



**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

**May 14, 2021**

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**\*\*\*PRESS RELEASE\*\*\***

**SAN FRANCISCO DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC HEALTH AND  
COMMUNITY-BASED ORGANIZATIONS DELIVER VACCINES TO  
HOMEBOUND PATIENTS**

*On Saturday, May 15, SFPDH will join local non-profit Self-Help for the Elderly and All American Medical Group's dream team of community, clinical, and business partners to vaccinate 100 homebound adults in one day*

**SAN FRANCISCO** – On Saturday, May 15 at 10:00 a.m., District 4 Supervisor Gordon Mar and the San Francisco Department of Public Health (SFPDH) will join local non-profit Self-Help for the Elderly and All American Medical Group (AAMG) and their unique coalition of clinical and community-based organizations for a mobile vaccination event that will deliver vaccines to more than 100 homebound adults and their caregivers in one day. Event details below.

“I am grateful that the City is partnering with Self-Help for the Elderly and All American Medical Group in my district to provide vaccines at home for people with the greatest barriers, especially when it comes to language, technology or mobility and disability. Our success in fighting this pandemic, as a whole, depends on making sure nobody gets left behind,” states District 4 Supervisor Gordon Mar.

Many homebound adults experience challenges when accessing vaccines including language barriers, disabilities, mobility issues, and lack of access to technology and transportation. SFPDH/COVID Command and the San Francisco Health Network have been providing vaccine to homebound individuals since early March 2021 as one of our mobile vaccine strategies. While the City is on target to vaccinate more than 600 homebound seniors by the end of June, there remains an unmet need with this population. Partnerships such as this with Self-help for the Elderly and AAMG are a critical part of the strategy to reaching this vulnerable group.

“San Francisco has made great strides in its vaccination efforts with more than 75% percent of our eligible population having received at least one dose of the COVID-19 vaccine and 58% percent having completed their series,” says Deputy Director of the Department of Public Health Dr. Naveena Bobba. “However, we still have work to do to reach our homebound adults. Partnering with trusted community and clinical partners is essential to ensuring that nobody slips through the cracks

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and that everyone has an opportunity to get the vaccine. The Department of Public Health is honored to join Self-help for the Elderly and its partners to help support this unique collaboration.”

“San Francisco has developed a National model for equitable vaccine distribution,” said Mary Ellen Carroll, Executive Director, San Francisco Department of Emergency Management. “Taking vaccine door-to-door and delivering this life saving measure to homebound seniors and people with disabilities will help push San Francisco through the last mile of our vaccine program.”

Mobile vaccination teams bring vaccines directly to people with access and/or functional needs.

On Saturday, volunteer teams, comprised of three people--with at least one physician and one experienced driver--will go directly to patient homes where they will vaccinate homebound patients and their caregivers. Each team will be outfitted with emergency supplies and will wait the required 15 minutes to ensure the safety of each patient. In a typical day, mobile vaccination teams can reach 6-10 addresses, depending on geography, parking, and vaccine storage needs.

“While maybe not the quickest means of delivery, mobile vaccinations are very effective at bringing the vaccine directly to the patient,” says Dr. Kenneth Chang, board member of the All American Medical Group. “We need to go to where they live in order to get the job done.”

“These individuals are typically at high risk for complications of COVID-19, and risk exposure from visiting friends, family or caretakers.” declares Dr. Hans Yu of Grace Pacific Medical Associates. “It is imperative that we reach this vulnerable population as soon as possible.”

This event was made possible through the volunteer efforts of a diverse group of organizations; the All American Medical Group, San Francisco Marin Medical Society, Independent Living Resource Center of SF, Bayview Hunters Point Multipurpose Senior Services, Dr. Hans Yu, Dr. Kenneth Chang, Wellmans Pharmacy, and Lyft, which provided free rides for event volunteers. A generous grant from Direct Relief provided additional funding for this effort.

“Taking care of our most vulnerable seniors and persons with disabilities is one of our top priorities. We are pleased to provide funding support for Self-Help for the Elderly to do this.” Thomas Tighe, President and CEO of Direct Relief.

“Mass vaccination sites, while essential for vaccinating the public at large, are best at reaching computer literate, English speaking car owners. It's an honor to be included in this vital effort to close the gap and reach the most vulnerable patients in our communities,” said Dr. Monique Schaulis, President of the San Francisco Marin Medical Society.

“Thank you to the volunteers and doctors of AAMG and SFMMS who will be supporting these efforts. We must continue our quest to vaccinate the elderly and underserved as quickly as possible to conquer the COVID-19 virus,” concludes Self-Help for the Elderly CEO, Anni Chung.

Individuals who are 65 and older, with disabilities and who are unable to easily access the internet or schedule an appointment through their provider, may call (628) 652-2700 to learn about vaccine options and receive assistance in booking an appointment to some locations.



**WHAT:** Homebound Mobile Vaccination Event with Self-help for the Elderly

**WHEN:** Saturday, May 15, 2021 10:00 a.m.

**WHERE:** Self-Help for the Elderly-South Sunset Senior Center, 2601 40<sup>th</sup> Avenue  
San Francisco, CA 94116

**WHO:**

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| Hon. Gordon Mar   | Supervisor District 4                                   |
| Anni Chung        | President and CEO, Self-Help for the Elderly            |
| Dr. Kenneth Chang | Board, All American Medical Group                       |
| Conrad Amenta     | Executive Director, San Francisco Marin Medical Society |
| Michael Bennet    | Bayview Hunters Point Multipurpose Senior Services      |
| Dr. Naveena Bobba | Deputy Director, SF Department of Public Health         |
| Willia Tong       | Independent Living Resource Center of San Francisco     |
| Malcolm McFarland | Lyft  |
| Peter Lo          | Wellmans Pharmacy                                       |
| Thomas Tighe      | President and CEO, Direct Relief                        |

**QUESTIONS/CONTACT:** Joseph Woo, MD; President, AAMG  
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**About Self-Help for the Elderly**

Self-Help for the Elderly began serving seniors in San Francisco’s Chinatown community in 1966. Today, Self-Help for the Elderly has 19 locations in San Francisco, San Mateo, Santa Clara, Alameda and Contra Costa counties and serves over 40,000 seniors every year. For more information, visit [www.selfhelpelderly.org](http://www.selfhelpelderly.org).

**About the All American Medical Group**

AAMG is a progressive, physician led multi-specialty medical group, devoted to providing the highest quality health care to its patients. With more than 250 physicians, AAMG serves patients in San Francisco and San Mateo Counties. AAMG provides with quality service and culturally competent health care through our network of highly skilled physicians. We have conveniently located physicians available in a full range of medical and surgical specialties.

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**City and County  
of San Francisco**

**COVID-19 Command Center**