MEMORANDUM

Date: March 19, 2021

To: The Honorable Chair and Members
Pima County Board of Supervisors

From: C.H. Huckelberry
County Administrator

Re: Accelerated Vaccination Plan, Vaccination Plan for Disadvantaged Communities and the Social Vulnerability Index

As you will recall, in the Accelerated Vaccination Plan developed by the County’s public health agency, a significant component of the plan was dedicated to ensuring vaccine equity within the community.

Initially, our regional facilities were providing vaccines directed to specific age targets. The race/ethnicity outcomes at these facilities reported approximately 14 percent of all vaccines given were administered to Hispanic populations; whereas, the Hispanic population in Pima County is 38 percent. The ethnicity distribution of State POD vaccination sites is even worse for the Hispanic population. Recent information shows that State POD vaccines have been administered to only four percent of the Hispanic population.

Pima County has committed from the beginning of the pandemic to ensure equitable care to vulnerable populations. This commitment has been reflected in our aggressive mobile clinic campaign to go directly to disadvantaged and minority populations. While our mobile clinics have served all at risk populations, our primary focus has been on communities of color as they are the communities that have been most impacted by the ravages of the COVID pandemic.

Our efforts have received national recognition. First, the Centers for Disease Control (CDC) invited Pima County to present at the National Forum on COVID-19 Vaccine where Health Department Director Dr. Theresa Cullen participated in a town hall, “Leveraging Networks and Partnerships to Maximize Equitable Access” on February 24, 2021. In addition, the National Association of County and City Health Officials (NACCHO) held a webinar entitled, “COVID-19 Vaccine Stories from the Field: Local Health Department Practices to Facilitate Equitable Vaccine Distribution and Access” on March 18, 2021. Three organizations were asked to share their best practices including Pima County, Arizona, DuPage County, Illinois and Washington, DC.

The PowerPoint presentation that was presented by our Health staff to these national forums is included for your information.

Please contact me if you would like to receive more information on this subject.

Attachment

c: Jan Lesher, Chief Deputy County Administrator
Carmine DeBonis, Jr., Deputy County Administrator for Public Works
Francisco García, MD, MPH, Deputy County Administrator & Chief Medical Officer, Health and Community Services
Terry Cullen, MD, MS, Public Health Director, Pima County Health Department
Pima County Equitable Vaccine Rollout and Targeted Distribution
March 18, 2021

- Published Broad vaccination/acceleration plan
  - Updated regularly
- Vaccine equity as a foundational principle
- Commitment to equitable distribution
- Metrics to track outcomes
- Rubric to identify Vulnerable populations
- Data informed decisions
- Ideal mobile vaccine candidacy
- Community engagement and support for mobile clinic
Local Application of CDC-SVI Variables
SVI Quartile Map of Pima County

Pima SVG designates census tracts by social vulnerability on a scale of 1–4, with 4 being the highest vulnerability and 1 being the lowest vulnerability.
Basic Principals for Vaccine Equity

Person
- Age
- Chronic disease
- Communal living
- Socio Economic Stress
- Poor observation

Situation
- Outbreaks or clusters
- Severe illness
- Deaths
- Vaccinations

Location
- Population density
- Social vulnerability
- Age concentrations
- Proximity to care
- Proximity to hotspots

Map

Legend

Vaccine 1

Vaccine 2
Figure 10. Individuals within 14 days of Initial COVID+ Test Date by Residential Vulnerability Score (Q1-4)
Fatalities by Residential Address

Pima Social Vulnerability Scale

Pima SVS designates census tracts by social vulnerability on a scale of 1-4, with 4 being the highest vulnerability and 1 being the lowest vulnerability.
Number of Decedents by Census Tract Vulnerability

May 2020: 23, 33, 55, 41
September 2020: 107, 110, 171, 175
January 2021: 210, 228, 300, 313

Lowest Vulnerability | Highest Vulnerability
Mobile Vaccine Event by Residential Turnout

Pima Social Vulnerability Scale

Join_trial_500

4
3
2
1
0

Pima SVS designates census tracts by social vulnerability on a scale of 1-4, with 4 being the highest vulnerability and 1 being the lowest vulnerability.