Rebecca Nanyonjo-Kemp, DrPH
Director

Salvador Sandoval, MD, MPH
Health Officer

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Testing Location Opens in Los Banos

MERCED COUNTY, CA – The Merced County Department of Public Health and Golden Valley Health Centers (GVHC) are partnering to set up a coronavirus disease 2019 (COVID-19) test site in Los Banos. The additional site will be offered on the westside of the County to ensure testing is available to all county residents.

Testing will be available by appointment **starting** on Wednesday, June 24, 2020, with hours of operations between 8:30 a**.**m**.** - 3:30 p**.**m**.** The new testing site is located at the **Community Center, 645 7th Street, Los Banos.** To schedule an appointment, please call 1-866-682-4842. For more information, please visit GVHC's website at www.gvhc.org.

"We believe that everyone deserves quality health care, regardless of where you live, how much you earn, and whether you have medical coverage. By making COVID-19 testing more widely available, we can quickly address any positive cases and slow down the spread everywhere, especially in our higher-risk groups. This is a situation where we feel we could help make a difference for our communities," said Tony Weber, President and CEO of Golden Valley Health Centers. "More testing means more people can get the care they need if any of those tests come back positive."

If you are experiencing any symptoms associated with COVID-19 or suspect you've been exposed to an individual who tested positive for COVID-19, please get tested. Test sites are available to Merced County residents at most medical provider locations, as well as the following sites:

Testing Site	Location	Registration
Golden Valley Health Centers	645 7th St, Los Banos	1-866-682-4842 www.gvhc.org
Golden Valley Health Centers	857 W. Childs Ave., Merced	1-866-682-4842 www.gvhc.org
State Site	900 Martin Luther King Jr. Dr, Merced	1-888-634-1123 or online at www.lhi.care/covidtesting.
CVS – Merced	1970 Yosemite Pkwy, Merced	https://www.cvs.com/minuteclinic/covid-19-testing?WT.ac=cvs-storelocator-searchpilot-header-covid-7206
CVS – Atwater	1651 Bellevue Rd, Atwater	https://www.cvs.com/minuteclinic/covid-19-testing?WT.ac=cvs-storelocator-searchpilot-header-covid-7206

"Our Department wants to ensure all Merced County residents have access to testing within the County. Testing for those individuals with symptoms, which are often mild, is extremely important to prevent the further transmission in our community. Even those individuals without symptoms should be tested, if a potential exposure has occurred. We must all continue to follow the recommend safety measures to work towards a healthier tomorrow," says Dr. Salvador Sandoval, Public Health Officer.

As a general reminder, EVERYONE SHOULD:
- ✓ Wear a cloth face covering while out in public
- ✓ Social distance, making sure to maintain at least 6 feet between you and others
- ✓ Frequently wash your hands with soap and water

For information on COVID-19, visit the Department's website at www.countyofmerced.com/coronavirus.

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Vicki Jones, MPA, REHS	Jessica Montoya-Juarez, MS	Yadira Vazquez, MBA	James Clark, MICP, MHOAC
Environmental Health Division Director	*Assistant Public Health Director*	*Assistant Public Health Director*	*EMS Administrator*

260 E. 15th Street, Merced, CA 95341 | Main: (209) 381-1200 | Environmental Health: (209) 381-1100 | www.countyofmerced.com/health