

Our Commitment to Community Wellness

Our commitment to community wellness continues as we host our United Against COVID-19 Vaccination Clinics this month. The United Against COVID-19 Coalition consists of strong leading community organizations like All of Us or None, Building Healthy Communities Kern, Lideres Campesinas, South Kern Sol, Unidad Popular, and Vision y Compromiso. "Throughout this pandemic, DHF has focused on providing science-based information, PPE and resources to our communities to help stop the spread of COVID-19 and get all eligible people vaccinated," said Camila Chavez, executive director of the Dolores Huerta Foundation (DHF). As of March 2022, federal data from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) show that 76.5% of the total population in the United States have received at least one dose of a COVID-19 vaccine. As vaccines were made accessible, Black and Hispanic/Latinx people have been less likely to receive a vaccine than White people. Lack of access and vaccine confidence might be the answer. Due to this, the Dolores Huerta Foundation has strategically organized free vaccine clinics, as a partner in the United Against COVID-19 Coalition, in the communities that fall behind. The recent data indicates that the racial gap is lessening which further supports our efforts in decreasing vaccination inequities.

To further support these communities, at times, DHF will also distribute donated goods during these vaccine clinics. DHF Campaign Coordinator Elizabeth (Liz), recalls a most recent event in Arvin, California as one of her "favorites" as 130 people were able to test for COVID-19 and 94 received their vaccine. A special thanks to Community Action Partnership of Kern (CAPK) as 200 people walked away with bags of rice, spaghetti, and other delicious canned goods. We are proud to have each vaccine clinic staffed with community members that prioritize community wellness. Arianna Lema says, "Being vaccinated honestly has never been for me, it's for my neighbors. I want to be protected so others around me have a higher chance of protection as well. Coming from an auto immune family I knew immediately how serious doing your part is. We give the best resources to stay protected so we must use them!" As a trusted messenger in the community we will continue to inform and encourage community members with the facts and make resources available. No appointment, proof of insurance or citizenship is needed. If you're trying to get a vaccinated or boosted contact: 661-383-2588. For more information about our next vaccination clinic visit www.doloreshuerta.org

"This pyramid of food boxes is something we've been doing for a while and it's fun to see and put together but even better when we're able to really distribute it all to the community members who join us at these vaccine clinic events."

-Elizabeth Palencia, DHF Staff

A Few Words From Our DHF Volunteers

Arianna Lema, a volunteer at DHF joined the movement because "The environment is like no other and the people we help are very welcoming and grateful. Being and helping at the grass root is always going to remain the most important of an organizer's life. Being vaccinated honestly has never been for me, it's for my neighbors. I want to be protected so others around me have a higher chance of protection as well. Coming from an auto immune family I knew immediately how serious doing your part is. We give the best resources to stay protected so we must use them!"

Haily Lema, a volunteer at DHF joined the movement because, "It's super empowering to me knowing I have the ability to help protect my community against something dangerous and possibly life-threatening to so many others. And if I have the power to help slow it then I will. Being vaccinated will always bring me a little extra sense of security that personally I think everybody can use. It lets me know that I've done what I can to keep myself and everyone around me safe in situations we can't control with the resources we're thankful enough to have access to."

DHF Youth Program Partners with Sol-Collective

Since the rebranding of the Youth Program, the team continues to build on the capacity of the youth by celebrating their work and uplifting their voices. Recently, through a recommendation from consultant Dr. Susie Lundy, the DHF Youth Program secured a collaboration with Sol-Collective. Sol Collective, a community-based 501(c)(3) partner whose mission is to provide artistic, cultural, and educational programming, has crafted lessons and workshops that incorporate DHF Youth Program's three curriculum pathways which are focused on cultural art, technology, and civic engagement. Virginia Espino, DHF Youth Program's Project Associate believe's the trainings offered by Sol-Collective have "exceeded expectations" as they've provided various workshops and listening sessions tailored to the goals of the department. This training is beneficial to growing minds as expressive art, wellness practices, technology skills and civic engagement training tools are needed to foster a BIPOC youth-led social justice movement.

Sol-Collective continues to provide DHF youth members with skill building sessions / exercises such as video production, digital illustrations, wellness techniques (breathing, meditation, healing circles, healing "activities", poetry, story-telling), and many more! "One of my favorite sessions while being part of the LYFE program has been learning best practices for public speaking. I got to learn a lot about speaking my opinion on important topics influencing kids today. I will use it in giving back to my community by educating many others on these topics and also by helping to solve these issues as well," says DHF Fresno, CA Youth member Alejandro. We believe the skills learned through this partnership will benefit youth in their professional development and journey as social justice warriors.

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To learn more about the progression and development of the DHF youth program, visit www.doloreshuerta.org

Let's Cancel COVID!

Make an appointment to get vaccinated at
myturn.ca.gov.

Protect yourself, protect your loved ones.



Lorena Sevier, I continue to volunteer at DHF because I love our mission, helping our communities can make the difference and one day can be reflected by changing people's mind and showing that if we work together we can make things be true...Si Se Puede!!



The illustration above was created by our Youth during one of their many Sol-Collective workshops.