

NORTH COAST HEALTH LEADERSHIP TEAM

California Center for Rural Policy, Hospice of Humboldt, Humboldt County Department of Health and Human Services, Humboldt Independent Practice Association, North Coast Health Improvement and Information Network, Humboldt Senior Resource Center, Mad River Community Hospital, North Coast Clinics Network, Open Door Community Health Centers, St. Joseph Health- Humboldt County, St. Joseph Medical Group, Sutter Coast Hospital, Jerold Phelps Community Hospital, Redwoods Rural Health Center

June 30, 2020

Humboldt County Board of Supervisors
825 5th St.
Eureka, CA 95501

Re: Acknowledgement of Humboldt County's Public Health Response to COVID-19

Dear Humboldt County Board of Supervisors:

On behalf of the North Coast Health Leadership Team, we would like to extend a special thank you and acknowledgement of the Humboldt County Department of Health & Human Services and Humboldt County Emergency Preparedness & Response Team for their ongoing COVID-19 response efforts.

Specifically, we would like to give a big thank you to Humboldt County Health Officer, Dr. Teresa Frankovich; Deputy Health Officer, Dr. Josh Ennis; Humboldt County Sheriff, William Honsal; Michele Stephens, DHHS Public Health Director and all of the county employees who have been involved in COVID-19 response.

As healthcare leaders in this community, we would like to acknowledge their outstanding work during these unprecedented times. They have done an exceptional job at implementing new policies and infection prevention measures to help maintain the health and wellbeing of our community. Our county continues to have a low number of residents with COVID-19 and we have not had our healthcare system overwhelmed.

Through their ongoing dedication, commitment, and collaboration with healthcare agencies, we are confident that we as a county are better prepared to deal with whatever the future of COVID-19 may bring.

As community and state businesses open up and begin the recovery process, we urge citizens to continue to heed the direction of the amazing team that has so capably guided us through this pandemic.

Sincerely,

North Coast Health Leadership Team

NORTH COAST HEALTH LEADERSHIP TEAM

s/Connie Stewart

Executive Director, California Center for Rural Policy

s/Roberta Luskin-Hawk

Chief Executive, St. Joseph Health- Humboldt County

s/Tory Starr

Chief Executive Officer, Open Door Community Health Centers

s/Martin Love

Chief Executive Officer, North Coast Health Improvement & Information Network

s/Rosemary DenOuden

Chief Executive Officer, Humboldt Independent Practice Association

s/Tim Rine

Executive Director, North Coast Clinics Network

s/Joe Rogers

Executive Director, Hospice of Humboldt

s/Jed Rudd

Director of Ancillary Services and Safety, Mad River Community Hospital

s/Darryn Davidson

Area Director of Operations, St. Joseph Medical Group

s/Mitch Hanna

Chief Executive Officer, Sutter Coast Hospital

s/Kerin Mase

Chief Nursing Executive, Sutter Coast Hospital

s/Melissa Hooven

Chief Executive Officer, Humboldt Senior Resource Center

s/ Tina Tvedt

Executive Director, Redwoods Rural Health Center

KI

From: [Mark C.Thurmond](#)
To: [COB](#)
Subject: Item K-1 : Covid discussion comment
Date: Tuesday, July 7, 2020 8:47:49 AM
Attachments: [Oral presentation Bd Sups 7 7 20.docx](#)

Please find attached my comment for Item K-1 on today's Bd of Sup agenda.
Thank you.

Mark Thurmond DVM, MPVM, PhD

Comment to Humboldt County Board of Supervisors July 7, 2020

Re: Agenda Item K 1.

My name is Dr. Mark Thurmond

I am a retired epidemiologist from UC Davis

Among the statistics currently given on the county Covid Dashboard website are percentages of women and men, of age classes, and of ethnic groups within the group of those who tested positive. For example, it may report that 58% of those testing positive are women and 42% are men. This statistic cannot be interpreted to mean that more women have become infected than men, as is implied. These percentages say nothing about the positivity rate among women, which is the appropriate and necessary statistic. The current flawed statistic can be manipulated easily simply by sampling or testing more men, or more women. Because the percentages relate only to the group of those testing positive, ignoring the number tested, they have no meaning, and are uninterpretable in understanding the county's Covid 19 epidemic.

These percentages deceive the public, and even medical professionals, into believing they reflect the risk or likelihood of becoming infected. Even the media misinterpreted these statistics, as illustrated by a recent inaccurate statement in the Times Standard on the county's ethnicity positivity rate.

Instead, the county needs to report the percent of women tested who are positive, of men tested who are positive, of teenagers tested who are positive, etc.

I have asked several times, and do so again here, that these statistics be removed and replaced by the proper percentages that are not affected by

artifacts of the sampling process and that will not obfuscate the truth about risk of infection in Humboldt county, even if the state website also makes the same mistake.

It is fallacy to attempt any conclusion or interpretation from the current statistics on percentages that are presented on the county Covid website.

It is incumbent upon the county to stop condoning its reporting of misleading health statistics; we should be allowed access to appropriate statistics.

Thank you.

Mark Thurmond DVM, MPVM, PhD

Professor Emeritus, Epidemiology, UC Davis

Kneeland

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Thank you.
Mark Thurmond DVM, MPVM, PhD
Professor Emeritus, Epidemiology, UC Davis
Kneeland

KI

From: [Rick Ohman](#)
To: [COB](#)
Cc: anonymo@sonic.net
Subject: covid-19 public comment presentation at B of S this Tuesday started on Facebook file # 20-823
Date: Sunday, July 5, 2020 8:18:41 PM
Attachments: [1f641.png](#)

Bob Ornelas

9 hrs ·

For your own sake, and for others, avoid that brewpub down in Fortuna. I rode there to have a beer with my good friend, with whom I was supposed to be in France with, along with two other close friends, on my birthday, July 3rd. Well, we got COVID-Trump'd out of that one; no flying, anywhere, my fellow Americans! Anyway, that place, the one in Fortuna, was packed, packed(!) with maskless revelers. Not one customer was wearing a mask, and we felt sad for the staff. My friend and I, masked, passed quickly through the dining area and out to the breezy outdoor garden area to have what was a very disturbing, quickly drunk, double IPA(which was quite tasty!), as we had ridden 56 miles to enjoy one, with great anticipation, then got the hell out of there. The very windy ride home was more relaxing than being in that 'hotspot'. There will be a noticeable spike, I fear, in the Friendly City, and it'll be a shame to experience, as it could have been avoided. Americans are fun-loving, gregarious people.....and, perhaps, a little suicidal. 😞