



News from the Emergency Management Committee Chair (5/6/22)

Upcoming Oversight Hearing

SUBJECT: Update on the Implementation of the Governor’s SMARTER Plan

WHEN: Wednesday, May 18, 2022 at 9:30 a.m.

WHERE: State Capitol, Room 126

California’s Next COVID Wave

[*Politico reports*](#) California has gone through more lulls and surges than we can count at this point, but it looks like we’re heading for another uptick. The Omicron variant has evolved into more subvariants, doctors are masking up again and California has seen a 50 percent increase in cases over the past two weeks.

Things are not as bad as they were in January. At that time, the seven day positivity rate jumped to 22 percent. Today, it is around 3.4 percent. In January, hospitalizations peaked nearly 15,000 COVID patients. Last Friday, the state reported 1,112 hospitalized COVID patients. You’d be forgiven for wanting to take a hiatus from worrying about the pandemic, but with this next increase – surge, bump, ripple, or whatever you want to call it – we’ll get to see how the state’s SMARTER plan works in action and how Californians react in year three of living with the coronavirus.

To read more on the SMARTER plan, how it varies from past plans with new priorities, and trends that are causing experts to suspect an upcoming surge, [visit the full article](#).

Blue Shield of California CEO Paul Markovich: California’s COVID-19 Vaccine Campaign Saved Nearly 20,000 Lives

[*Blue Shield California News reports*](#) it’s hard to forget just how dire the COVID-19 pandemic was at the beginning of 2021, when the first vaccines became available. Emergency rooms and ICUs were at the breaking point as new cases of the virus skyrocketed. Vaccines were in tight supply, allocated by the federal government, and getting what doses the state could obtain to the most vulnerable was a chaotic, fragmented process.

In response, California set up a statewide vaccination network, and to do it as rapidly as possible, relied on the expertise of a public-private partnership managed in large part by Blue Shield of California. It was an enormous undertaking, and so many Blue Shield of California employees and others worked tirelessly to build a network that within a matter of weeks reached more than 99% of Californians in the state.

It turns out, the state's vaccination efforts last year helped to prevent *nearly 20,000 deaths* from COVID-19. It also meant that 1.5 million Californians avoided becoming infected, and 72,000 people were prevented from being hospitalized, according to a new [University of California, San Francisco \(UCSF\) study](#) published in the JAMA Network Open.

We've always known how many doses of vaccine were given through the network. But this study marks the first time we've been able to quantify the *lives saved* by this huge collaborative effort, and the numbers are humbling and gratifying.

In reporting the news, the [Los Angeles Times](#) noted that the UCSF study didn't look at the many other important ways in which the state's vaccination campaign benefitted California: Fewer lost school and work days, fewer people developing long-term COVID, fewer families grieving over a lost loved one. All of these are achievements worth celebrating.

California's vaccination effort involved countless people – not just across every department at Blue Shield, but also the hundreds of providers who joined the network and the thousands of people who worked at mass vaccination sites, at hospitals and pharmacies, in data centers and answering hotline calls, and our state officials including the California Department of Public Health. It was hard work, but also truly a time when we all came together for the common good – and when we did an uncommonly good job.

California COVID Deaths near 90,000, but the Per Capita Rate is Among Lowest in U.S.

[The Los Angeles Times reports](#) California's COVID-19 death toll is [on the cusp of 90,000](#), a tally that comes as the U.S. is nearing its own milestone of 1 million deaths.

As of Friday, California had reported 89,851 cumulative deaths since the start of the pandemic, up 269 from the previous week. At this pace, the state is likely to surpass 90,000 COVID-19 fatalities this week.

No state has suffered more total pandemic-related deaths than California. However, on a per capita basis, California has the 11th-lowest cumulative COVID-19 death rate — with 229.5 deaths for every 100,000 residents, [according to data](#) compiled by The Times. Roughly a year ago, a similar analysis revealed California had the 22nd lowest cumulative COVID-19 death rate of any state.

California also now has the lowest cumulative COVID-19 death rate of the nation's 10 most populous states. By comparison, the cumulative COVID-19 death rate in Florida is 359.4 per 100,000 residents. In New York, it's 348.8; and in Texas, it's 316.1.

The worst rate can be found in Arizona, where the total reported death toll — just under 30,200 — amounts to 434.6 fatalities for every 100,000 residents.

If Arizona had experienced California's same death rate, about 14,000 fewer people would've died from COVID-19 to this point. And if California had Arizona's death rate, the Golden State would've seen 170,000 people perish from COVID-19, instead of the nearly 90,000 reported so far.

The wide divergence in death rates demonstrates just how differently the pandemic has played out in varying corners of the country. California, for example, has one of the nation's better vaccination rates — with 72% of residents of all ages having completed their primary

vaccination series. In Arizona, 62% of residents have done likewise, [according to data](#) from the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention.

Of vaccinated adults who have completed their primary vaccination series, 56% in California have received their first booster shot, while 45% have done so in Arizona.

Health officials have routinely said getting vaccinated and boosted provides robust protection against the worst of COVID-19. According to the [most recent data](#) from the California Department of Public Health, unvaccinated residents remain roughly nine times more likely to die from COVID-19 than those who have been fully vaccinated and boosted.

To read more on how California's death toll compares to other states in the nation, as well as what experts are attributing these numbers to, [visit the full article](#).

COVID Hospital, Death Numbers Remain Low in LA County Despite Case Increases

The Los Angeles Daily News reports with COVID-related hospital numbers and deaths remaining low despite rising case numbers, Los Angeles County health officials on Monday, May 9, touted what they called the effectiveness of vaccines and boosters in preventing serious illness from infection.

Over the past three days, another 7,709 new COVID-19 infections were recorded in the county, according to the Department of Public Health. More than 3,200 of those cases were registered Saturday, with lower numbers on Sunday and Monday likely reflecting standard weekend reporting delays.

But while the case numbers have risen sharply over the last month —attributed to spread of the highly infectious BA.2 subvariant of the virus —the number of COVID-positive hospital patients has still remained relatively low, as have virus-related deaths.

As of Monday, there were 242 COVID-positive patients in county hospitals, according to state figures. That's down six from Sunday. The number of those patients being treated in intensive care was 27 as of Monday, down from 33 on Sunday.

The county registered only five new virus-related deaths from the past three days.

The county no longer reports COVID numbers on weekends.

“The lower numbers of hospitalizations and deaths reflect, in large part, the protection provided by the vaccines against the variants,” according to the county Department of Public Health. “For the week ending April 22, unvaccinated people were four times more likely to be hospitalized compared to residents who were fully vaccinated, but not boosted, and five times more likely to be hospitalized than those fully vaccinated and boosted.”

According to the county, over the last week, the county has averaged four virus-related deaths per day, a 72% decrease from a month ago. The average daily number of virus-positive hospital patients averaged 245, roughly the same as it was a month ago.

Public Health Director Barbara Ferrer again urged people to get vaccinated and boosted, noting that Memorial Day and its accompanying gatherings are fast approaching.

“For these occasions to not contribute to the increasing spread of Omicron variants, we encourage attendees to take sensible precautions that will protect you and those around you, including staying outside as much as possible and wearing a mask when indoors,” she said in a statement. “And given the high number of asymptomatic individuals that are infected, testing before gathering with others, especially if gathering indoors, is an effective and practical safety measure that can easily prevent the spread of the virus. Most importantly, those who are older and those who have underlying health conditions should be sure to get boosted as soon as eligible to maximize protection from these highly infectious, mutated variants of concern.”

The new cases announced Monday lifted the county’s cumulative number of infections throughout the pandemic to 2,895,400. The county’s death toll reached 31,996.

The average daily rate of people testing positive for the virus was 2.1% as of Monday.

Study: Omicron Patients Shed More Live Virus than Those with Delta

[The University of Minnesota’s Center for Infectious Disease Research and Policy](#) summarized a study published in *Open Forum Infectious Diseases*. They found that hospitalized South Korean patients infected with the Omicron SARS-CoV-2 variant shed more live virus 8 days after illness onset than those with the Delta variant.

Led by researchers from Incheon Medical Center, the study involved viral culture of 110 respiratory samples collected daily from 11 patients with mild to moderate COVID-19 within 14 days of symptom onset. The first Omicron case was identified in South Korea on Dec 2, 2021.

Median patient age was 38 years, 5 patients were male, 5 had pneumonia, and 2 had received one dose of COVID-19 vaccine in October 2021. None were immunocompromised, and all had at least one COVID-19 symptom at diagnosis. No patients required supplemental oxygen, the antiviral drug remdesivir, or anti-inflammatory drugs, but 2 received monoclonal antibodies.

Omicron was cultured in 48 of 110 specimens (43.6%) in the first 8 days after illness onset, all from unvaccinated patients. A total of 22% to 100% of unvaccinated patients were positive for Omicron on viral culture. Compared with Delta patients, those with Omicron tested positive for a shorter time (8 vs 10 days, respectively) but had a higher positivity rate (100% vs 74%, respectively). Omicron's viral load was slightly lower than that of Delta.

The authors said that the study, using culture positivity as a proxy for infectivity, may help explain the recent global Omicron surge. "This study suggests that the Omicron variant may have a shorter infectious stage than the Delta variant," they wrote. "However, the culture-positive rate of the Omicron variant was higher than that of the Delta variant."

The researchers added that duration of fever, which many isolation guidelines consider, may not correlate well with the time to positivity on culture. "Improvement of symptoms, including fever, is an important indicator of a decrease in infectivity, but our study results show that the duration of fever might not well correlate with the time to viral culture conversion," they wrote.

[Click here](#) to view the full study.

With COVID Back on the Rise, Some Cites, Agencies Mulling a Return of Health Mandates

[The Mercury News reports](#) as the Bay Area braces for yet another COVID-19 surge, a few cities and agencies are reinstating indoor mask mandates as the region continues debating the worth of a patchwork of coronavirus-related health orders.

Since late March, California's case rate has nearly tripled and the Bay Area — which historically experienced a lower case rate than the rest of the state — has emerged as a COVID hotspot.

Though cases are still one-tenth of what they were during January's omicron surge, the region has more than three times as many positive cases than it did six weeks after the winter surge. That trend started in San Francisco around mid-March, followed by Santa Clara, San Mateo and a little later the other counties.

The uptick, driven by the emergence of two omicron subvariants that according to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention now account for most of the cases nationally, have prompted some cities such as San Jose to revisit lifted mandates. Others continue to wait and see, reluctant to change the rules again for a public tiring of mixed messages.

San Jose reinstated an indoor mask mandate Friday for city employees.

City spokesperson Demetria Machado said San Jose doesn't plan to enforce other coronavirus measures at this time, but the employee mask mandate order could be extended past May 20 depending on the case rate in Santa Clara County.

BART also recently reinstated a mask mandate for its riders despite a Florida federal court's decision last month to void a federal mandate that airlines and transit agencies require employees and riders to wear masks. BART is now requiring riders to mask up through mid-July.

The mandate will impact 50 stations in five counties and be enforced by BART police. Riders who don't comply with the mandate could be kicked off BART or face up to \$75 in fines.

But the uptick in cases across the Bay Area hasn't signaled new sweeping restrictions. Instead, many jurisdictions have continued to drop mandates or opted not to reinstate them.

AC Transit, the Bay Area's largest bus operator, chose not to renew its mask mandate following the court decision, and the Santa Clara Valley Transportation Authority has indicated it doesn't plan to require masks moving forward.

Most of the COVID health restrictions have tapered off since March — the same time Santa Clara County dropped its mask mandates.

San Francisco, which was one of the first cities in the country to implement a "vaccine passport" to get into restaurants, bars and gyms, lifted the requirement around the same time.

Other cities, such as Oakland, have followed suit, with the City Council voting last week to stop requiring proof of vaccination or a negative test to enter indoor public places like restaurants, gyms and museums. Proof of vaccination or a negative test, however, is still required to enter assisted living and senior centers.

Despite dropping the vaccine passport, though, Oakland never dropped the mask mandate for its employees working indoors, according to its employee/human resources page.

Dr. Monica Gandhi, an infectious disease specialist at UC San Francisco, said that while she supported coronavirus restrictions in the early days of the pandemic, she doesn't see them as necessary now that there are vaccines as well as some natural immunity from the omicron surge because so many have already caught the virus.

But Dr. George Rutherford, another infectious disease specialist at UC San Francisco, believes masking up is still the wisest course right now.

“If I were to go into a movie theater, if I were going into a grocery store, I'd wear a mask,” he told this news organization last week. “In most closed indoor settings, the better part of valor is to wear a mask, at least for a while here.”

While San Jose doesn't have any current plans to institute other restrictions such as its booster mandate for people attending events at city-owned facilities such as the SAP Center and Center for Performing Arts, Mayor Sam Liccardo said “everything is on the table depending on what the data tells us.”

For now, however, he doesn't think the city should reinstate any other mandates.

Hundreds Evacuated After Coastal Fire in Orange County Destroys Over 20 Homes

[KMMO reports](#) at least 20 homes were destroyed between Laguna Niguel and Laguna Beach, California due to a brush fire that spread rapidly amid strong winds.

Crews continued to fight the flames of the blaze on Thursday, called the Coastal Fire, which broke out Wednesday afternoon near a water treatment plant and quickly grew in size. At a Thursday morning press conference, fire officials said the fire had burned approximately 200 acres.

While the cause of the fire remains under investigation, Southern California Edison said it sent a letter to the California Public Utilities Commission to inform them of “circuit activity” around the time the fire was reported. Some 900 homes remained under mandatory evacuation orders. Assistant Fire Chief TJ McGovern said: *“We did have wind, which is a normal wind condition for this area. Since it started at the bottom of the drainage, it started running up-canyon and upslope. Throwing some wind on that, and the terrain — the steepness of it, was a bad recipe.”* McGovern said one firefighter was injured Wednesday and was taken to the hospital. All of the details on their condition were not released, but the firefighter is listed in stable condition.

California Secures Federal Assistance to Support Response to Coastal Fire in Orange County

[Governor Gavin Newsom announced](#) that California secured a Fire Management Assistance Grant (FMAG) yesterday from the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) to help ensure the availability of vital resources to suppress the Coastal Fire in Orange County. To date, the Coastal Fire has burned 199 acres in and around Laguna Niguel.

The FMAG, which is provided through the President's Disaster Relief Fund on a cost-share basis, will enable local, state and tribal agencies responding to the fire to apply for 75-percent reimbursement of their eligible fire suppression costs. The program, which is administered through the Governor's Office of Emergency Services (Cal OES), provides rapid financial assistance to communities impacted by fires.

CAL FIRE and Cal OES personnel are actively responding to the fire in concert with other federal, state and local agencies to address emergency management and mutual aid needs.

California Firefighters Develop App to Coordinate Wildfire Resources

[*Spectrum News 1 reports*](#) as the Coastal Fire ravages Laguna Niguel in an exceptionally dry California, it's only a matter of time before similarly devastating fires pop up around the state.

Fire engines, Helitack crews and air tankers have long been the primary tools of the trade. Now, an app is hoping to leverage those resources by providing firefighters with real time information to make them more effective.

Developed by a pair of firefighters in Contra Costa County, Tablet Command uses 911 data about what type of emergency is happening and at what address.

“As soon as you have those two pieces of information, our software will notify everyone in the department instantaneously” — sometimes even 60 seconds faster than a human dispatcher, explained Will Pigeon, Tablet Command co-founder and former firefighter.

The app shows the location of fire engines, fire hydrants and fire stations. It also shows what personnel are on what fire engine at what time. That way, a battalion chief can tap the app's digital icon for a piece of equipment and see exactly who's on it and where it's headed, or drag and drop firefighting teams to assigned tasks like handling the water supply or attacking the fire.

Such information is especially useful in situations with multiple units responding, which is common. Through the app, crews can also access mapping information like infrared hot spots for fires from satellites or the ALERTWildfire live camera network run by the University of Nevada-Reno, University of California-San Diego and the University of Oregon.

“Everyone in real time is able to see what they've been assigned to at the incident, to see all the critical benchmarks and checklist items that have been completed on that incident,” Pigeon said.

Pigeon would know. He was in the fire service for 22 years, most recently as an assistant fire chief overseeing technology and the 911 center for Contra Costa County Fire Protection District before leaving last year.

Having firefighting experience, Pigeon recognized that during the chaos and confusion of a fire emergency, it can be difficult to coordinate equipment and manpower efficiently in the field when conditions are constantly changing.

The seed for Tablet Command was planted in 2007, when two firefighters in Pigeon's department died while trying to put out a house fire.

“After that happened, and after every time there is a line of duty death in any department or a near miss, a department will say, ‘What could we have done? What were the problems that led to this tragedy? What things or sequence of events caused their deaths?’”

At the time, Tablet Command co-creator, and fellow firefighter Andy Bozzo, had recently relocated to the Bay Area from the Pacific Northwest, where the system for tracking trucks, engines and personnel was archaic. The department used a whiteboard with Velcro tags in the back of a command vehicle. Other fire departments use magnet boards or pencils and paper.

There had to be a better way, they thought. The idea for that better way came from Bozzo while he was video gaming with friends. Dragging and dropping letters into a word, he had an epiphany. If he could drag a letter across a screen playing a video game with somebody remotely, why couldn't that same concept apply to a fire engine and assigned personnel?

Bozzo called Pigeon, and together they hired a professional software developer to build an incident command application on an iPad that included a tactical worksheet. They formed the company in 2011 and launched Tablet Command in the app store in 2013.

Now Tablet Command is used by more than 220 fire agencies in North America, including several dozen in the Bay Area. In Southern California, fire departments for Santa Barbara, Santa Monica, San Diego and San Bernardino County use the software. LA County Fire will begin using Tablet Command this fall.

“Our whole goal is to get to the fire scene quickly and safely and get to the right area and know where a fire hydrant is so we can mitigate the emergency and keep the fire small,” said Mike McClintock, San Bernardino Fire Department battalion chief.

Preparing for Wildfire Season: Battery and Generator Rebates, Finding Local Resources with 211 and Support for Customers with Access and Functional Needs

[Business Wire reports](#) as wildfire season nears, emergency preparedness becomes even more critical. Good preparation means practicing emergency plans, having go bags packed and ready, keeping extra batteries for flashlights and radios within reach and more.

For those customers with access and functional needs, Pacific Gas and Electric Company (PG&E) offers discounts on generators and batteries; sponsors a Disability Disaster Access and Resources Program; and partners with 211, a free call to help with local resources and support 24/7.

These programs are designed to help our customers when weather and wildfire risk prompts the company to initiate a [Public Safety Power Shutoff](#) (PSPS) or to enable [Enhanced Powerline Safety Settings](#) (EPSS).

PG&E continues to partner with community-based organizations to assist customers with medical and independent living needs before, during and after PSPS outages. This includes collaborating with the California Foundation for Independent Living Centers' (CFILC) [Disability Disaster Access and Resources Program](#) to support the Access and Functional Needs (AFN) community.

This year, they continue to provide portable battery solutions to customers as part of the Portable Battery Program and the CFILC's Disability Disaster Access and Resources Program.

Additionally, the funding and eligibility for the [Generator and Battery Rebate Program](#), for customers who rely on well water, customers in our Medical Baseline Program and certain essential small businesses, will expand to customers both residing in Tiers 2 or 3 HFTDs and/or who are served by an EPSS circuit. The availability of [Backup Power Transfer Meters](#), which makes it easier and safer to connect a generator, has been expanded to all customers who have compatible portable generators in Tier 2 or 3 HFTDs and/or are served by an EPSS-circuit.

To support customers who rely on power for health and safety, PG&E partners with the California Network of 211s to provide help during times when it's needed the most. 211 is a free, confidential calling and texting service that provides 24/7 connections to local resources and assists with emergency preparedness planning to minimize the hardships that may be caused by wildfire safety outages, like a Public Safety Power Shutoff.

The 211 network utilizes PG&E's existing resources, as well as resource partnerships specific to 211. 211 provides proactive outreach to all customers and serves as the first point of contact for our AFN community before, during and after a PSPS.

To learn more about 211, customers should call 211, text 'PSPS' to 211-211 or visit 211.org.

AT&T Launches New Feature to make it Easier for Emergency Services to Locate 911 Callers

[KYMA reports](#) AT&T says a new "Locate Before Route" feature began launching this week across the country that uses GPS instead of cell towers to give a more precise location for people who call 911 from a mobile device.

Through this new feature, AT&T can quickly and more accurately identify where a wireless 911 call is coming from using device GPS and hybrid information to route the call to the correct 911 call center, also known as public safety answering point or PSAP.

According to AT&T, the technology helps narrow down location of a wireless caller from a 10 mile radius based on cell towers to within about 55 yards.

AT&T expects the Arizona and California launch to be live by June.

With a better location, public safety and first responders can respond faster.

AT&T says this is important because 68% of adults don't have a landline in their homes.

80% of 911 calls today are made from cell phones, so this technology fills a significant need, according to AT&T.

This new location based routing is only available on the AT&T network. It'll automatically work on mobile 911 calls for AT&T customers nationwide by the end of June.

Operational Update: Field Hospitals to Ukraine, Medicines to Sri Lanka, and More

[Relief Web reports](#) over the past seven days, Direct Relief delivered 289 shipments of requested medical aid to 33 U.S. states and territories and nine countries worldwide, including Ukraine.

The shipments contained 7.6 million defined daily doses of medication, including PPE, Covid-19 therapies, diabetes medication, and cancer treatments.

Since February 24, Direct Relief has provided medical aid weighing more than 350 tons in weight and including over 68 million defined doses of medication, with more on the way.

This week, Direct Relief issued a \$750,000 emergency grant to the Society of Critical Care Medicine (SCCM), which has members working in several hospitals in Ukraine. The funds provided will be used to procure medication and equipment that is most urgently needed in these

facilities. In total, Direct Relief has deployed more than \$12 million in financial assistance for Ukraine response since the start of the war.

Additionally, a fifth field hospital kit left Direct Relief's warehouse this week for distribution to the front lines of the war in Ukraine. The kit, donated by The California Governor's Office of Emergency Services, contains 50 beds, wound and IV kits, and critical trauma care supplies.

California Continues to Send Life-Saving Support to Ukraine

[The Governor's Office of Emergency Services](#) has shipped five 50-bed field medical stations, with more in transit.

California continues to deliver relief to the people of Ukraine. Since March, the state has shipped five, 50-bed field medical stations along with thousands of pieces of protective gear to Ukraine.

"California has stood firm in our support for Ukraine since day one of Russia's unprovoked invasion," said Governor Newsom. "Our support will save lives and help the people of Ukraine as they experience unspeakable atrocities, and we will continue to support Ukraine's brave fight against tyranny and oppression."

For nearly three decades, as part of the California National Guard's State Partnership Program, members of the Guard have trained members of the Ukrainian military. Together, both the state National Guard and the Governor's Office of Emergency Services (OES) collaborated with state, local and federal agencies to deliver medical equipment and tactical gear supplies to Ukraine. The field medical stations are donated by the State of California's Emergency Medical Services Authority at the California Health and Human Services Agency.

The National Guard has facilitated the shipment of protective gear which includes 4,320 ballistic vests and 1,580 helmets, with additional shipments planned in the coming weeks. Additionally, OES has facilitated the transfer of PPE and five field medical stations to cities in Ukraine, and is in the process of sending two more to Ukraine in partnership with Direct Relief of Santa Barbara, for a total of seven field medical stations (350 beds).

The shipment is the latest show of support for Ukraine after Governor Newsom's meeting with Consul General of Ukraine in San Francisco Dmytro Kushneruk [in March](#). In that meeting, the Governor expressed California's solidarity with the Ukrainian community and discussed the state's efforts to support the people and government of Ukraine. The Governor also signed an [executive order](#) directing state agencies and departments to ensure their contracts comply with economic sanctions imposed in response to Russia's attacks and to direct their contractors to do the same, and [called for](#) state pension funds to halt the flow of money from the state to Russia and to ban the purchase of Russian debt.

California and Ukraine share close ties and the state is home to one of the largest Ukrainian populations in the country. As a state of inclusion and a beacon of hope for those seeking refuge, California will continue to be a welcoming place for refugees. The California Department of Social Services (CDSS) Refugee Programs Bureau has more [information available online](#) for Ukrainian families and service providers.

Feinstein Supports Additional Ukraine Funding

[Senator Dianne Feinstein \(D-Calif.\) Tuesday released](#) the following statement on the Biden administration's request for additional funding to support Ukraine in its war against Russia:

“The United States is proud to stand by the people of Ukraine as they fight off a needless war of aggression started by Vladimir Putin. I fully support the Biden administration's request for additional emergency aid to provide Ukraine the defensive weapons it needs to protect itself and the economic and humanitarian support to safeguard its citizens.

“Ukraine's ambassador to the United States, Oksana Markarova, spoke to a group of Democratic senators today and laid out her nation's desperate need for aid. The suffering and loss of life in Ukraine is heartbreaking and we must do more to support these brave people.

“These funds are critical to support the people of Ukraine and defend democracy in Europe. With this vote, Congress will provide additional military support for Ukraine, help stabilize Ukraine's economy and provide much-needed humanitarian assistance to the beleaguered nation.

“Quickly approving these funds will provide critical military equipment to Ukrainians as well as food and supplies for millions of refugees who have been forced to flee their homes.

“This is not only the largest war fought in Europe since World War II, it's also a refugee crisis the likes of which we haven't seen in generations. The impact on Europe will continue for many years and we must stand beside Ukraine and our European allies during this crisis and beyond.”

[Click here](#) to view the funding breakdown within the full press release.

ICYMI: Funding Opportunities Ending Soon

- **Wagner-Peyser Funds Deaf and Hard of Hearing Services Solicitation for Proposal;** *disadvantaged communities*
 - Funded by: Employment Development Department
 - Deadline: **Friday, May 13, 2022**
 - Total Estimated Funding: \$2.5 million
 - Full Grant Guidelines: [linked here](#)
- **2022-23 Specialized Emergency Housing (KE) Program RFP;** *consumer protection; disaster prevention & relief; health & human services; law, justice, and legal services*
 - Funded by: Governor's Office of Emergency Services
 - Deadline: **Monday, May 23, 2022**
 - Total Estimated Funding: \$9.6 million
 - Full Grant Guidelines: [linked here](#)
- **2022-23 Victim Advocacy in Detention Facilities (KA) Program RFP;** *consumer protection; disadvantaged communities; health & human services*
 - Funded by: Governor's Office of Emergency Services
 - Deadline: **Wednesday, May 25, 2022**
 - Total Estimated Funding: \$2,534,828
 - Full Grant Guidelines: [linked here](#)

California Creative Corps –Administering Organization Grant

[The CA Arts Council](#) has created the California Creative Corps pilot program, a media, outreach, and engagement campaign designed to increase: (1) public health awareness messages to stop the

spread of COVID-19; (2) public awareness related to water and energy conservation, climate mitigation, and emergency preparedness, relief, and recovery; (3) civic engagement, including election participation; and (4) social justice and community engagement.

The CAC is seeking applications from Administering Organizations with the capacity to administer regranting funds to arts and social service organizations and to individual artists and cultural workers throughout the state to develop media, outreach, and engagement campaigns that speak to the program goals listed above. The intention of this grant program is to provide as broad a geographic reach as possible and serve all 58 counties, while prioritizing communities that demonstrate the highest levels of need as indicated by the California Healthy Places Index. Funded Administering Organizations and sub-grantee organizations, artists and cultural practitioners must demonstrate strong, ongoing relationships with Black, Indigenous, and People of Color (BIPOC) communities and other historically marginalized groups and will support meaningful engagements with those communities through this grant.

The deadline to apply for this funding is **Thursday, June 2, 2022**. Total estimated funding available is \$59.4 million. To view the full grant guidelines, [click here](#). To view the online application, [click here](#).

2022-23 California Medical Training Center (EM) Program RFP

The Governor's Office of Emergency Services has created the EM Program to ensure forensic examinations are conducted in a standard and consistent manner throughout California. This is accomplished through the development of standardized forms, protocols, and training for forensic medical examiners, law enforcement, prosecutors, and court personnel.

Must be a hospital-based training center that meets the requirements set forth in Penal Code (PC) § 13823.93.

Requires a cash or in-kind match equal to 25 percent of the total project cost. Tribes and victim service providers are exempt.

To request a match waiver, Applicants must submit the STOP Match Waiver Request form (Attachment B) with their proposal.

Cal OES's four-digit code for this federal fund is STOP. This code will be in the drop-down on the Grant Subaward Face Sheet (Cal OES Form 2-101).

The deadline to apply for this funding is **Friday, June 3, 2022**. Total estimated funding available is \$942,523. To view the full grant guidelines, [click here](#).

2022-23 Domestic Violence Housing First (XD) Program RFP

[The Governor's Office of Emergency Services](#) has created the XD Program to provide victims of domestic violence with safe, permanent housing and ongoing, supportive services tailored to address the individual needs of each victim. Examples of supportive services include transportation subsidies, financial assistance, career training, employment assistance, legal assistance, counseling, childcare, and temporary rental assistance.

To be eligible to submit a proposal, Applicants must be a governmental or non-governmental entity and meet the additional requirements on page two of the funding guidelines.

The Program is supported through the Victims of Crime Act (VOCA) Victim Assistance Formula Grant Program (Formula Grant Program)

- Supports eligible crime victim assistance programs.
- Requires a cash and/or in-kind match equal to 20 percent of the total project cost. Applicants may request a partial or full match waiver (match waiver requests are not considered during the Proposal Rating process).

The deadline to apply for this funding is **Friday, June 10, 2022**. Total estimated funding available is \$22.75 million. To view the full grant guidelines, [click here](#).

2022-24 Sexual Assault American Rescue Plan (AR) Program RFP

[The Governor's Office of Emergency Services](#) has created the AR Program to help rape crisis centers and sexual assault programs continue adapting to meet the emergency needs of sexual assault survivors in response to the COVID -19 public health emergency.

Funds are to be used to continue efforts to prepare for, prevent, and respond to COVID-19. Funding may support a range of in-scope activities including counseling, mobile advocacy, telehealth, teletherapy, peer support, temporary housing, rental assistance and nominal relocation expenses, supplies, equipment, and software to assist in carrying out virtual services.

The Applicant must be a governmental or non-governmental organization (NGO) serving sexual assault victims. Priority will be given to NGOs not currently funded through the Rape Crisis (RC), Victim Advocacy in Detention Facilities (KA), Campus Sexual Assault (CT), or the Child Sexual Abuse Treatment (CS) Programs.

The proposal must be submitted per the instructions in C. SUBMISSION DEADLINE AND REQUIREMENTS.

The deadline to apply for this funding is **Wednesday, June 29, 2022**. Total estimated funding available is \$3,370,077. To view the full grant guidelines, [click here](#).