



MEMORANDUM
HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES
ADMINISTRATIVE SERVICES
County of Placer

TO: Board of Supervisors

DATE: October 6, 2020

FROM: Robert L. Oldham, MD, MSHA, Director of Health and Human Services

SUBJECT: Health and Human Services COVID-19 Response Update

ACTION REQUESTED

Receive an update from the Placer County Director of Health and Human Services and Interim Health Officer on the Health and Human Services Department's response to the COVID-19 pandemic and its comprehensive health, economic, and social impacts.

BACKGROUND

Since the Novel Coronavirus (COVID-19) emerged and Placer County identified its first cases in early March of 2020, the Health and Human Services Department has been central to the county's COVID-19 response. The Public Health Division has been at the epicenter of the COVID response through activities such as conducting case investigation and contact tracing, performing data analysis, providing support for congregate settings, and providing consultation and technical assistance to schools and businesses regarding state COVID-related guidance. However, other HHS divisions – including the Adult System of Care; Children's System of Care; Human Services; Environmental Health and Animal Services; and Administration – and the Placer County residents these divisions serve have also been significantly impacted by the pandemic. In addition to the negative health consequences of COVID infection on many Placer County residents, the pandemic has also had a significant impact on the economic and social fabric of our community. Economic and social challenges can also have a profound impact on health. All HHS Divisions have significantly augmented and adapted services to meet evolving community needs in response to the COVID pandemic.

As of this writing on Sept. 29, there have been 3,596 laboratory-confirmed cases of COVID and 45 deaths of Placer County residents due to COVID. While Placer County's testing positivity rate has significantly decreased to 3.10%, there has been a slight increase in the adjusted case rate to 4.53 cases per 100,000 residents. As a result, Placer County continues to be assigned by the state to the red tier of California's Blueprint for a Safer Economy, with the associated business and activity restrictions. HHS will continue to encourage Placer County residents and businesses to take steps to help decrease the spread of COVID in Placer County.

FISCAL IMPACT

Potential fiscal impact projections related to COVID-19 were shared during the FY 2019-20 3rd Quarter Fiscal Update before the Board on April 21, 2020.

