    - Spanish: <http://www.twitter.com/Saludmaricopa>
  - **COVID-19 Social media toolkit with graphics** you can use (English and Spanish) at <https://www.maricopa.gov/CovidToolkit>

***Adjourn – Our next Teleconference Call will be on August 27, 2020 at 10:30AM-11:30AM***

**All minutes are posted by date in both the *Calendar* and the *Meetings* pages of the website [BuildingBridgesToHealth.org](http://BuildingBridgesToHealth.org) (our group website!)**