

March 27, 2020


To Whom it May Concern:

Our communities are facing one of the largest public health crises in modern times. While most Californians are sheltering at home, physician, nurses, other health care workers and support staff on the front lines are caring for a rising number of COVID-19 patients and preparing for a surge in admission of severely ill COVID-19 patients. We all hope that state-wide mitigation efforts will “flatten the curve,” while hospitals continue to prepare for an expected surge that will surely strain hospital bed and ventilator capacity.

To mitigate and suppress further COVID-19 transmission, it is critically important that people who’ve been exposed to COVID-19 have a safe place to self-isolate. Therefore, we support Los Angeles County’s efforts to use the Sheraton Fairplex Hotel to house people who have been exposed to COVID-19 and have nowhere else to self-isolate with support services. We applaud the County’s action to ensure that 244 individuals will be housed in a safe, secure and clean location. This will help reduce the risk of further transmission of COVID-19 to the broader community.

This innovative approach during unprecedented times was supported by Los Angeles County Supervisor Hilda Solis, Pomona Mayor Tim Sandoval, Senator Connie Leyva and Assembly member Freddy Rodriguez. We thank them for working on quick solutions.

Sincerely,



John M. Yamamoto, Vice President
Community Health & Government Relations
Kaiser Foundation Hospitals/Health Plan, Southern California