



Public Health Division

# County of Santa Cruz

## HEALTH SERVICES AGENCY

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### Press Release

**For Release: Immediately**

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## COUNTY, SAFEWAY FORM VACCINE PARTNERSHIP

The County of Santa Cruz is pleased to announce a partnership with local Safeway stores to assist in the distribution of COVID-19 vaccines to frontline health care workers.

Distributing vaccine to 14,700 Phase 1A health care workers within Santa Cruz County is a key step to wider vaccine distribution to local residents. While supplies remain highly limited, the County is committed to the equitable distribution of vaccines in accordance with state and federal guidelines.

“Our goal is to distribute vaccine supplies as quickly as possible, and doing that demands that we rely on the strength of our local partnerships with health care providers, including Safeway pharmacies,” said Mimi Hall, Health Services Agency Director for Santa Cruz County. “Ending this pandemic will take our entire community working together, and we are grateful for the partnerships we have as well as those we will form in the coming weeks and months.”

As part of the partnership, Safeway has committed to providing the County assistance with upcoming mass vaccination clinics by providing scheduling and vaccination support to accommodate up to 500 individuals per day at a location to be announced at a later date, beginning with health care workers.

The County has already established partnership with local hospitals, community clinics and health care providers, and is exploring expand its vaccination network through partnerships with local pharmacies, EMTs, dental offices and more, and has activated its Emergency Operations Center for assistance with logistics and planning for mass vaccination sites. Mass vaccination clinics are a key component of the County’s vaccine distribution plan.

In addition, the County has provided 1,200 doses of vaccine to be distributed to four local Safeway stores to be used for specific populations eligible to receive vaccine immediately. These points-of-distribution are not open to the general public, and eligible populations will be contacted directly.

For more information on the County’s COVID-19 response efforts, please visit <https://www.santacruzhealth.org/coronavirusvaccine>. For more information on Safeway’s COVID-19 response efforts, please visit <https://www.safeway.com/pharmacy/covid-19.html>.



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Santa Cruz County