

PUBLIC HEALTH SERVICES

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PRESS RELEASE

San Benito County Hosts No-Cost COVID-19 Testing

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

May 7, 2020

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San Benito County, CA- Following Governor Gavin Newsom's recent announcement to add more than 80 community COVID-19 testing sites across the state focused on underserved communities, the State of California has selected San Benito County as a no-cost COVID-19 testing site. Residents can get tested for COVID-19 at the Veteran's Memorial Building, located at 649 San Benito Street in Hollister. Hours for testing will be Sunday through Thursday, 8:00am-8:00pm.

This testing site will be powered through a partnership with OptumServe, a federal government health services business. OptumServe has extensive expertise in rapidly deploying and setting up health care services and has worked closely with the military (under the leadership of former Army Surgeon General and retired Lieutenant General Patty Horoho, RN).

Testing will be available to all residents with a focus, but not limited to underserved populations, healthcare employees, essential workers and those over 60 years of age and those with chronic illnesses **by appointment only**. Appointments are available by calling 888-634-1123 or going online at https://lhi.care/covidtesting. There will be no medical assessments done at the testing site. Please call your medical provider if you feel unwell or think you have symptoms of illness.

"This testing site will help San Benito County dramatically increase testing for some of our most at-risk community members – our healthcare and other essential workers," said David Ghilarducci, M.D., San Benito County Health Officer.

"Thanks to San Benito County and to OptumServe for the collaboration to make these testing sites possible," said Charity Dean, M.D., Assistant Director of the California Department of Public Health.

For additional information on COVID-19 testing go to:

- <u>Governor Newsom announcement</u> to expand community testing in under-served areas
- http://www.optumserve.com
- http://hhsa.cosb.us/publichealth/

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