For Immediate Release
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City of Malibu, CORE, Covid Clinic, Malibu Medical Group Conduct More Than 400 Free COVID-19 Tests for First Responders and Essential Workers on First Two Days of Drive-Through Testing at City Hall.
Testing for Residents is April 8-11

(Malibu, CA) – The City of Malibu Community Organized Relief Effort (CORE), Covid Clinic and Malibu Medical Group conducted more than 400 free novel coronavirus (COVID-19) tests for first responders and essential workers on April 6 and 7, the first two days of the drive-through testing site at Malibu City Hall.

The free testing was offered for first responders and essential workers, which are employees who are not staying home, and continue to work serving the Malibu community at grocery stores, pharmacies, gas stations, and other essential businesses where they are exposed to people, so that they can stay healthy and continue their crucial work. Drive through testing for residents of the broader Malibu community is offered Wednesday, April 8 through Saturday, April 11.

“I am proud of the City staff and our partners CORE, Covid Clinic and Malibu Medical Group and the volunteers who made this vital testing service possible so that our first responders and essential workers can keep on doing their lifesaving work during this crisis,” said Mayor Karen Farrer. “All of Malibu joins me in thanking our first responders, healthcare workers, law enforcement, volunteers and essential workers who put themselves at risk to help keep our community safe. Your service will never be forgotten.”

“First responders and other essential community support staff are the lifeline to the broader community’s safety,” said philanthropist Sean Penn, a Malibu resident and founder of CORE. “This is why CORE decided to test first those for whom isolating is not an option. We are fortunate that the City of Malibu, Mayor Farrer, and City Manager Feldman and their staff are well organized and prepared to offer CORE support and partnership. Pop-up test sites do take some time to iron the wrinkles out of, but safety for both staff and those being tested is our most important priority.”

“My team and I are proud to serve the Malibu community and be able to help keep our first responders and essential workers healthy, and to provide this crucial service for our residents,” said Dr. Lisa Benya, who is supervising the testing with her staff from Malibu Medical Group.

Phase 2 – Wednesday, April 8 through Saturday, April 11. Testing will be provided for residents of the greater Malibu community. Pre-registration is required. The testing organization asks that only those with COVID-19 symptoms pre-register. They will be asked about symptoms on site. This is meant to ensure that those with the highest need are prioritized for testing.

If you have health insurance coverage, your insurance will be billed for the cost of the test. If you do not have insurance, then a $60 donation is requested. The donation must be made at https://www.coreresponse.org/. No one
will be denied a test due to inability to pay. Any community member or business that would like to support this testing service for those who do not have health insurance may make a donation to https://www.coreresponse.org.

Testing site:
Malibu City Hall, upper parking lot
23825 Stuart Ranch Road, Malibu, CA 90265

Pre-registration:
To pre-register, visit https://covidclinic.org or text or call 310-853-1454, or email info@covidclinic.org. Learn more about Covid Clinic at https://covidclinic.org.

Dr. Lisa Benya, who runs Malibu Medical Group, is serving as the lead doctor who will supervise the testing. Learn more about Malibu Medical Group at https://www.malibumedicalgroup.com.

The testing service is carried out by COVID Clinic, a local partner organization of CORE. Covid Clinic is a non-profit organization founded by a group of individuals dedicated to providing COVID testing for all. It is led by Dr. Matthew Abinante of Elevated Health in Huntington Beach, CA in partnership with CORE, Sean Penn's emergency and disaster relief organization. Learn more about Covid Clinic at https://covidclinic.org.

Community Organized Relief Effort is a non-profit organization dedicated to saving lives and strengthening communities affected by or vulnerable to crisis. Within hours of the 2010 earthquake in Haiti, founder Sean Penn mobilized a powerful network to take immediate action. The organization continues its work to lead sustainable programs ranging from youth education and women’s entrepreneurship to disaster mitigation in Haiti, Puerto Rico, the Caribbean, and the United States. More information: www.coreresponse.org. Facebook: FB.com/COREResponse. Twitter: @COREResponseOrg. Instagram: @COREResponse.

The tests will be conducted using a Food and Drug Administration (FDA) -approved nasal swab with an expected two-day turnaround for results. Those being tested will drive through the upper parking lot at Malibu City Hall (23825 Stuart Ranch Road, Malibu CA 90265). Drivers will be instructed on the steps of the highly secure process when they arrive.

FOR MORE CORONAVIRUS INFORMATION
LA County Department of Public Health – steps to protect yourself: www.publichealth.lacounty.gov.

LA County Department of Public Health coronavirus page: http://publichealth.lacounty.gov/media/Coronavirus/.

California Department of Public Health coronavirus page:
https://www.cdph.ca.gov/Programs/CID/DCDC/Pages/Immunization/nCOV2019.aspx.


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