Over the last four months, OPCA has had the opportunity to see how bright our health center members shine, and National Health Center Week was an chance to celebrate that. We continue to be awestruck by your innovative work to meet needs in communities throughout our state.

Thank you to all members who hosted events—many of them virtual—and posted to social media during NHCW! We have enjoyed shining a light on your work during the month of August and tagging Oregon's Members of Congress to remind them of the value of Oregon's community health centers.

A special thank you to members who shared with OPCA their origin story—the history of why and how they opened to meet their community's needs. These 10 community oriented histories from members were shared in OPCA's blog and on social media during NHCW.
Do Your Part to Make Sure Oregon Counts in 2020

The 2020 Census will **end data collection on Sept. 30!**

Our communities lose $46,000 in federal funding for every Oregonian who isn’t counted. If you aren’t counted, if your neighbors aren’t counted, you will lose resources for your community.

It is critical that we ensure a complete 2020 Census count despite obstacles such as a shortened timeline and decreased funding. You and your health center can help. Visit [Oregon Counts 2020](#) to learn more or contact [OPCA's Policy Team](#) today!

### Policy Update: PPE, Telehealth, COVID Stimulus, 340B, and More

Key updates capture shifting state and federal policies and guidance in response to the COVID-19 pandemic as well as other policy and regulatory news that matters to community health centers.

- Gov. Kate Brown’s extension of her state of emergency order
- Emergency Board allocates $105 million to stockpile PPE
- OHA’s updated telehealth rules
- Drug manufacturers continue their assault on 340B
- Congress remains deadlocked over the next COVID stimulus package
- Uninsured Claims Program Guidance

[Read more here](#)
Trillium enters Portland-area CCO market: OHA has approved updated application materials from Trillium Community Health Plan to expand its Oregon Health Plan (OHP) service area to include Clackamas, Multnomah, and Washington counties. Trillium will be able to start enrolling OHP members in those areas on Sept. 1. Trillium Community Health Plan currently serves OHP members in Lane, Douglas, and Linn counties. As part of the notice to proceed in enrolling members, OHA has remaining questions about the quality of Trillium’s network, especially in the area of behavioral health and health equity. Trillium’s proposed network also shows a lack of language access capacity and OHA has other concerns about Trillium’s ability to demonstrate that it meets contract requirements around health equity and community engagement. OPCA will continue to monitor.

Metrics & Scoring To Finalize 2021 Benchmarks – Submit Testimony: On Sept. 18, Metrics & Scoring will meet to determine what benchmarking looks like for 2021 incentive pool dollars. At the moment, using 2019 as a benchmark for improvement has been proposed. If you have concerns or suggestions for how benchmarks are developed, please attend to present oral testimony (meeting information here), or plan to submit testimony in advance of this meeting by following this public testimony guide.

Contact Carly Hood-Ronick, CCO Strategy and Health Equity Director, with questions.

Health Equity News: Listening Sessions Update; Rule-Making on REALD Data

Thank You for Participating in OPCA Health Equity Listening Sessions: OPCA appreciates all who shared their thoughts at this summer’s listening sessions and your efforts to highlight structural challenges and resource opportunities for staff within your health centers. We are reviewing your feedback and working to incorporate your priorities into OPCA’s Health Equity Committee strategic plan. We will share what we heard in the coming weeks. Thank you for continuing to include us in your work as health equity champions in Oregon. You can continue to submit health equity related needs and feedback to Carly Hood-Ronick and Courtney Kenney, OPCA’s new Health Equity Manager.

REALD Data Rule Making – Submit Testimony: OHA has developed two Rule Advisory Committees (RAC) to address changes to REALD (Race Ethnicity Language and Disability) data collection as a result of the emergency session earlier this year. HB 2134 looks at the specifics of the data collection. HB 4212 considers the process for providers. OPCA is sitting on the RAC for 4212. If you have thoughts on how REALD has been rolled out with providers, what improvements could be made as a state, or how the data is aggregated, please consider submitting testimony. Email Carly Hood-Ronick to find out when to provide oral testimony or share your written testimony to be shared with OHA.

Oregon Office of Rural Health Publishes Areas of Unmet Health Care Need Report

The Areas of Unmet Health Care Need report is published annually by the Oregon Office of Rural Health to measure the medically underserved in rural areas. Read the full report here.

The report is used:
• As part of a risk assessment formula for rural hospitals to receive cost-based Medicaid reimbursement (SB 607, passed in 1991; HB 3650, passed in 2011—the 2017 designations are available here);
• As part of the determination of "medically underserved" geographic areas for the governor's Health Care Shortage Area Designation; and
• As part of the scoring process for Oregon health care provider incentive programs.

OPCA Events: Fall Peer Group Gathering, Care Team in COVID Times Webinar

**Fall 2020 All Executive Peer Group Gathering**

Join OPCA for this fall's All Executive Peer Group Gathering. While this event is usually for members of the five executive peer groups, going virtual has allowed OPCA to open the event to other peer groups to participate in the plenary on Sept. 14. Learn more or register here.

**WHAT:** Fall 2020 All Executive Peer Group Gathering  
**WHEN:** Sept. 14, 1-4pm & Sept. 21, 1-4pm PT  
**WHO SHOULD ATTEND:** Members of any of our five executive affinity groups. Other affinity group members are invited to join for the plenary session on Sept. 14.  
**COST:** $30/person  
Registration closes Sept. 7

**Transformation Quality Spotlight Webinar:**  
**Evolution of the Care Team in the Time of COVID**

Join OPCA and your health center peers to discuss emerging needs and how others are evolving their care teams to meet these needs. This webinar is free to attend and open to all Oregon FQHCs. Learn more or register here.

**WHAT:** Quality Spotlight Webinar: Evolution of the Care Team in the time of COVID  
**WHEN:** Sept. 22, 10:30am-noon PT  
**WHO SHOULD ATTEND:** Quality improvement staff, executive leadership, program managers, patient-facing health center staff  
**COST:** Free  
Registration closes Sept. 17

**Want More OPCA Offerings?** OPCA has added an Events page on its website to make it easier for you to find information about upcoming events. This page has the most up-to-date information on registration, intended audiences, and who to contact with questions. We encourage you to take a look and bookmark it. Contact events@orpca.org with questions.

Outside In Opens New Clinic in East Portland's Rosewood Neighborhood
An Outside In clinic in East Portland began as a dream back in 2015 when the team noticed more and more people leaving downtown Portland and moving towards affordable housing and opportunities in east Multnomah County.

That dream is now a reality. After ten months of construction, the facility will open to the public on Sept. 8.

Read more about Outside In East here.

Just In: The September Edition of the Operations Peer Group Newsletter is Out

The latest Operations Peer Group Newsletter is out! You can read the September edition here for upcoming events, need-to-know information, training opportunities, and resources complied by Sonya Howk, Sustainability Manager at OPCA.

Editions of the newsletter will appear in the OPCA Member Update and on OPCA's Peer Group web page.

Spotlight on 2019-20 Annual Awards of Excellence Winner Sarah Salisbury & the Data Heroes at Lane County

Every year OPCA is proud to honor individuals and organizations who do outstanding work to advance health equity and care for the health of Oregonians experiencing poverty and marginalization.

This year, individuals or teams at six community health centers were recognized at OPCA’s Annual Meeting, held virtually on May 15.
We're highlighting each team or individual in OPCA's blog. Read more here about Sarah Salisbury and the Data Heroes at Lane County, who earned the 2019-20 OPCA Annual Award Winner for Value.

This is the final post in our six-part series on award winners. To read about all of this year's winners, visit the 2019-20 Annual Award Winners page on OPCA's website. Congrats to all!

---

**Spotlight on Staff: Introducing OPCA's Health Equity Manager**

Inspired by the theme of NHCW, Lighting the Way for Communities Today and in the Future, we've launched a Spotlight on Staff blog as a space for members to get to know our talented staff members a little better.

Courtney Kenney recently joined OPCA as the Health Equity Manager. Courtney comes to OPCA after working at a CHC in Boston to develop harm reduction programming within and around a Health Care for the Homeless program.

In her role at OPCA, she hopes to help expand the dialogue around stigma and health equity, especially the structural changes necessary to make quality care accessible to all. [Read more about Courtney in today's OPCA's Spotlight on Staff blog post.](#)

[Email Courtney with your health equity questions.](#)

---

**Media & Resources:**

- Awards Available To Support Patient Experience Surveys at Health Centers: OPCA has awards available in the amount of $1,500 that are available on a first-come, first-served basis. [Read more about this opportunity here.](#)
- [OPCA’s COVID-19 Resources page](#) has the most up-to-date resources such as
  - Oregon's COVID-19 Weekly Testing Summary
• Registration Open for 37th Annual Oregon Rural Health Conference (Nov. 9-13 & 19) & Rural Health Clinic (Nov. 4-6): Both events are virtual, and thanks to partners, registration is free this year. Learn more or register here.

• Required Training to Assist with OHP Enrollment: All OHP enrollment assisters must complete ONE Integrated Eligibility CP Training in 2020. It is mandatory for current and new OHP-certified Community Partners. Trainings take place twice a month through the end of the year. Register here for an upcoming training.

• Catch-Up to Get Ahead Toolkit: Messages and graphics provided by HHS to help spread awareness about catching up on childhood immunizations during COVID-19.