
Concepcion James

United Latino Voices

Established 2009



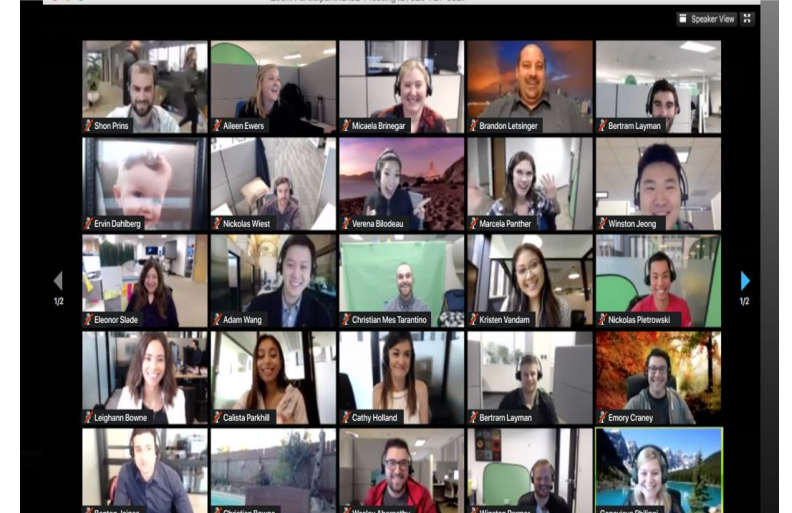
What COVID taught us about health
& what needs to be done to assure it



The unraveling of a family *Jose, Maria & Jose Jr.*

United Latino Voices COVID ZOOM PLATICA SERIES

Supported by Contra Costa Regional Foundation



Key finding #1:

- ❑ Persistent barriers of access to care & proactive use of care before COVID and during COVID led to dire consequences



Key finding #2

- ❑ Lack of trust and relationships with key health & welfare governmental institutions detained community members from engaging in testing and vaccinations and early COVID care





Key finding #3

- ❑ Social conditions such as housing, food insecurity, lack of transportation, childcare were huge stressors before COVID and were exacerbated by COVID

Key Finding #4

- ❑ In the early stages of the pandemic there was a huge gap in community (boots on the ground) outreach & education which resulted in a COVID education/information gap for the most vulnerable.



Recommendation #1

In Contra Costa County

More than a
right it is a
necessity



Recommendation #2

It is time for a paradigm shift of providing healthcare in Contra Costa County with community health centers being equally funded and valued as critical partners in the delivery of care.





Recommendation #3

Assist vulnerable populations with community outreach & education & social determinant of health assistance (housing, food, childcare, MediCal applications, Food Stamp Applications, etc.)

Recommendation #4

Form or identify a Contra Costa Task Force for Health to best identify how to:

- Assure community and resident engagement in setting and implementing priorities for health and health care
- To identify strategies to overcome structural racism in our health network
- To identify how best to build trust and relationships with vulnerable populations and the nonprofit agencies that serve them



We must be **bold**, we must be **willing to work together** in new ways, and be ready to **think outside the box**, to **transform lives and build a healthier community**

“Never doubt that a small group of thoughtful, committed, citizens can change the world. Indeed, it is the only thing that ever has.”

— **Margaret Mead**
