

A COVID-19 Response Update from Marin Community Clinics' CEO

April 24, 2020

Dear Marin Community Clinics Family,

Telehealth continues to be the primary method for delivering healthcare at Marin Community Clinics at this time, accounting for approximately 80% of our patient visits. Most of these visits are by telephone, and we are working to increase our capacity to videoconference.

Last week I told you that we would begin sending nurses to the County of Marin's Emergency Operations Center to assist with COVID-19 activities. Three of our registered nurses are reporting to the Point of Testing site where they assist with swabbing or are deployed to senior residential care facilities to assess needs, train staff, and swab for COVID-19 if any resident has symptoms.

We continue to accept new patients such as those who have recently lost health insurance due to job loss. By phone, our certified enrollment counselors are working diligently to get eligible individuals signed up in insurance programs. We are also assisting with CalFresh (food stamp) enrollment.

Most of our patients have long suffered from social inequities and economic insecurity, and these conditions put them at increased risk during the pandemic. Free food distribution at Health Hubs continues to operate at a much higher capacity than usual as larger numbers of people are struggling to feed themselves and their families. We appreciate the patience of our neighbors as people line up in cars waiting to receive food boxes distributed by volunteers. We are so proud to partner with SF-Marin Food Bank and extrafood.org in this endeavor!

On the lighter side, we are actively promoting self-care. Self-care is any activity that we enjoy and do deliberately to take care of our mental, emotional, and physical health. We have started a staff self-care challenge to share photos of us taking time to care for ourselves and of maintaining social connections while physically distant. I am extending this challenge to you!

Visit our Facebook page https://www.facebook.com/marinclinics/, tag us in your post using @marinclinics and use the hashtags #MCCSelfCareChallenge #TogetherApart #SelfCareChallenge

When you contribute to Marin Community Clinics, you are supporting your neighbors who count on us to promote their health, safety and well-being.

I offer my ongoing gratitude to you. We are all in this together.

My best to you all,

Mitesh Popat, MD, MPH Chief Executive Officer