

# Rincon Band of Luiseño Indians

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## NEWS RELEASE

**For Immediate Release:**

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### Rincon Tribe Partners with UC San Diego Health to Offer All Employees the Covid-19 Vaccine

**Valley Center, CA...** The Rincon Band of Luiseño Indians announced today that they will be offering the Covid-19 Vaccine to all Government employees, Harrah's Resort SoCal employees and tribal members on **Friday, April 9, 2021 from 7:00am – 3:00pm at the Rincon Government Center located at One Government Center Lane in Valley Center.**

"It is our continued goal to protect the health and safety of all of our employees and our tribal people," stated Chairman Bo Mazzetti of the Rincon Tribe. "We are encouraging all of our employees and tribal members to receive the vaccine to ensure their health and well-being. We are committed to our employees and strongly believe it is our responsibility to establish a safe working environment."

"A pillar in the San Diego community, the Rincon Band of Luiseño Indians continue to support and stand behind our team and our extended family at Harrah's Resort SoCal, as they have throughout the pandemic," said Robert Livingston General Manager of Harrah's Resort SoCal. "The Tribe continues to champion the health and prosperity of Funner, California, and this community vaccination initiative is just one more example of that dedication to our community. We hope this significant step brings us one leap closer to being able to return to pre-Covid operations."

UC San Diego Health will be administering vaccines to all interested employees over the age of 18. Strong confidence in vaccines within communities leads to more people getting vaccinated, which leads to fewer Covid- illnesses, hospitalizations, and deaths. "Whoever thought a little virus would teach us humility? Whoever thought a little virus would show us how much we will miss our loved ones? Whoever thought a little virus would teach us how much we would miss our way of life prior to the pandemic? Whoever thought a little virus would highlight the inequality of the populations impacted by this pandemic? Whoever thought a little virus would teach us that collaboration and teamwork are the only way to beat it? Whoever thought a village could accomplish so much against this invisible foe? These community partnerships like the Rincon Band of Luiseño Indians and UC San Diego Health is the village to take the steps back to some sense of normal," expressed Lydia Ikeda, Sr. Director, COVID Operations for UCSD Health.

"Rincon was the first tribe in California to work with local county officials to develop a Memorandum of Understanding early in the pandemic and we continue to help in turning the curve by offering the vaccination clinic," said Vice Chair Tishmall Turner of the Rincon Tribe. "We are thankful to the partnership with UCSD Health to be able to offer the clinic onsite."

#### **ABOUT THE RINCON TRIBE:**

The Rincon Band of Luiseño Indians is a sovereign government recognized by the United States of America. The Tribe owns Harrah's Resort Southern California and uses profits from this and other commercial enterprises to provide government services including public safety; economic development; healthcare and culture programs; and a tribal court.

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Bo Mazzetti  
Chairman

Tishmall Turner  
Vice Chair

Laurie Gonzalez  
Council Member

John Constantino  
Council Member

Joseph Linton  
Council Member