



News from the Emergency Management Committee Chair (12/17/21)

COVID Death Toll in U.S. Hits 800,000 to Close Out Year

[*CBS Sacramento reports*](#) the U.S. hit another depressing pandemic milestone – 800,000 deaths.

It is a sad coda to a year that held so much promise with the arrival of vaccines but is ending in heartbreak for the many grieving families trying to navigate the holiday season

California accounts for more than 5,177,000 cases and more than 75,000 deaths.

The year began with the COVID-19 death toll at about 350,000 in the U.S., at a time when the country was in the throes of a winter surge so bad that patients were lined up in emergency room hallways waiting for beds.

But vaccines were just being rolled out, and sports stadiums and fairgrounds were quickly transformed into mass vaccination sites. Case numbers began falling. By spring, nearly all schools had reopened and communities were shedding mask orders. TV newscasters began talking cheerfully about a post-pandemic world. President Joe Biden proclaimed the Fourth of July holiday as a celebration of the nation's freedom from the virus.

It did not last long. The delta variant struck just as vaccination rates were stalling amid a wave of misinformation, devastating poorly immunized portions of the Midwest and South. Hospitals brought back mobile morgues and opened up their pocketbooks in a desperate bid to attract enough nurses to care for the sick.

Now, as the year ends, the dealt variant is fueling another wave of hospitalizations, court battles are brewing over vaccine mandates and fresh questions are swirling about the new omicron variant.

California Brings Back Mask Mandate During Holiday Season as Virus Cases Rise

[*PBS News Hour reports*](#) California is bringing back a rule requiring people to wear masks indoors, a move aimed at containing a new type of the coronavirus as people gather with family and friends during the holidays.

Governor Newsom's administration announced the new mandate will start Wednesday and last until Jan. 15. The order comes as the per capita rate of new coronavirus cases in California has jumped 47 percent in the past two weeks.

“We know people are tired and hungry for normalcy. Frankly, I am too,” California Health and Human Services Secretary Dr. Mark Ghaly said Monday. “That said, this is a critical time where we have a tool that we know has worked and can work.”

California lifted its statewide mask mandate on June 15 for people who were vaccinated, a date Newsom heralded as the state’s grand reopening. However, since then, county governments covering about half of the state’s population have imposed their own indoor mask mandates as case rates surged with new variants.

The new mask mandate will cover everyone else, but state officials on Monday were unclear about how it would be enforced. Ghaly said enforcement would likely be stronger in some places than others, but he urged Californians to heed the warnings and wear masks.

Newsom has issued many other coronavirus mandates, including requiring state employees, health care workers and, soon, public school students and teachers to be vaccinated. The governor can do this because California is still operating under an emergency declaration Newsom issued at the beginning of the pandemic. That emergency declaration will remain in place until either Newsom lifts it or the state Legislature votes to end it.

California joins other states with similar indoor mask mandates, including Washington, Oregon, Illinois, New Mexico, Nevada, Hawaii and New York. Nevertheless, other Democratic governors have resisted new restrictions, including Gov. Jared Polis of Colorado who told Colorado Public Radio last week that “The emergency is over” and “public health (officials) don’t get to tell people what to wear.”

State officials are afraid of a repeat of last winter, when the state averaged more than 100 cases per 100,000 people during a monster winter surge of the virus when nearly 20,000 people died during an eight-week period.

However, that surge was before vaccines were available. Today, more than 70 percent of California’s residents who are eligible have been fully vaccinated against the coronavirus. Even with the recent increase in cases, the state is averaging a little more than 14 cases per day per 100,000 people.

Even so, Ghaly said hospitals in several counties with low vaccination rates are still struggling with lots of patients, including parts of Southern California in Riverside, San Bernardino, Mono and Inyo counties. Ghaly warned coronavirus hospitalizations often increase in the weeks following a jump in new cases.

California also is tightening existing testing requirements by ordering unvaccinated people attending indoor events of 1,000 people or more to have a negative test within one or two days, depending on the type of test. The state also is recommending travelers who visit or return to California to be tested within five days of their arrival.

COVID-19 Updates: ‘No Need for Variant-Specific Booster’ at this Point, Fauci Says

[USA Today reports](#) the omicron variant compromises the effects of a two-dose vaccine, but boosters are a successful tool to quell the latest, fast-spreading COVID-19 threat, Dr. Anthony Fauci said Wednesday.

“At this point there is no need for a variant-specific booster,” Fauci said at a press briefing of the White House COVID Response Team.

Fauci’s comments come as the nation struggles with a stubborn pandemic showing little sign of weakening. Dr. Rochelle Walensky, director of the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, announced that hospitalizations averaged 7,800 per day, up 7.7% over the previous week, and that daily deaths averaged about 1,100 per day, an increase of about 5%.

Walensky said the omicron variant has now been reported in at least 36 states and 75 countries. Asked about recommendations for the holidays, she said Americans must be vigilant about masking in public and indoor settings in areas of high public transmission – now seen in about 90% of counties.

Fauci, Walensky and Jeff Zients, who heads the Biden Administration effort, pressed their recurring theme of vaccination. Zients said the latest data shows unvaccinated Americans are eight times more likely to be hospitalized due to the coronavirus and 14 times more likely to die than vaccinated people.

COVID is Driving a Children’s Mental Health Emergency

[The Scientific American reports](#) when COVID shut down life as usual in the spring of 2020, most physicians in the U.S. focused on the immediate physical dangers from the novel coronavirus. Soon after, pediatrician Nadine Burke Harris began thinking of COVID’s longer-term emotional damage and those who would be especially vulnerable: children. “The pandemic is a massive stressor,” explains Burke Harris, who is California’s surgeon general. “Then you have kids at home from school, economic hardship, and folks not being able to socialize.” These stresses could be particularly toxic for children, she and another state health official wrote to health providers in April 2020. Last week, U.S. Surgeon General Vivek Murthy [issued a similar warning about children](#) for the entire country.

The toxicity has become all too real after 20 months, driven by not just disarray but death as well. As of this past June, more than 140,000 children lost a close caregiver – such as a parent – to COVID, according to research published in the journal *Pediatrics*. Since 2019, there has been a rise in suicide attempts among people younger than age 18, researchers at the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention found when they examined mental-health-related emergency room visits during the past three years. And a study of pediatric insurance claims filed between January and November 2020, conducted by the nonprofit FAIR Health, found a sharp increase in mental-health-related problems, especially generalized anxiety disorder, major depressive disorder and intentional self-harm. These and other distressing trends recently led the American Academy of Pediatrics and two other health organizations to declare that children’s mental health is currently a national emergency.

Burke Harris says those patterns arise from what pediatric health specialists term adverse childhood experiences (ACEs). These events include 10 types of specific traumas that range from direct abuse and neglect to overall household dysfunction. The adverse experiences activate the brain’s fight-or-flight system – a normal response to an immediate physical danger such as a bear rushing at you. However, “what happens when the bear comes every night?” Burke Harris asks. Because adverse events put children in prolonged and repeated danger, it extends their stress response and creates damage.

When COVID disrupted the routine and resources that school and afterschool care ordinarily provide, many children were left to face ongoing hazards at home, including parental issues such as intimate partner violence and substance misuse. Both of these problems significantly rose during the pandemic, according to researchers.

As the pandemic wore on, California, guided by Burke Harris's warnings, took some action to protect its children. This October, the state legislature passed the ACEs Equity Act, a first-in-the-nation law requiring insurance that covers preventative care and pediatric services to also cover in-depth screenings for adverse events. And, since January 2020, California's ACEs Aware initiative has been educating clinicians about nonmedical interventions available to patients facing adverse events, and the state's Medicaid program has paid eligible providers \$29 per screening. Such regular screenings – which involve asking intimate questions in a nonthreatening and supportive manner – are linked to a variety of positive health outcomes. A recent literature review found patients associate these screenings with greater trust in their doctors. And clinicians say the screenings help them identify social factors that influence health, which allows them to offer care that is more effective.

To read more on this issue, how California's ACEs Equity Act is helping families move forward, and how other states are working to solve mental health disparities, [visit the full article](#).

'Storm of the Season' Dumps Record-Breaking Rainfall on SoCal and Snow in the Mountains

[The Los Angeles Times reports](#) the [most significant storm of the season](#) arrived in Southern California on Tuesday with a wallop — snarling traffic, delivering gusty winds and dropping a steady deluge of record-breaking rain and snow across the region.

Despite the headaches storms bring to a region where the sun shines most days, the weather system marked a meaningful change for drought-parched California, which has in recent months seen snowpack and reservoir levels dwindle to near-historic lows amid a statewide drought emergency.

The state experienced its hottest summer on record this year, while Los Angeles had no rain last month — its driest November in nearly 30 years, according to the weather service.

Officials said Tuesday's rainfall on its own will not end the drought, but it was an improvement.

By day's end, 1 to 2 inches of rain had fallen across most parts of Los Angeles, while other areas of the state received even more. Parts of Santa Barbara County saw more than 7 inches, and Woodland Hills surpassed 4 inches by noon.

The National Weather Service said the slow-moving storm broke several rainfall records for the date. With more than 2 inches of rain by noon, downtown Los Angeles far surpassed its previous Dec. 14 record of 0.96 inches set back in 1888.

By nightfall, the weather service's Oxnard office confirmed new daily records for seven locations from Los Angeles to Santa Maria, including 0.72 inches of rain in Lancaster, nearly triple the previous record of 0.25 inches in 1970; 1.29 inches at Los Angeles International Airport, smashing the 0.38-inch mark set in 1993; and 1.81 inches at Hollywood Burbank Airport, more than six times the record of 0.29 inches set in 1965.

Precipitation records for the day were also broken in Orange County, according to the weather service's San Diego office. Anaheim received 1.38 inches of rain, breaking the old record of 0.24 inches set in 2015. Santa Ana saw 1.63 inches of rain, breaking the record of 0.80 inches set in 1934.

The storm also delivered on its threat of hazards, creating a mess of the morning and afternoon commutes as crashes and road closures piled up.

Throughout the day, the weather service's advisory map was lit up with an array of alerts, including winter storm warnings, high wind warnings, flash flood watches and gale warnings off the coast.

In Sylmar, a man was swept into a small tributary of the L.A. River and carried about half a mile into a tunnel, where the Los Angeles Fire Department rescued him.

Meanwhile, multiple vehicles were reportedly swept into the river and carried downstream.

In Riverside, firefighters rescued five adults and two cats from the Santa Ana River at the Mission Inn Avenue bridge, [authorities said on Twitter](#).

In Rosemead, foam cups, paper products, two uprooted trees and other debris washed up from a swollen channel onto the Rio Hondo trail. The lowest points of the walking and bicycling path, primarily under bridges, flooded as rain fell in droves.

Reports of shallow mud and debris flows emerged from areas near wildfire burn scars, including the recent Alisal fire in Santa Barbara County and 2020's El Dorado fire in San Bernardino County. Firefighters in Orange County rescued trapped residents after the storm triggered multiple mudflows in Silverado Canyon.

To read more about how this storm affected various parts of the state, [visit the full article](#).

Highway 1 to Big Sur Will Stay Closed After Storm-Related Rockslides Block Scenic Route

[The San Luis Obispo Tribune reports](#) after more than 12 inches of rain fell in 24 hours along Highway 1 on the landslide-prone Big Sur Coast this week, it is no surprise that there was some damage to the spectacular, but often fragile, oceanfront route.

Caltrans announced Tuesday it will extend its preemptive closure of Highway 1 indefinitely while it makes repairs and conducts rock fall cleanup to the route between Ragged Point at the northern edge of San Luis Obispo County to almost 45 miles north of Deetjen's Big Sur Inn.

Caltrans temporarily closed that portion of the roadway Sunday, ahead of a winter storm that was expected to drench the region in inches of rain.

According to the Caltrans media release Tuesday, the agency has "initiated a \$1.3 million emergency contract with Papich Construction" for rock fall removal and repair of the rock fall system at Cow Cliffs, slide and debris removal at Paul's Slide and damage repairs at the Caltrans Willow Springs maintenance station.

Crews will continue to assess the stability and safety of the closure areas on a day-to-day basis during daylight hours whenever it is safe to do so, according to the release. Once Caltrans deems it safe to modify the closure parameters or reopen the road entirely, the agency will do so.

Motorists on both ends of the closure will be notified on message boards and directional signs, and barricades and cones will block access to the area.

Firefighters Rescue People Trapped by Mudslides, Flooding Throughout California

[The Sacramento Bee reports](#) heavy storms brought flooding, mudslides, and rockslides to California prompting rescues across the state.

In San Diego, two people [were swept away by floodwater](#) while trying to rescue their puppy.

Videos released by the San Mateo Consolidated Fire Department and Orange County Fire Authority on Tuesday show fast moving water as crews attempt to rescue people trapped in their homes.

Residents Allowed Back into Sacramento Senior High-Risk After Evacuation in Wake of Fire

[MSN reports](#) power was restored Wednesday at a downtown Sacramento high-rise, where scores of elderly residents were forced to evacuate the night before in the wake of a utility substation fire a block away that left hundreds of buildings downtown without electricity.

The Edgewater apartments were reopened several hours after power was reconnected around 11 a.m. Sacramento Housing and Redevelopment Agency spokeswoman Angela Jones said staff inspected the building first to make sure everything was functioning properly before residents were allowed back in by the evening.

The chain of events for the more than 150 elderly residents started Tuesday when firefighters responded around 11:45 a.m. to the fire at a Sacramento Municipal Utility District substation located at Sixth and H streets.

SMUD immediately de-energized the substation, which shut down electricity for about 1,300 SMUD customers. The outage severed power to the Edgewater and dozens of other buildings in a 12-block-by-5-block area. SMUD officials as of Wednesday said the cause of the fire is unknown and being investigated.

The utility said in a statement Tuesday night the fire did "extensive" damage to one of the three networks powered by Substation A. SMUD re-energized the other two networks Wednesday morning, restoring power for about 750 customers by 9 a.m. About 550 remained without power. SMUD officials said they expected to restore power to all customers by Friday morning.

The Sacramento Fire Department made the call around 7 p.m. Tuesday to evacuate Edgewater, a 12-story affordable housing complex for seniors operated by the Sacramento Housing and Redevelopment Agency, on the 600 block of I Street.

Fire Department spokesman Capt. Keith Wade said the decision to evacuate was made after fire personnel responded to multiple calls for service at the building and noticed that the fire suppression system was not enabled due to the lack of power.

"We are going door-to-door," he said Tuesday evening. "It's an evacuation that is not voluntarily. They have to go."

On Wednesday, Wade said there were no further mandatory evacuations at nine other downtown housing complexes that were a concern for fire officials. Residents with medical conditions were relocated as needed, and fire watches were in place to make sure the buildings were safe throughout the night.

Sacramento Fire Chief Gary Loesch said it was the first time the city has conducted an evacuation operation this large.

The Edgewater building did not have a backup generator for the fire-suppression system or for residents who require oxygen through devices that require electricity, Wade said.

Wade said firefighters grew concerned after seeing a number of residents using candles for light. The building's heating system was also offline as temperatures dropped into the 40s.

That combination could have prove hazardous, Wade said.

"We're not going to run that risk," he said.

Other parts of daily life in the city's core were affected by the outage at historic Substation A.

The outage knocked out traffic lights along I and J streets, city officials said. It also disrupted downtown light rail service, with Sacramento Regional Transit reporting various outages along its blue, gold and green lines. RT used several bus bridges for riders early Wednesday.

The incident additionally forced a pair of Sacramento County office buildings, including the courts, to stay closed to the public Wednesday morning. Those sites regained power and reopened in the afternoon.

Fire personnel and city police teamed up to move Edgewater residents to City Hall for the night using RT buses: SHRA provided hotels to "the most medically frail."

"Our team is trying to triage our people to vacant hotels and motels; some are connecting with family," Sacramento Mayor Darrell Steinberg said at a news conference during evacuations. "Everyone is going to be cared for."

Sacramento Director of Emergency Management Daniel Bowers said the city was partnering with SMUD to make sure anyone continuing to be affected by the power outage Wednesday would receive a motel voucher.

"Everything went very, very smooth," Bowers said about the City Hall shelter. "We didn't have any injuries, no friction points and overall just very proud of the response."

From the Ashes: US Capitol Tree from California Stands as a Reminder of Wildfire, Drought Policy

[*The Sacramento Bee* reports](#) this year's United States Capitol Christmas Tree, adorned with colorful ornaments handcrafted by children across California, stands 84-feet tall behind the halls of the Congress.

The white fir, fondly called Sugar Bear, came from part of Six Rivers National Forest in the congressional district held by California Representative Jared Huffman, D-San Rafael.

While it stands as a monument to diversity as “The People’s Tree” in Washington D.C., Sugar Bear left brethren behind in a state that has been marred by wildfires and drought. The tree serves as a reminder to Congress about the impacts of climate change, wildfires, and drought – and stalled legislation that might fund methods to mitigate those issues, members of California’s delegation mentioned.

“This year’s tree is a symbol of the beauty and the importance of our nation’s public lands,” Huffman said. “And it’s a reminder of our responsibility to conserve public lands so that everyone, including future generations, can continue to enjoy them.”

Prolonged drought in California could threaten access to clean groundwater for farming communities and has forced conservation efforts. Cal Fire estimates that wildfires burned more than 3 million acres this year. A couple of fires are still ongoing.

President Joe Biden said that West’s wildfires were a “blinking code red” for the U.S. to address climate change while touring California in September. The president has made combating climate change one of his main agendas.

Several members of California’s congressional delegation bemoaned the effects of wildfires and drought on the state at the tree’s lighting this month.

“California’s forests, as Nancy Pelosi and other members here certainly know, face many challenges – most notably, persistent drought and wildfires,” Democratic Sen. Dianne Feinstein said at the lighting. “I hope that this Congress and the Biden administration will really focus on those things and that we’ll be able to do something about it.”

A few days later, Feinstein and former Cal Fire Chief Ken Pimlott published an opinion piece titled “How Congress can help reduce the West’s wildfire problem” in the Los Angeles Daily News. Feinstein and Pimlott suggested five areas for policies that Congress should implement to deal with fires in the short term. To view the list of suggestions, [visit the full article](#).

Dozens of Firefighters Were Nearly Entrapped on the Route Fire in Southern California

[Wildfire Today reports](#) on September 11, 2021 dozens of firefighters working on the Route Fire north of Los Angeles suddenly found themselves with fire on all sides of them. Even though it occurred three months ago, the story has not been publicly told, until today.

Wildfire Today covered the fire at this time.

Helicopter-based flight crews, hand crews, and several Los Angeles County and US Forest Service engine crews were working on the fire seven miles north of Castaic between Interstate 5 and old Highway 99, also known as Golden Gate Highway. The crews and engines positioned ahead of the fire had been on scene for about 30 minutes looking for the right time and place to engage the fire, which has previously moved west across the 99. Eventually it turned hard north, then east back to the highway behind the crews, with spot fires occurring out ahead. As it neared the highway, flames seen in the videos appeared to be 20 to 40 feet high when they bent over the road as the heavy brush was rapidly consumed.

The fire spread north was undetected by the firefighters on the highway due to topography, and the lookouts became inadequate as the fire grew. Air resources observed the pinching action of the fire, along with crews on Interstate 5. As they tried to communicate it was time to leave, a

bottleneck occurred. South and north of the crews the highway was four lanes wide, but at that point it was only two lanes wide.

The two flight crews of approximately 11 persons each had been transported by helicopters, but were obviously on foot after being dropped off. The crew that was the furthest out from the worst of the entrapment was able to load their personnel into LA County engines and escape.

Closer to the roaring flames the other flight crew, on foot, was in imminent danger. Two US Forest Service engines, each staffed with five firefighters, were able to find a way to cram the 11-person flight crew plus two others into the two FS engines, coordinated by Engine Boss Tom Guzman. Seven members of the flight crew climbed into one engine, and the other took four plus an additional two firefighters who were on foot nearby. They had trouble getting the doors to close. There were 23 bodies in the two engines, with seating designed for five each. The last person in one of the engines came in through the driver's door and was lying across several people on the front seat as the driver found a way to still operate the truck as he navigated through the smoke, avoiding parked or slow-moving fire apparatus on the two-lane highway as his air horn blasted.

Many of the flight crewmembers were rookies and kept their tools as they climbed over bodies into the suddenly very cramped cabs. One of them was on his first fire.

A firefighter from the US Forest Service suffered second-degree burns to his ears, neck, nose, cheeks, and arm. Another from LA County received a second-degree burn to his neck. They were both treated by paramedics on scene, transported to a hospital emergency room, and later to a burn unit, and then released.

“The more experienced firefighters were more shaken up than the new guys,” one firefighter told *Wildfire Today*. “Firefighters on the outside looking in were pretty shaken up, but as best as I can tell I think we are all doing well. I’ve learned that things like this are more common than people realize, but until recent times they haven’t been captured on video, so they were never made known.”

Multiple firefighters captured it on videos. *Wildfire Today* obtained a three-minute version that the US Forest Service distributed internally below, which tells part of the story of the near miss.

By the next morning, the spread of the Route Fire had been stopped at 454 acres thanks to the work of firefighters on the ground and numerous aircraft.

For his actions on the Route Fire, Tom Guzman, who was serving as an Engine Boss, received a “USDA Forest Service Pacific Southwest Region Emergency Response Award”. More details about the award are at the end of the video.

After the interviews that were conducted shortly after the incident, the firefighters were told that a “Rapid Lesson Sharing” document would be produced. As of December 11, 2021 it has not appeared.

Cal OES Prepositions Resources in Monterey County Ahead of Storm

[*KSBW 8 reports*](#) the California Governor’s Office of Emergency Services (Cal OES) has prepositioned resources in Monterey County ahead of an atmospheric river that is expected to bring significant rain, strong wind, and high surf.

Cal OES said it is moving in resources and personnel in areas with concerns for debris flows from recent burn scars. The area of concern in Monterey County is the burn scar of the 2020 River Fire, which burned 48,088 acres east of Salinas. The concern is that heavily rainfall could trigger a debris flow.

Debris flows pose a threat to life and property. They have the ability to take homes off their foundations and carry vegetation, large boulders, and cars.

In preparation for the storm, Cal OES deployed five fire engines and an eight-member incident management team to the county.

The prepositioned equipment includes three Type 3 engines that are typically four-wheel drive, making it easier to drive over rough terrain. There are also two Type 6 engines. These are typically pick-up truck-based engines that also have four-wheel drive.

Cal OES is urging people who live near or downslope of burn scars to plan ahead to quickly evacuate if flash flooding or a mudslide were to happen.

ICYMI: Funding Opportunities Ending Soon

- **Stop the Hate Program Fund;** *health & human services*
 - Funded by: Department of Social Services
 - Deadline: **Friday, December 17, 2021**
 - Total estimated funding: \$20 million
 - **Full grant guidelines:** [linked here](#)
 - **Online application:** [linked here](#)
- **2022 Clean Water Act Section 319 Nonpoint Source Pollution Grant;** *agriculture; disadvantaged communities; environment & water*
 - Funded by: State Water Resources Control Board
 - Deadline: **Friday, December 17, 2021**
 - Total estimated funding: \$4.5 million
 - **Full grant guidelines:** [linked here](#)
 - **Online application:** [linked here](#)
- **Workforce Accelerator Fund 10.0;** *uncategorized*
 - Funded by: Workforce Development Board
 - Deadline: **Monday, December 20, 2021**
 - Total estimated funding: \$10.4 million
 - **Full grant guidelines:** [linked here](#)
 - **Online application:** [linked here](#)

Funding Opportunities

2021-22 Human Trafficking Victim Assistance (HV) Program RFP

[The Governor's Office of Emergency Services](#) has created the HV Program to help human trafficking victims (both sex and labor trafficking) recover from the trauma they experienced and assist with reintegration into society through the provision of comprehensive safety and supportive services including, but not limited to, housing assistance, counseling services, and other social services, using a trauma-informed, victim-centered approach.

Applicants must be non-governmental, non-profit organizations that employ a minimum of one human trafficking caseworker (as defined in California Evidence Code § 1038.2) and have at least three years of experience providing services to victims of human trafficking including, but not limited to, housing assistance, counseling services, and social services. Eligible Applicants must submit a letter certifying that they meet the eligibility requirements for their proposals to be accepted for consideration.

Must be non-governmental, non-profit organizations that employ a minimum of one human trafficking caseworker and have at least three years of experience providing services to victims of human trafficking including, but not limited to, housing assistance, counseling services, and social services. Eligible Applicants must submit a letter certifying that they meet the eligibility requirements for their proposals to be accepted for consideration.

The deadline to apply for this funding is **Thursday, December 30, 2021**. Total estimated funding available is \$20 million. To view the full grant guidelines, [click here](#).

Child and Adult Care Food Program Application for Day Care Home Expansion Funds 2021-22

[The Department of Social Services](#) has created this program to provide payment to day care home (DCH) sponsors for their administrative expenses associated with expanding a food service program to DCH providers located in low-income or rural areas.

Interested DCH sponsors must submit a completed Application for DCH Expansion Funds to CDSS for approval and funding. DCH sponsors interested in obtaining expansion funds must demonstrate a need for Child and Adult Care Food Program (CACFP) provider services in their recruitment areas.

Eligible applicants include Active Child and Adult Care Program Day Home Sponsors.

Applicants must submit documentation that shows the proposed DCH providers are in either rural or low-income areas.

The deadline for this funding is **Friday, December 31, 2021**. Total estimated funding available is \$195k. To view the full grant guidelines, [click here](#). To view the online application, [click here](#).

Proposition 68 San Francisco Bay Area Conservancy Program Climate Adaptation Funds

[The Coastal Conservancy](#) has created this grant round to award competitive grants for projects that plan, develop, and implement climate adaptation and resiliency projects in the San Francisco Bay.

Eligible projects will be consistent with the Conservancy's Strategic Plan and will plan, develop, or implement actions to help natural resources or human communities adapt to the impacts of climate change. Eligible projects shall improve a community's ability to adapt to the unavoidable impacts of climate change; improve and protect coastal and rural economies, agricultural viability, wildlife corridors, or habitat; develop future recreational opportunities; or enhance drought tolerance, landscape resilience, and water retention. Projects could include, for example, land conservation for wildlife corridors, enhancement of bay area agriculture to increase carbon sequestration or protect farmworkers from extreme heat, or urban greening. Projects that use natural infrastructure and provide multiple benefits will be prioritized.

Tidal wetlands restoration projects will not be considered under this round, as there are ongoing funding sources at this time that are specifically for baylands restoration (for example, see the San Francisco Bay Restoration Authority grant opportunities; applications accepted in the fall of each year).

Project Type: Projects must be one of the following types:

- Project planning and design: Actions that will lead to construction, such as environmental review and permitting, development of engineered designs
- Project implementation: On-the-ground construction or installation
- Project development: Technical assistance for disadvantaged communities* and support for activities that will help identify specific solutions and projects

Technical assistance refers to the process of providing necessary education and resources for project scoping and development and project implementation assistance. Examples of such activities include:

- Education
- Resource sharing
- Convening of partners and stakeholders for project scoping and development
- Technical workshop
- Community visioning meeting
- Contracting with expert consultants to identify or refine potential capital projects

*Per Prop 68, a “disadvantaged community” means a community with a median household income less than 80 percent of the statewide average.

All Prop 68 funds must be spent consistent with the provisions of the General Obligation Bond Law, including Government Code Section 16727. In general, this means projects must entail the planning, development, construction, or acquisition of capital assets and/or activities that are incidentally but directly related to construction or acquisition, such as planning, design, and engineering. Capital assets are tangible physical property acquisitions or improvements with a useful life of at least 15 years. These grant funds cannot pay for activities that exclusively involve communication. These grant funds cannot pay for activities that exclusively involve communication, policy development, or government services.

Projects must be located within one of the nine counties of the San Francisco Bay Area.

Eligible applicants include nonprofits, public agencies, and tribal governments.

Projects must be located within one of the nine counties of the San Francisco Bay Area.

The deadline to apply for this funding is **Saturday, January 1, 2022**. Total estimated funding available is \$5.7 million. To view the full grant guidelines, [click here](#).