Our Community in Action

Madera Community College Center student Jorge Orozco has spent a lot of his time out of town during the coronavirus pandemic – helping those in need.

Orozco is a Staff Sergeant in the Army National Guard, and has served our country for 15 years. He has been in the San Jose and Central Coast areas for almost two months now, packing boxes of produce for food distribution to those in need. Serving others in times of emergency was one of the main reasons he enlisted. Read more about Jorge here.

State and National Guidance/Executive Orders/News

Gov. Gavin Newsom today gave an update on the state’s response to the COVID-19 pandemic. (All daily news conferences are streamed live at noon on his Twitter page and the California Governor Facebook page.) You can find more information on California’s COVID-19 website.
The governor today announced a number of new initiatives to support older Californians, including a program for local governments to provide restaurant delivery service to support vulnerable residents who are isolating at home. Newsom also announced the expansion of the statewide Friendship Line to support older Californians facing loneliness, isolation and/or anxiety. The number is 1-888-670-1360. Finally, he urged people to think twice about heading to the beach or parks this weekend, saying it could increase hospitalizations next week.

You can watch the full update here. (Please note: the broadcast begins around the 7:00 mark.)

The governor on Thursday also took a number of executive actions including:

- Issuing an executive order extending the deadlines for local educational agencies to submit Local Control and Accountability Plans, and waiving required physical education minutes and annual physical fitness testing that requires on-site instruction.
- Granting a 60-day extension for customers on several Department of Motor Vehicles deadlines, including for recently expired drivers’ licenses and identification cards, and signing an executive order allowing retailers to provide bags to customers at no charge.
- Issuing an executive order providing flexibility to Medi-Cal providers and the Department of Health Care Services for continuity of service amidst the COVID-19 pandemic.

Gov. Newsom will be on the next edition of 60 Minutes on Sunday, April 26. He will discuss how he made the decision to shut down California in response to the COVID-19 pandemic and how the state turned to the tech industry to use the computing power of artificial intelligence to help map the spread of the disease.

President Trump today signed the $484 billion relief package that promises more financial help to small businesses and hospitals.

The 2020 California State Fair has officially been canceled.

San Francisco city leaders today said an extension of the city’s stay-at-home order is likely.

Yolo County today issued a ‘Roadmap to Recovery,’ that includes a new health order and amends the current stay-at-home order.
message she uses to welcome students into her class. This session will also have a focus on the implementation of AB705. [Register at this link].

College practitioners can find COVID-19 resources, information, and community within the Vision Resource Center. Create an account or log in. Under the “Connect” menu, visit “All Communities” and look for the “CCC | COVID-19 Resources, Tools and Discussion” section. Click “Join Community” to access the content within.

STUDENT SUPPORTS
Please encourage your students to visit StayEnrolled.com to get the latest information and updates related to financial aid, transfer and career education. Current and prospective students can also get connected with their local college to find out specific resources and support services available as well as enroll in their local community college.

Increased anxiety and concern is absolutely normal right now. Please let your students know help is available. The California Youth Crisis line runs 24 hours a day, seven days a week: 800-843-5200. The National Suicide Prevention Lifeline provides confidential assistance to anyone in crisis and their loved ones through a live chat and free 24-hour hotline at 800-273-8255. You can also text the Crisis Text Line at 741741. Our LGBTQ students can also contact the Trevor Project by calling 1-866-488-7386 or text START to 678678 for 24/7 information. The Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual and Transgender National Hotline is available from 1:00 – 9:00 p.m. at 1-800-273-8255. Or call or text the Victims of Crime Resource Center at 1-800-842-8467 for help.

HOW TO HELP
The Foundation for California Community Colleges, in partnership with the California Community Colleges, has launched an effort to provide emergency aid, technology, connectivity and other essential supports to students. Click here for more on ways to support students through this campaign.

Many of us want to help right now but aren’t sure the best way to go about it. The new Californians For All website will match interested volunteers with high-need opportunities to safely serve their communities.

OTHER INFORMATION
To help all of us better understand the coronavirus and how it spreads, the Los Angeles Times is conducting an independent, continual survey of dozens of local health agencies across the state.

The Public Policy Institute of California has released a report, Early Insights on California’s Economic Downturn, in regards to the COVID-19 pandemic. Findings include how our current climate differs from the Great Recession.

Trying to protect a child by pretending everything’s okay when it’s not can actually increase their stress, according to new research from UCSF, Cal, New York University and Washington State University. Instead, it’s important for kids to have their feelings honored during this uncertain time.

TIP OF THE DAY
Please do not inject or ingest disinfectant in an attempt to fight COVID-19.

Did you get this from someone else? Sign up to receive the daily COVID-19 Special Update under ‘Subscribe and Connect.’