



Interfaith Council of Alameda County

As you all must know by now, Gov. Newsom has not only declared a state of emergency in response to the COVID-19 crisis but has also ordered everyone to shelter in place (stay home) with no specific termination date. ICAC supports this order as a necessary means to eventually stop the virus. Details on this order can be found [here](#).

COVID-19 Resources

The [State of California](#) has put up a handy [website](#) for residents that updates everything from current health risks, employment benefits, to new tax information.

[Alameda County Public Health Department](#) also issues local health protocols daily and has a clear [FAQ section](#) on what “shelter at home” means.

And the [City of Oakland](#) has a site dedicated to [local resources](#).

The East Bay Regional Park District has put out a [FAQ addressing the regulations about using trails and open spaces](#) at this time.

Also, In order to apply for **Unemployment Insurance**, go to the [EDD website](#).

Also, this Thurs. at 6:00, at an online town hall meeting, Oakland Mayor Libby Schaaf will be joined by [Dr. Erica Pan](#), Interim Health Officer at the Alameda County Public Health Department, and others. Dr. Pan will give an update on the county’s response, the challenges ahead, strategies to stay healthy, and answer your questions about the “do’s and don’ts” of the public health order.

As the mayor has written, “I want to thank every Oaklander for showing up for each other. Remember to

stay in, order out, and take care of each other.”

COVID-19 and The Safe Car Park Program

The COVID-19 virus has created a new set of challenges as ICAC takes care of clients who are living in their cars and parking at night on its site. To meet those challenges, we are doing the following;

- Limiting one person at a time coming into the church to pick up clothing and then wiping down after each visit.
- Providing non-perishable snacks daily. Hot meals twice a week.
- Wiping down the portable toilet and washing station more often.
- Protecting staff and volunteers with masks, gloves and hand sanitizers.
- The Dignity on Wheels shower and laundry truck continues to set up every Wed., 4-8.

In other Safe Car Park news, ICAC is accepting recent parolees from the Alameda County Jail in Dublin.

Census 2020

By now, most people have received their Census 2020 notification with their census ID #. This year, the census is being done online, so please respond to this notification by going to my2020census.gov and fill out the form. It's very simple.

It's critical that EVERYONE fills out the form because funding and government representation are allocated depending on population. This includes;

- Directing billions of dollars in federal funds to local communities for schools, roads, and other public services.
- Helping communities prepare to meet transportation and emergency readiness needs.
- Determining the number of seats each state has in the U.S. House of Representatives and political representation at all levels of government.

Many populations are considered hard-to-count. These include seniors, immigrants and the homeless. Immigrants, for instance, are reluctant to fill out the form for fear of being deported. But it's important for them, too, so that resources are allocated appropriately. ICAC is on the front lines helping to count these

people, especially our unhoused clients.

Finding Faith Video

From ABC7 News:

In times like this, we want to come together with our communities and the people we love. For many, that means religious gatherings, but going to mass, temple or Sunday school are now all off-limits.

We're bringing together community leaders from across the Bay Area to share their sermons with you. ABC7 Presents: "Finding Faith, Better Together."

Watch ABC7's one-hour special "Finding Faith, Better Together" above

Link to [Video](#)

NEXT MONTHLY MEETING

Like so many other organizations, ICAC is going hold the next monthly meeting either online or by conference call. Stay tuned for

Date: Thurs., April 9
Time: 12noon - 1:30pm
Location: Online

If you live out of your car and need a safe place to stay overnight or would like to make a donation to help ICAC Safe Car Park Program, please go to [interfaithac.org](https://www.interfaithac.org).

For more info contact Interfaith Council of Alameda County
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<https://www.interfaithac.org>

