WHO WE ARE
The Community Action Team (CAT) at UC Berkeley’s School of Public Health aims to maximize the wellbeing of all our communities affected by the COVID-19 pandemic by tapping into the UC Berkeley School of Public Health’s individual and collective wellspring of activism, expertise, and commitment to collaboration. Since mid-March, we’ve connected our Cal community to specific community-identified needs and opportunities for action.

RESPONDING TO COVID-19

For the Good of Us All

Addressing the Needs of Our Unhoused Neighbors During the COVID-19 Pandemic

APRIL 2020

MOBILIZING ACTION
Our diverse team of students, faculty, and staff developed a system through which volunteers are matched to opportunities based on skills and interest.

- Linked 200+ volunteers to a weekly mailing list of opportunities managed by CAT
- Recruited over 30 students to assist the Basic Needs Center
- Bottled 700+ hand sanitizers for local labs and providers
- Connected volunteers to opportunities with SFDPH, Meals on Wheels, and SF UndocuFund
- Interest in joining? Click here: http://eepurl.com/gX0EYT

CHANGEMAKING THROUGH POLICY & ADVOCACY
CAT responded to the calls of community organizers, activists, and local organizations to address pressing, unmet needs due to COVID-19 in the following ways:

- We connected our community to advocacy-related efforts on our website.
- Heightened awareness about the impact on the homeless community (read our report and watch the press conference).
Among the chaos of our lives (academically-family-work-personal), CAT has held the spaces for many individuals to be innovators, to be leaders, to be the light in a world looking for hope — we strive to find a way to help, to lend a hand to our communities.

~Undergrad Student Member

INCREASING PPE & EQUITY

Our team is also focused on addressing PPE needs in the Bay Area in an equitable way:

- Involved with the N95 Decontamination Research Group, a 10-university + private sector collaboration that includes over 60 collaborators.
- Launched Shield the Bay coalition led by Jaspal Sandhu and local engineers using 3D printing and Human-Centered Design to create face shields that fit well and protect healthcare workers at FQHCs.
- Delivered 60 visors for 60 healthcare workers within partnering agencies, raised over $10K which will help scale their effort to 1000-2500 shields, and donated 1187 masks to organizations in need.
- Additional efforts: Continue to engage in GIS spatial analysis, advocacy, research and document translation, and Shield the Bay logistics.

HOSTING BLOOD DRIVES

In partnership with the American Red Cross, our team has collected 62 pints of blood at blood drives, which translated to 184 units of blood for patients in the East Bay Hospitals.

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~Undergrad Student Member

OUR TEAM

Thank you to all of the members of the Community Action Team for being a part of these initiatives to support our community. If you’d like to connect to our team, please send us a message at EngageSPH@berkeley.edu

- Co-Leads: Audrey Cristobal, Coco Auerswald, Grace Turkis, & Quin Hussey
- Students: Amia Nash, Aminta Kouyate, Andrea Jacobo, Brigid Cakouros, Chris Rubeo, Guz Gomez, Jamon Franklin, Julea Vlassakis, Kira Jeter, Maddy Kane, Melissa Leanda, Phoebe Miller, Sarah Ferrell, Tatyana Roberts, & Taylor Young
- Staff: Emily Chow, Karen Weidert, & Maria Hernandez
- Faculty: Hildy Fong Baker, Sandi McCoy & Steve Shortell
- Alumni: Annie Chang & Brie Martin