



CENTER FOR CHILD PROTECTION

Marlene A. Sturm, MD, Medical Director
Santa Clara Valley Medical Center
Valley Health Center-Downtown
777 East Santa Clara Street
San Jose CA 95112
marlene.sturm@hhs.sccgov.org
(408) 712-7242 confidential cell

MEDICAL RESOURCES FOR FOSTER KIDS AND YOUTH DURING COVID-19

Good morning. I hope you are taking good care of yourself. I am writing to provide direct and clear information about how to access medical services for foster kids and youth during the COVID-19 emergency--and as we make the transition back to busy lives in the weeks and months to come.

SPARK Clinic, the medical home for children in foster care in Santa Clara County:

The SPARK Clinic staff is available for phone consultation through the COVID-Emergency.

If you are concerned about the health of a child or youth in your care, please call the SPARK Clinic at **(408) 977-4504, or after business hours, call 1 (888) 334-1000**. The SPARK phone is staffed Monday through Friday 9AM-4:30 PM: except during the lunch hour. We will schedule a phone appointment with SPARK providers: Jessica Lum NP, Semhar Hailemicael NP, and Dr. Sturm. If we have concerns that the patient needs to be seen, we will schedule an in-person appointment at the Bascom or East Valley Clinics. Please understand that our three medical providers are sheltering and working in place for the time-being.

SKY Clinic, the Santa Clara County Clinic for Youth and Young Adults, ages 14-25 years.

If you haven't heard, here is information about the new SKY Clinic for youth and young adults, at VHC-Downtown. We will see these patients at SKY: youth currently or previously in foster care, youth currently or previously involved with the juvenile justice system, youth who are homeless or at risk for homelessness, CSEC (sexually trafficked) youth, and other youth with complex needs who are making the transition to independent adulthood. SKY will provide wellness and athletic physicals, sick visits, comprehensive contraceptive care, and access to psychiatry, dental, and other services. SKY is closely linked to the HUB. A DFCS social worker at the SKY Clinic will provide information regarding housing, employment, continuing education and drug cessation. Thank you to DFCS and the HUB for your collaboration! Youth can make their own appointments at SKY—or you can assist them—by calling (408) 977-4504. No referral is required. If the youth is uninsured, or unsure about insurance status, we will help.

Please look for more information as we re-open doors to the SPARK and SKY Clinics in the near future. The SPARK and SKY Clinics are located at VHC-Downtown, 777 East Santa Clara Street, San Jose. Please schedule appointments at (408) 977-4504, or, after business hours, 1 (888) 334-1000.

On-line trainings: This month, I will be offering on-line trainings through the West Valley College foster parent program: "Ask the Doc: Creating Normalcy in a Time of Uncertainty"

Wednesday 4/8/20 10AM-11:30 AM

Wednesday 4/15/20 7PM- 8:30 PM

I'm planning to offer practical advice about staying physically and mentally healthy during these challenging weeks--and then I will be available to answer your questions.

In general, please know I am available by cell phone to answer any urgent questions you may have.

My work cell is (408) 712-7242. Please try the clinic first, but if you cannot reach staff and need advice or assistance, please do call me. You are all my heroes!

With warm regards,

Marlene A. Sturm MD, Medical Director, Center for Child Protection