



## **News from the Emergency Management Committee Chair (11/19/21)**

### **Newsom Extends COVID Emergency Rules**

[CalMatters reports](#) last week, Governor Gavin Newsom issued an executive order that extends certain portions of his [March 4, 2020 emergency proclamation](#) through March 31, 2022 – raising questions about what conditions would prompt Newsom or state lawmakers to phase out the emergency powers that have shaped Californians’ lives for nearly two years and affected more than 400 laws and regulations.

In extending California’s ability to hire out-of-state health care workers and waive certain licensing requirements, among other things, Newsom cited “the potential beginning of a news surge in COVID-19 cases” and “short-staffed and backlogged” health care facilities. It is a rationale similar to the one given in June, when he said he would keep California’s state of emergency in place even as the economy fully reopened: “This disease has not been extinguished.”

To read the full executive order that was issued last week, [click here](#).

### **Here is How Close California, Other States are to Being Vaccinated against COVID-19**

[KTLA 5 reports](#) in December, it will be one year since the first COVID vaccine was administered in the United States. Now, it is time to do a progress check.

While many health experts are moving away from the idea of herd immunity, vaccinating against COVID-19 is still the best way to protect people from the virus, they say – especially when it comes to serious and deadly cases.

The states with the highest percentage of fully vaccinated people are some of the smallest, including Connecticut, Rhode Island and Vermont. States in the rural West and the South have some of the lowest vaccination rates. West Virginia has the lowest rate of all 50 states, with just 41% of its population fully vaccinated.

The full article includes a complete list of vaccination rates provided by the New York Time’s COVID-19 tracking project, using data from the CDC. To view these statistics, [click here](#).

### **Despite Decrease in COVID Hospitalizations, Central Valley Hospitals are Packed Full**

[YourCentralValley.com reports](#) that despite the recent decrease in COVID-related hospitalizations in Tulare and Fresno County over the last week, officials say hospitals are still packed.

Since November 3, COVID-related hospitalizations in Fresno County are down 11%.

Since November 2, COVID-related hospitalizations decreased by nearly 14%.

“It is great to see those COVID numbers going down a little bit but unfortunately there is a lot of other sick people,” said Central California Emergency Medical Services Coordinator Dale Dotson.

Chief Medical Officer Water Egerton said the COVID cases at St. Agnes are severe. “The patients that we are seeing are sick,” said Egerton. “They are sick. We have a significant number of COVID patients that are requiring intensive care.”

Dotson says even though the number of people with COVID being treated in hospitals is going down, the number of non-COVID hospitalizations is up.

A couple of weeks ago, Tulare, Kern, and Fresno Counties reinstated assess and refer for ambulances due to the high number of hospitalizations.

The policy has EMTs assess each patient and will turn people away if they determine the call is not an emergency. “I don’t see us changing the policy,” said Dotson. “At least right now. We will continue to reevaluate it again the first part of next week and see where we are at.”

On November 3, Kaweah Health in Visalia called a code triage, which essentially declares an internal disaster due to the high number of patients waiting for a bed.

On the fifth, it was called off. Kaweah Health Nursing Department Vice President Keri Noeski said the hospital is still operating at about 101% capacity.

“Resources are stretched very thin,” said Noeski. “While I know that people don’t see it in their day to day like we do, it is a reality for people who want to access healthcare that the more patients that we have in the hospital with COVID, the harder it will be for the people to access healthcare.”

The state has supplied several valley hospitals with additional staff to help with the surge and has extended those contracts until the end of November.

Official advice patients that are turned away from the ambulances to call back if conditions worsen and they will be reassessed.

### **CA Deploys Nurses to Kaweah Health as Visalia Hospital Sits at 106% Capacity, Driven by Unvaccinated Patients**

[\*The Visalia Times Delta reports\*](#) Kaweah Health called off its Code Triage after reinforcements from the California Department of Public Health arrived to bolster the struggling hospital staff.

The hospital had declared an “internal disaster” on November 3 after its emergency department saw more than 100 patients waiting for treatment and hospital beds. It was the second time in three months Kaweah had initiated an emergency response due to a shortage of beds and staff.

The relatively small Visalia hospital is treating more COVID-19 patient than any other in California, stretching Tulare County’s healthcare infrastructure thin as nurses and medical staff contend with burnout and low morale amid an ongoing delta variant surge that has no end in sight.

While three federally authorized COVID-19 vaccines have brought relief to hospitals in other regions of the state, vaccine hesitancy remains high in Central California. Tulare County Ranks 45 out of the state's 58 counties with just 47% of residents vaccinated.

More populous regions of the state with higher vaccination rates have seen far lower COVID hospitalizations.

As of Tuesday, Kaweah Health was treating 366 patients and was at 106% capacity. Of those, 93 were COVID patients and 24 were in the ICU.

Once COVID patients reach the hospital's ICU and require intubation, survival rates are low, ranging from 30% to 40%, according to Keri Noeske, Kaweah Health vice president and chief nursing officer. Tulare County recently surpassed a thousand COVID-related deaths.

"While patients with COVID represent less than a third of our total patients they are having a tremendous impact on the healthcare system and it's something that really could be avoided," CEO Gary Herbst said in a statement. "We've seen how effective vaccinations are in keeping patients out of the hospital and 90 to 95 percent of our inpatients with COVID are unvaccinated.

"I just imagine what our condition would be like if we did not have those 105 patients with COVID needing hospitalized care right now."

While the hospital remains full or above capacity, Herbst said additional staffing from the state will help relieve the stressed hospital, especially in the ICU.

State health officials said they are committed to ensuring that hospitals have the resources needed to serve patients in the San Joaquin Valley and across California.

"Throughout the COVID-19 pandemic, the state's top priority has always been to ensure all Californians have access to top-quality health care in order to help save lives," a CDPH spokesperson said in an email to the Times-Delta. "Throughout the COVID-19 pandemic, the state's top priority has always been to ensure all Californians have access to top-quality health care in order to help save lives."

For further details on what the Kaweah staff and patients are experiencing, [visit the full article](#).

### **Booster Shot Confusion as California Goes Against Current CDC and FDA Recommendations**

[CBS KCAL 9 Los Angeles](#) reports as families across the southland prepare to ring a second holiday season during a pandemic, the state of California is now suggesting that everyone who is vaccinated against COVID-19 should also get a booster shot.

California is one of the states seeing the highest number of new COVID infections, promoting health officials to issue stern warnings.

The Governor visited the Central Valley on Tuesday to promote the state's new guidelines on COVID-19 booster shots.

"Anyone who wants a booster can get a booster should. If you have been vaccinated and it has been six months, now you can get a booster shot, 18 and over," he said.

This goes against the CDC and FDA, which said last month that only seniors and adults at high risk should get boosters. Some say boosters are a necessary step in beating back the pandemic, pointing to data that shows protection from the COVID-19 vaccines wanes months after a person's last dose.

"This is the right policy," Dr. Argus. "I believe in it. I think the data initially out of Israel and now out of the United States certainly makes sense to do this."

However, California's expanded eligibility for booster shots has led to some confusion, with some saying they have tried to schedule booster appointments, but are still being told they are ineligible.

An Orange County resident, Doeding said as of Tuesday afternoon, he still could not get a booster.

Dr. Argus said that with the Delta variant, people need a significantly higher level of immunity for protection. "So, in order to get that high level of immunity, you need a booster shot," he said.

There is still no timeline on when the FDA might amend its emergency use authorization to make all adults eligible for a COVID-19 booster shot across the U.S., mirroring what California has done, but a spokesperson for the administration said it is a high priority issue.

### **Los Angeles Will Not Lift COVID Masking or Vaccination Restrictions by End of Year, Says Top Health Official**

[Deadline reports](#), "we will not reach the 80% threshold by the beginning of the year," said Los Angeles County Health Director Barbara Ferrer today about the county's vaccination progress. She then noted, "this is one of the 4 measures we must meet to lift restrictions." Translation: L.A.'s indoor public masking and vaccination requirements will be in place until at least the start of 2022.

Ferrer's appraisal comes just one day after Governor Newsom extended California's COVID-related state of emergency through March 2022, by which time it will have been in effect over two years. It also comes one day after the AMPTP and Hollywood's unions extended the agreement covering COVID-19 safety protocols through January 15, 2022. Moreover, it comes as case numbers in Los Angeles have bounced up and down, but generally trended up.

Noting year-over-year declines in daily case numbers (from 2,152 to 1,344) and hospitalization (from 903 to 633), the public health director said the numbers remain too high, and the daily report of virus-related deaths (22 vs. 25) remains almost identical to last year.

What is more, while 95% of L.A. County can now get vaccinated, the percentage of fully vaccinated residents is just 63%. While there has been a bump in both booster shots and first doses (the latter likely due to recent approval for kids ages 5-11), the number of second doses remains static. That means the new number of people becoming fully vaccinated weekly as well. It stands at 44,000/week, according to LACPH numbers announced today.

Ferrer said today that 80% of the eligible population needs to be vaccinated for L.A. County to clear one of four hurdles (there are actually five listed in the health officer order) set forth for lifting the current mandates for masks and vaccine verification in indoor public spaces.

Based on current modeling, Ferrer said the county would need to be fully inoculating 70,000 residents a week to clear the vaccination threshold set forth in the county health officer's order by January 1. And that estimate is based on a smaller pool of residents over 12 years old, not the larger pool of residents ages five and up, which is now eligible.

Ferrer also did not indicate what the numerical thresholds are for satisfying the remaining four measures outlined in the health officer order. Without clear thresholds, it is hard to know how far Angelenos are from getting restrictions lifted.

The considerations for lifting masking and vaccination-verification restrictions in the current L.A. County health officer order include, "but are not limited to," the following:

1. The number of hospitalizations, new cases and deaths among/in underserved communities
2. The case rate
3. Test positivity rate
4. The percentage of county residents vaccinated and the availability of doses
5. The number of fully-vaccinated people who get sick, are hospitalized, or die from COVID

The order says County Health Officer Dr. Muntu Davis "will continue monitoring epidemiological data and assess the impact of lifting restrictions and fully re-open sectors.

The rolling average daily rate of people testing positive for the virus remains low, at 0.98%. It was over 1% as recently as last week and 5.6% at this time last year.

The county's cumulative seven-day case rate, as estimated by the CDC, has risen to 98 cases per 100,000 residents, according to Ferrer. That number was in the mid-70s two week.

At 98 cases per 100,000 residents, the county is on the verge of being moved out of the CDC's "substantial" transmission category to the "widespread" category, which also puts it further from lifting restrictions.

L.A. County's mask order, which went into effect on July 18 of this year, "requires face masks to be worn by all person, regardless of vaccination status while in all indoor public settings and businesses."

The vaccination mandate requires that most every indoor public space in Los Angeles – including movie theaters, concert venues, indoor restaurants, gyms, bars, large outdoor events and some city buildings – requires proof of full vaccination.

Both mandates are to be verified by the venues, with warnings and then escalating penalties for not doing such.

### **Abuse of the System? San Jose Officials Defend Using Emergency Alerts for Vaccine Information**

[The Mercury News reports](#) on a recent weekday, Linda Cain was driving along Highway 237 with her husband when suddenly their cell phones simultaneously began blaring.

The 77-year-old Sunnyvale resident assumed it was an Amber Alert or warning of an impending natural disaster. However, when she glanced down at her phone, she instead saw information about a small pop-up vaccination clinic in San Jose – miles away from where she lives.

“It’s scary when you get an alert like that,” said Cain, who was fully vaccinated months earlier. “If it is a real emergency, I understand. But this had no effect on us whatsoever.”

Since May, the city of San Jose has been using wireless emergency alerts to disseminate information about vaccination clinics in parts of the city with disproportionately low vaccination rates. Instead of specifically notifying residents in neighborhoods surrounding the clinic, these geographically targeted alerts have gone out to thousands of people with cell phones both inside and outside of San Jose city limits.

The Wireless Emergency Alerts program, which is run by FEMA, the Federal Communications Commission and wireless providers, is intended to give authorities across the nation an easy way to deliver critical information to enhance public safety. It allows cities like San Jose to send out short emergency messages, broadcast from cell towers, to any alert-enabled cell phone in a certain area.

Just like an Amber Alert, these messages pop up on the home screen of a cell phone and are accompanied by a loud screeching sound and vibration, both repeating twice.

While cities and counties use the system to send out emergency information about floods, wildfires and other natural or human-made disasters like gas leaks, San Jose is one of only about half a dozen jurisdictions in California that have taken the unconventional step of using it to push out information about vaccination clinics.

That decision by the city’s top emergency management officials has drawn the ire of San Jose residents and those living in neighboring cities who feel like it is a misuse of the emergency alert system.

“I get the importance of vaccinations, but this is not an appropriate localized use,” said Jason Sholl, a 41-year-old San Jose resident. “They’ve abused it.”

San Jose has sent out about 21 alerts this year — more than the previous four years combined — and most of those messages have been about a single, one-day vaccination clinic.

Fed up with the broad alerts they say don’t apply to them, Sholl and others have gone into their phone settings to turn off the alerts, despite the potential risk of missing emergency information that could more directly affect them.

“That is a risk that I just have to understand is in my hands,” Sholl said, adding that he still receives push notifications from other sources such as news stations and weather apps.

In light of revelations that the vaccination rollout was [lagging in certain areas of San Jose](#), especially in neighborhoods of predominantly Latino residents, city officials last spring began using the wireless cellular alert system to reach residents who may not have access to the internet and are harder to reach through more typical awareness campaigns.

When verifying with FEMA and the state’s Office of Emergency Services that it was an acceptable use of the system, city officials were informed that four other cities and counties in



California were already using it for the same purpose. Those jurisdictions are Imperial County, Costa Mesa, Long Beach and Los Angeles.

So far, San Jose officials say the approach has yielded positive results.

### **Pfizer Seeks FDA Approval for COVID-19 Pill Regimen, Strikes Global Manufacturing Deal**

[\*The Washington Post reports\*](#) pharmaceutical giant Pfizer requested emergency authorization Tuesday for Paxlovid, a five-day antiviral pill regimen the company found to reduce the risk of hospitalization or death by 89 percent.

The announcement comes as COVID-19 cases increase in many parts of the country; raising fears among public health officials that a fifth case surge could hit the nation during the winter. If authorized, the drug could help stave off hospitalizations and deaths that are already overwhelming hospitals in states such as Colorado and Minnesota.

With its promising findings, Pfizer agreed to a license-sharing deal that would allow its experimental COVID-19 drug to be manufactured more widely across the globe, giving more than half of the world's population access to the treatment, the company said.

The Biden Administration is expected to announce this week that it is purchasing 10 million doses of the Pfizer antiviral pill in a bid to add another tool in their pandemic response as the country heads into colder months.

### **Rural County Representatives of California Reports U.S. Senator Alex Padilla Introduces Bills to Reform Federal Wildfires Disaster Response**

[\*The Sierra Sun Times reports\*](#) The Rural County Representatives of California (RCRC) reports Senator Alex Padilla has introduced two bills to “redesign the federal government’s response to wildfires and provide additional resources to ensure equity for communities experiencing natural disasters.”

The first is the *FIRE Act*, which would make several changes to the *Stafford Act* that governs the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) including examining ways to speed up the FEMA assistance process.

The second is the *Disaster Equity and Fairness Act*, which would ensure that FEMA’s disaster preparedness and response efforts fully addresses emergency food and water needs following a disaster.

In the Senate, the *FIRE Act* and the *Disaster Equity and Fairness Act* are co-sponsored by Senator Dianne Feinstein and in the House, the bills were introduced by Representatives Mike Thompson (D-St. Helena), Jared Huffman (D-San Rafael), and Jimmy Panetta (D-Carmel Valley).

### **People Affected by California Wildfires Given More Time to File Taxes**

[\*CPA Practice Advisor reports\*](#) wildfire victims in parts of California now have until Jan. 3, 2022, to file various individual and business tax returns and make tax payments, the Internal Revenue Service announced. Under relief provided in August, these extensions were generally due to run out on Nov. 15.

The IRS is providing this additional relief, based on the recent Federal Emergency Management Agency ([FEMA](#)) decision to end the incident period for this disaster declaration on Oct. 25. By law, the IRS must provide disaster relief until at least 60 days after the end of the FEMA-designated incident period.

Accordingly, the IRS is now providing more time to any area of California designated by FEMA for either individual or public assistance. Currently, this includes Lassen, Nevada, Placer, Plumas, Tehama and Trinity counties. Any jurisdiction added to the FEMA declaration will automatically receive the IRS relief. The current list of eligible localities is always available on the [disaster relief](#) page on IRS.gov.

This relief postpones various tax filing and payment deadlines that occurred starting on July 14, 2021. As a result, affected individuals and businesses will have until Jan. 3, 2022, to file returns and pay any taxes that were originally due during this period. This means individuals who had a valid extension to file their 2020 return that ran out on Oct. 15, 2021, will now have until Jan. 3, 2022, to file. The IRS noted, however, that because tax payments related to these 2020 returns were due on May 17, 2021, those payments are not eligible for this relief.

The Jan. 3, 2022 deadline also applies to quarterly estimated income tax payments due on Sept. 15, 2021, and the quarterly payroll and excise tax returns normally due on Aug. 2 and Nov. 1, 2021. Businesses with an original or extended due date also have the additional time including, among others, calendar-year partnerships and S corporations whose 2020 extensions ran out on Sept. 15, 2021 and calendar-year corporations whose 2020 extensions ran out on Oct. 15, 2021. It also applies to calendar-year tax-exempt organizations whose 2020 extensions run out on Nov. 15, 2021.

In addition, penalties on payroll and excise tax deposits due on or after July 14, 2021 and before July 29, will be abated as long as the deposits were made by July 29, 2021.

The IRS [disaster relief page](#) has details on other returns, payments and tax-related actions qualifying for the additional time.

### **As Drought Persists, Californians are ‘Backsliding’ in Effort to Conserve Water**

[The Los Angeles Times reports](#) state water regulators urged Californians to do more to save water after the latest monthly data showed conservation lagging in September, with statewide water use in cities and towns decreasing 3.9% compared with the same month a year ago.

The reduction in water use was smaller than in August, when Californians used 5% less.

Gov. Gavin Newsom in July called for Californians to voluntarily cut water use 15%, but the latest figures, which were released Tuesday, show much of the state remains far from that goal.

“The backsliding isn’t welcome. But it is what it is,” said Joaquin Esquivel, chair of the State Water Resources Control Board. “We need to continue to focus on conserving in this critical time during drought.”

California’s past two water years, which ended Sept. 30, were the driest two years, based on statewide precipitation, in 126 years of records. The past water year was also the second warmest on record.



Esquivel said water conservation will continue to be critical for the state, “Not just in the drought but for the long term because of climate change, because we know that we will continue to face deeper and longer droughts.”

The state’s major reservoirs in Northern California have fallen dramatically over the past two years. Even after storms drenched the state in October, the levels of the state’s reservoirs stood at just 66% of average at the end of last month.

While conservation dipped statewide, Southern California saved a bit more water in September. In the South Coast region, where more than half the state’s population lives, people used 4.2% less that month, after conserving 3.1% in August.

In the Bay Area, water use decreased 7.6%, while in the North Coast region, usage was down 12.4%. In the San Joaquin River region, water use was up slightly.

There have been steady improvements in water-savings in the South Coast region, and that response should increase after the Metropolitan Water District of Southern California declared a regional drought emergency this month, said Marielle Rhodeiro, a data specialist with the state water board.

As the weather grows cooler in the fall, water use typically decreases as people scale back outdoor watering or turn off their irrigation systems, Rhodeiro said.

“So we are not entirely surprised to see lower savings as we move into cooler weather,” Rhodeiro said. “That being said, we do need Californians to step up their conservation efforts, and we are evaluating whether to move forward with emergency regulations to prohibit certain wasteful water uses, which could help amplify drought awareness.”

For part of the last drought between 2012 and 2016, then-Gov. Jerry Brown ordered a mandatory 25% reduction in urban water use. Many Californians responded and took steps such as replacing lawns with drought-tolerant plants. Those changes have had a lasting effect in reducing water use.

“I think what we’re trying to do as a state is really set goals that we can all be reaching for around efficiency and conservation,” said state water board member Laurel Firestone.

She said everyone should help with conservation, and it is important to “make sure that people understand what an extreme drought we’re in.”

The state water board tracks monthly water use in cities and towns, while handling agricultural water deliveries differently. This summer, the board issued an emergency order barring thousands of water rights holders, including farmers and other landowners, from diverting water from the Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta watershed. State officials lifted those [water curtailments in the delta](#) last month as the rivers swelled with rains. The water cuts could be reactivated as the drought persists.

Esquivel said the state water board will be watching the conservation numbers for October to see if the drenching storms helped Californians use less.

**In a Disastrous Drought, a Grim Milestone: California Could See its First Big Reservoir Run Dry**

[The San Francisco Chronicle reports](#) Lake Mendocino, once a plentiful reservoir nourishing the vines and villas of Sonoma and Mendocino counties, today is little more than a large pond, cowering beneath the coastal hills.

The exposed and cracked mud on the reservoir's floor, as much as the wildfire that burned the grassy lake bed last summer, is the very portrait of drought. Few places in California have been hit as hard by the two-year dry spell as this sprawling stretch of Wine Country.

Tens of thousands of people who rely on the reservoir, between Healdsburg and the Ukiah Valley, in the upper Russian River watershed, have endured months of painful water restrictions. Households have been forced to cut back as much as 50%, while grape growers have sometimes gotten no water at all. The hardship may soon get worse.

State officials warn that Lake Mendocino could be the first major reservoir in modern times to go dry. While rain over the past few weeks has lifted the lake above its October low, the reservoir, a few miles northeast of Ukiah, remains at less than 20% capacity. Officials worry that the looming wet winter season will not bring enough inflow to meet next year's water demands.

"This is a real concern, and one that we need to start looking at," said Erik Ekdahl, a deputy director at the State Water Resources Control Board. "We really can't have a scenario where a whole gigantic population runs out of water."

Gov. Gavin Newsom visited Lake Mendocino in April to declare California's first drought emergency. The water situation, the product not only of little rain but also of warm, dehydrating temperatures in the face of climate change, has just deteriorated since.

The region's water managers recently learned that a nearby Pacific Gas and Electric hydroelectric plant that supplies about 30% of the reservoir's water is offline for at least 18 months because of a faulty electric transformer. The out-of-service Potter Valley Project, which gets water from a neighboring watershed, will send only minimal flows to the lake in the meantime.

Should the reservoir dry up — once unthinkable — many of the basin's cities and towns served by the lake or the upper Russian River, where the reservoir collects and releases its flows, have no significant backup.

To read more on this issue, [visit the full article](#).

### **IYCFI: Funding Opportunities Ending Soon**

- **GFO-21-503 – Examining the Effects of Hydrogen in End-Use Appliances for Large Commercial Buildings and Industrial Applications;** *energy*
  - Funded by: CA Energy Commission
  - Deadline: **Monday, November 22, 2021**
  - Total estimated funding: \$1.5 million
  - Full grant guidelines: [linked here](#)
    - Online application: [linked here](#)
- **FY21-23 Immigration Services Funding RFA;** *disadvantaged communities; health & human services*
  - Funded by: Department of Social Services
  - Deadline: **Tuesday, November 23, 2021**

- Total estimated funding: \$35.2 million
- **Full grant guidelines**: [linked here](#)
- **2021-22 Intimate Partner Violence Prevention (FD) Program RFP**; *consumer protection; disadvantaged communities; health & human services; law, justice, and legal services*
  - Funded by: Governor’s Office of Emergency Services (CalOES)
  - Deadline: **Tuesday, November 23, 2021**
  - Total estimated funding: \$1,006,030
  - **Full grant guidelines**: [linked here](#)

## Funding Opportunities

### Veterans Support to Self-Reliance

[The California Department of Veterans Affairs \(CalVet\)](#) is announcing the availability of approximately \$3 million to provide consultation, administrative support, and technical assistance to CalVet for the Veteran Support to Self-Reliance Pilot Grant Program. The successful Proposer will provide clear and convincing evidence of adequate personnel and organizational capacity to effectively carry out a contract of this scope and magnitude.

This Pilot seeks to discover the size and scope of resources needed to fill the gap of supportive services for veterans aged 55 and over.

Aging veterans with high acuity express physical and mental frailties beyond their age— their military service and housing scarcity in California being main contributing factors. They are at risk of losing housing due to mental health needs, behavioral health risks, and inability to maintain habitability, hoarding, and hygiene; and/or premature or preventable need for skilled nursing care.

The Pilot will demonstrate improvement of health and wellness for aging veteran residents of veteran PSH locations through enhanced supportive services in the following areas:

1. Skilled nursing care
2. care
3. Line-in aides
4. Board and Care
5. Medication management

The Pilot will also demonstrate that with these enhanced supportive services, and within the construct of Housing First and evidence-based practices, that aging veterans experiencing Chronic Homelessness will be able to age in place and enjoy the stable and thriving quality of life that they deserve.

In the first year, CalVet will initiate the RFP process to select one organization to provide Pilot design and technical assistance to PSH programs who receiving housing support through federal, state or local resources. The selected organization shall have experience working with veterans experiencing chronic homelessness, and provided services should include physical and mental health care, as well as social services to help veterans navigate to programs to help them with their individual needs.

Over the course of three years, the Grantee will provide administrative and technical assistance to CalVet in implementing competitive grants available to organizations that provide Permanent Supportive Housing for the purpose of enhanced Supportive Services. This Pilot may provide for emergency or long-term housing support and medical and psychological evaluation and assistance as well as counseling and vocational assistance.

Implementation of this Grant will require ongoing reporting, meetings, and updates between the Grantee and the CalVet.

The deadline to apply for this funding is **Wednesday, December 1, 2021**. Total estimated funding available is \$3 million. To view the full grant guidelines, [click here](#).

### **Building Resilient Infrastructure and Communities (BRIC) and Flood Mitigation Assistance (FMA) 2021**

[The Governor's Office of Emergency Services](#) has created the Building Resilient Infrastructure and Communities (BRIC) will support states, local communities, tribes and territories as they undertake hazard mitigation projects, reducing the risks they face from disasters and natural hazards. FMA is authorized by Section 1366 of the National Flood Insurance Act of 1968, as amended (NFIA), 42 U.S.C. 4104c, with the goal of reducing or eliminating claims.

Cal OES BRIC Subapplication Recommendations and Funding Priorities:

Along with FEMA's NOFO guidelines, Cal OES recommends that subapplicants further consider the competitiveness of the BRIC program when proposing projects. Projects are most likely to be successful if they address one or more of the following:

High-impact, neighborhood scale, natural hazard risk reduction that mitigates risk to critical infrastructure or achieves whole community risk-reduction. Provide protection and benefits for disadvantaged communities Address climate impacts including sea level rise, drought, extreme precipitation or heat, wildfire, and/or more frequent storms (where applicable) Projects that advance climate adaptation, including through inspiring generational infrastructure change and/or by including one or more nature-based solution (NBS) are particularly encouraged. Where appropriate, subapplications should describe how the project will make the community more resilient to climate change. Address and anticipate future conditions including those related to climate, demographic, population, and/or land use changes.

Project details should include how future conditions were considered in the planning, design, and operation stages and how the project will help communities better respond to these conditions. Include unique or innovative partnerships such as public-private partnerships

FEMA details six qualitative criteria in the Notice of Funding Opportunity. Subapplicants should explicitly address each in their scope of work.

Eligible applicants include business, nonprofit, public agencies, and tribal governments.

The deadline to apply is **Wednesday, December 1, 2021**. Total estimated funding available is \$1.16 billion. To view the full grant guidelines, [click here](#). To view the online application, [click here](#).

## **2021-22 Electronic Suspected Child Abuse Reporting System (ES) Program RFP**

[The Governor's Office of Emergency Services](#) has created the ES Program to improve the system of sharing information for suspected child abuse cases by establishing an electronic Suspected Child Abuse Report (SCAR) system that will be used by district attorney offices, local law enforcement, and county child welfare services departments.

To be eligible to receive funds Applicants must be a county district attorney's office and must have cooperative participation with their county child welfare services department and local law enforcement agencies. Counties that already have an electronic SCAR system are not eligible.

The deadline to apply for this funding is **Friday, December 10, 2021**. Total estimated funding is \$600k. To view the full grant guidelines, [click here](#).