

CELEBRATING
22
YEARS

Latino Times

FREE | GRATIS - October 2022

VOTE NOVEMBER 8TH

A BILINGUAL PUBLICATION

YOUR VOTE COUNTS!

October 2022

www.latinotimes.org

23

Health Plan of San Joaquin Announces \$15 Million Investment to Address Homelessness

Health Plan of San Joaquin (HPSJ), a local health plan that serves more than 400,000 Medi-Cal beneficiaries in San Joaquin and Stanislaus Counties, announces a \$15 million investment to reduce and prevent homelessness across the community. Through this investment, HPSJ will partner to help fund the construction of shelters and permanent supportive housing units for those experiencing homelessness in cities that include Stockton, Tracy, and Modesto. Additionally, HPSJ's investment will support innovative street medicine pro-

grams that position health care providers to directly deliver care outdoors to individuals who are experiencing homelessness.

"This investment, unanimously and enthusiastically approved by our governing Commission, will allow HPSJ and our partners to better meet the needs of our most vulnerable members while addressing challenges related to homelessness in our community," says HPSJ's Chief Executive Officer, Michael Schrader.

"HPSJ has proudly served the Central Valley for more than 25

years," Schrader continues, "and we are strong in our commitment to improve the health of our community through collaboration on the launch of these new housing and homelessness initiatives."

More October Health Highlights!

Women's Breast Health – Get the Facts! Women ages 50 through 74 should get a mammogram every two years. If breast cancer is part of your family history, begin talking to your doctor before age 40 and learn about when a screening is right for you. Early detection saves lives! Get the facts at <https://tinyurl.com/3kvzt55v> and celebrate with the women in your life on National Mammography Day, October 21.

Nearly half of American adults have high blood pressure. Many don't even know they have it. Learn the facts about high blood pressure, and Know Your Numbers, at <https://tinyurl.com/yxetzza>. Then click <https://tinyurl.com/yxetzza> for how to check blood pressure. Through their Medi-Cal RX pharmacy benefit, Health Plan of San Joaquin members are eligible to receive a blood pressure cuff prescribed by their HPSJ provider for use with personal home blood pressure monitoring devices.

On Halloween, children are more than twice as likely to be hit by a car and killed than on any other day. For-

tunately, there are lots of easy things parents and kids can do to stay safe on the spookiest of holidays. Click <https://www.safekids.org/halloween> for top tips for Halloween safety.

It's Health Literacy Month. Being able to understand – and empowered to make – health choices is essential. The CDC has ideas at <https://tinyurl.com/57mvdmpj> for how organizations, communities and individuals can make a difference for health literacy. Health Plan of San Joaquin members with questions can call the 24/7 Nurse/Doctor Advice line, at 800.655.8294. Interpretation is available for HPSJ members via Customer Service at 1.888.936.7526 or click <https://tinyurl.com/yc7sj7nk> to request online.

Cervical cancer can be stopped by screening starting at age 21. The pap test can find cells in the cervix that are not normal – and when found early can be treated before turning into cancer. During your exam, the doctor will screen for Human Papillomavirus (HPV), known to cause cervical cancer. A person between the ages of 12 to 26, no matter their gender, should talk to their doctor about the HPV shot. HPSJ members can get rewarded for their cervical cancer screening at www.hpsj.com/MyRewards. Click <https://tinyurl.com/muckyasf> to learn more about HPV, cervical cancer and how to push back.