



# Mendocino County

## Legislation Text

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File #: 20-0651, Version: 1

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**To: Board of Supervisors**

**From:** Health and Human Services Agency

**Meeting Date:** July 21, 2020

**Department Contact:** John Haschak

**Phone:** 4441

**Department Contact:** Tammy Moss Chandler

**Phone:** 463-7774

**Item Type:** Regular Agenda

**Time Allocated for Item:** 30 Minutes

**Agenda Title:**

Discussion and Possible Action Regarding the Impacts of COVID-19 on Racial and Ethnic Minority Groups; Current National, State and Local Data about COVID-19 and the Importance of Addressing Health Disparities; and, Proposed Interventions and Recommendations from the Mendocino County Latinx Alliance and the Health and Human Services Agency  
(Sponsors: Supervisor Haschak and the Health and Human Services Agency)

**Recommended Action/Motion:**

Accept presentation and provide direction to staff as appropriate regarding the impacts of COVID-19 on racial and ethnic minority groups; current National, State and Local data about COVID-19 and the importance of addressing health disparities; and, proposed interventions and recommendations from the Mendocino County Latinx Alliance and the Health and Human Services Agency.

**Previous Board/Board Committee Actions:**

N/A

**Summary of Request:**

While everyone is at risk of getting COVID-19, some people are more at risk. According to the national Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, long-standing systemic health and social inequities have put members of racial and ethnic minority groups at increased risk of getting COVID-19 or experiencing severe illness, regardless of age. Mounting evidence across the United States points to higher rates of hospitalization and death due to COVID-19 for Native American Indians, non-Hispanic black persons, and Hispanics and Latinos than among non-Hispanic white persons.

In Mendocino County, approximately 50% of COVID-19 Cases so far have been in the Latinx community with a significant number being monolingual Spanish speakers. Recommendations today will include immediate actions the Board of Supervisors can take to address these disparities, prioritize resources and improve outreach and communication in response to COVID-19. Recommendations will also consider longer term strategies to reduce health disparities and improve the health of our communities.

The Board Workshop will include presentations and information from:

- Sergio Aguilar-Gaxiola, MD, PhD, Director of the Center for Reducing Health Disparities at UC Davis

- Noemi Doohan, MD, PhD, Mendocino County Health Officer
- Roseanne Ibarra, MLS, Director of Community Integration for Adventist Health and founding member of Mendocino Latinx Alliance

Mendocino Latinx Alliance was formed in April 2018 by a group of local leaders interested in building bridges, inspiring leadership, sharing information, and creating a platform for the Latinx community to voice aspirations, needs and concerns. Mendocino Latinx Alliance's vision for inclusion, collaboration and open dialogue among leaders was the impetus for the formation of this new group.

From their first meeting in 2018 Mendocino Latinx Alliance focused on demographics and relevant information to improve community wellbeing in Mendocino County, and explored unconscious bias and inequity issues that are deeply rooted within our culture, systems and institutions.

**Alternative Action/Motion:**

Return to staff for alternative handling.

**Supervisory District:** All

**vote requirement:** Majority

**Supplemental Information Available Online At:** N/A

**Fiscal Details:**

**source of funding:** TBD

**current f/y cost:** \$250,000

**annual recurring cost:** \$50,000

**budget clarification:** Consider new CARES Act funding and new HHSA grant funding for health insurance outreach and enrollment.

**budgeted in current f/y:** \$25,000

**if no, please describe:** See Below

**revenue agreement:** N/A

**Agreement/Resolution/Ordinance Approved by County Counsel:** N/A

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**CEO Liaison:** Darcie Antle, Deputy CEO

**CEO Review:** Yes

**CEO Comments:**

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**Executed By:** Atlas Pearson, Deputy Clerk I

**Date:** July 24, 2020

**Final Status:** Direction Given to Staff

