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## Santa Clara County Programs During COVID-19

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**Supervisor Dave Cortese** <SupervisorDaveCortese@davecortese.com>  
To: Gnosis Test Email <michaelefranzino@gmail.com>

Tue, Apr 14, 2020 at 2:55 PM



Dear Community,

The County is the safety net for those in our community who need extra help. As you might expect, with so many people losing their jobs because of the COVID-19 Shelter in Place Order, the requests for help have increased enormously, and that trend will probably continue in the immediate future.

The Board of Supervisors called a special meeting today to hear about our programs and how we're meeting the needs of our residents during this difficult time. Are we prepared for the long haul?

We heard reports from our administrators about unemployment insurance, food assistance, medical, and other programs that are being heavily used.

The rate of unemployment reflects the dire need for our safety net programs. In February, the unemployment rate in Santa Clara County was 2.6%. The projected unemployment rate for May 2020 is 15.3%. At the peak of the recession in 2010, the rate of unemployment in March of that year was 11%.

There has been a huge growth in applications for CalFresh, one of the food aid programs. The week of March 15, there were 915 applications, and the week of April 5, there were 1,988 applications, with the number more than doubling since the Shelter in Place Order went into effect. The average number of days for people to receive food assistance is six, and the Board asked administrators to see how we can shorten that timeline and report back to us.

As your representative, I will continue to monitor our service operations and take action if we need to add resources so that crucial needs, such as food for families, will continue to be met.

To find out more and to listen to the meeting, you can visit the Board Agenda Portal at [this link](#). Our next meeting is Tuesday, April 21.

### **2-1-1 Available to Answer Resident Questions by Phone and Text**

County of Santa Clara 2-1-1 is serving as a call center for questions about Coronavirus (COVID-19). The 2-1-1 phone and text services are available 24 hours a day, 7 days a week, in 150 languages through phone interpretation services. Residents can simply dial 2-1-1 to be connected with a trained professional. Text services are available in English and Spanish. Just text

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### Coronavirus Update

The County Public Health Department reports that the number of confirmed cases of COVID-19 is 1,666, with 60 deaths. The Public Health Department website, with three dash boards, is updated daily at [sccgov.org/covid19](https://sccgov.org/covid19).

### Our Fundraiser in Support of Frontline COVID-19 Heroes is Tonight

**SUPERVISOR DAVE CORTESE & CONGRESSMAN RO KHANNA HOST:**



*Help our frontline heroes save lives and stay protected*

## PROTECT OUR HEROES

An Online Fundraiser in Support of Santa Clara County Healthcare Workers Fighting COVID-19

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**APRIL 14, 2020 | 6:00 - 7:00PM PST**

**WATCH ONLINE:**

[HTTP://FACEBOOK.COM/DAVECORTESEGOV/](http://facebook.com/davecortesegov/)

**DONATE:**

[HTTP://TINYURL.COM/SCCHEALTHCAREWORKERS](http://tinyurl.com/scchealthcareworkers)

All proceeds go to the Valley Medical Center Foundation toward resources for COVID-19 response.

(408) 299 5030 | [tara.sreekrishnan@bos.sccgov.org](mailto:tara.sreekrishnan@bos.sccgov.org)

Please don't forget to join me and Congressman Ro Khanna at 6 p.m. tonight for our "Protect our Heroes" online fundraising event. Donations will support our frontline healthcare workers who have made significant sacrifices to keep us safe during this pandemic. We will include a Q&A session during the event to answer your questions.

You can stream the live event at [this link](#). Donations in support of our healthcare workers can be made here:

<https://tinyurl.com/SCCHealthcareWorkers>.

I hope to see you there!

### Online Behavioral Health Academy

We know that now is a time of high stress and anxiety for many of us and our families. Boldly Me is a nonprofit behavioral health education program that educates, mentors, and supports children so they can overcome emotional trauma, build resiliency, and achieve their own unique potentials. During this time, Boldly Me is offering a behavioral skills training academy that is available to help everyone - children, families, and adults. Check out the online academy here: <https://academy.boldlyme.org/>.

### New Platform Connects Those Who Can Give a "Helping Hand"

A group of local tech employees from Uber, Lyft, Google, WhatsApp and Facebook joined forces to create a platform for those able to help others during COVID-19. The platform connects those wanting to help with those that are struggling most: the elderly, the immune-compromised, and others at-risk in our communities. Their hope is that they can use their service to foster connections and help those most isolated through these times.

Click [here](#) to learn more about the 100% volunteer-driven organization called "Helping Hands," a new nonprofit created in response to the COVID-19 pandemic.

Thank you again for all you're doing to help your communities during this health crisis. Take care of yourselves and each other.

For questions, you can call my office at 408-299-5030 or email me at [dave.cortese@bos.sccgov.org](mailto:dave.cortese@bos.sccgov.org).



Dave Cortese  
County Supervisor, Third District



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