TODAY’S AGENDA

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Purpose of COVID-19 Member Briefings:

Provide members with up-to-date information and resources for testing, vaccines and any emerging COVID-19 response needs.

Member Briefings will be hosted on an as needed basis for June 2021 on.
Warm Up

OPCA Race & Ethnicity Dashboard – COVID-19 Data

Share any feedback you have by unmuting yourself or typing into the Zoom chat.
The Oregon Primary Care Association (OPCA) analyzes data from multiple sources to identify racial and ethnicity health inequalities and the impact that Federally Qualified Health Centers (FQHCs) in our State have on reducing those inequalities. The data below comes from the U.S. Census and shows the percent of the population that identifies as a racial or ethnic minority, by County, for the State, and with breakdowns by particular racial and ethnic groups.

Oregon Census Racial or Ethnic Group Data

Percent Minority


Disclaimer: This visualization is supported in part by the Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA) of the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) as part of an award totaling $1,788,678 with 27% percentage financed with non-governmental sources. The contents are those of the author(s) and do not necessarily represent the official views of, nor an endorsement, by HRSA, HHS, or the U.S. Government. For more information.
The Oregon Primary Care Association (OPCA) analyzes data from multiple sources to identify racial and ethnicity health inequalities and the impact that Federally Qualified Health Centers (FQHCs) in our State have on reducing those inequalities.

The data below shows how people of color seen at FQHCs are more likely to test positive for Covid-19 than the general population, and how FQHCs are succeeding in reducing racial and ethnic inequalities in Covid-19 vaccination rates. The data comes from the Oregon Health Authority (OHA), HRSA surveys, and the U.S. Census.

**Covid-19 Racial Inequities and FQHC Highlights - Updated 4/24/2021**

- **Race Group**
  - All Minorities
  - African American
  - Hispanic
  - White Non-Hispanic
  - OHA Total Oregon Population

- **Covid Measure**
  - Percent of Oregon Population (US Census)
  - Oregon Percent of Vaccinations Completed (OHA)
  - FQHC Percent of Vaccinations Completed
  - FQHC Percent of Tests Positive

**Data Sources:**
- OHA data per Oregon Health Authority Covid data dashboard, accessed on the date updated noted above.
- FQHC data per HRSA weekly Covid survey of FQHCs headquartered in Oregon, updated on the date noted above.
- US Census data per 5-year race ethnicity forecasts for 2019 for Counties in Oregon that contain a health center.

**Disclaimer:** This visualization is supported in part by the Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA) of the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) as part of an award totaling $1,789,675 with 47 percent financed with non-governmental sources. The contents are those of the author(s) and do not necessarily represent the official views of, nor an endorsement by, HRSA, HHS, or the U.S. Government. For more information, please visit HRSA.gov.
COVID Data: Quick Glance
Survey week of April 30, 2021

• This week FQHC’s reported a 17% COVID test positivity rate
  » OR State positivity rate*: 6%
  » February 2021 was the most recent time the positivity rate has been this high

• Top challenges in deploying the COVID vaccine:
  1. Staffing to administer the vaccine
  2. Vaccine Confidence
  3. None

Trends in Vaccine Challenges

- January-February: Vaccine supply is the #1 challenge, with staffing to administer the vaccine as a close #2

- March: Top 2 challenges are the same, with staffing as the #1 concern and vaccine supply as the #2 concern

- April: The top challenge is still staffing, however, vaccine confidence is now the #2 challenge
  » Also, the first month where the “no challenge” category was the #3 challenge
Immunizations at CHCs

- Total # of patients who initiated the vaccine: 67,996
- Total # of patients who completed the vaccine: 47,194
Operations

- Pop-up clinics are by far the most utilized COVID-19 immunization event

- What are your successes hosting these events? Challenges?
COVID-19 Vaccine Updates
Governor Kate Brown Sets Vaccination Targets for Oregon to Begin to More Fully Reopen Economy

70%

Press Release from May 11th

Lund Report Article:
https://www.thelundreport.org/content/gov-kate-brown-sets-70-vaccination-goal-reopen-oregon
State of Vaccine Delivery

Youth Vaccine

- Approval on Monday from FDA on use of vaccine for 12-16 yr olds
- State will approve soon
- Approval already in place for 17-19 yr olds and some high school vaccination efforts are already underway.

Top Issues for Oregon FQs

- Staffing to administer vaccine (54% report this as a problem)
- Vaccine Confidence (35%)
- Financial reimbursement (11%)
- Storage (11%)
HRSA and State Allocations Update

• Many FQHCS have switched to receiving COVID-19 vaccine through HRSA.
• Some have decided to continue to receive their allocation from the state.
• Goal – two weeks ago - to maximize HRSA allocations so the state could offer more vaccine to other primary care.

• Currently: White House and Governor are encouraging health center vaccine maximization. CBOs and health center collaborations.

• Link to Whitehouse memo

70% of adults vaccinated (at least one shot) by July 4, 2021!
Vaccines for Youth

- Who is providing vaccine services through SBHCs? Or in partnership with local schools?
- Who is not yet but is planning to?

HRSA is asking and encouraging you to work in the youth space to vaccinate. HRSA – 1 million adolescents by September.

FQHCs have begun to offer vaccine through their SBHCs and in partnership with their local schools.

- Regular SBHC hours for walk in vaccines
- Weekly vaccine clinics on school grounds
- Friday Night Lights!
- Sports physicals?
COVID-19 Survey Changes This Week

On Wednesday, the CDC’s Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices will meet to discuss if and how the vaccine should be administered to the 12-15 age group.

In anticipation, HRSA is making changes to the COVID-19 Health Center/Look-Alike Survey. These changes will take place in this Friday’s (May 14) survey.

- We are adding “school-based vaccination clinics” to questions 17 and 17a:
  - Did your health center utilize mobile vans, host pop-up clinics, and/or host school-based vaccination clinics to enhance access to COVID-19 vaccination sites in the last week?
  - How many mobile van clinics, pop-up clinics, and/or school-based vaccination clinics did you host in the last week for COVID-19 vaccinations?
- For Health Center COVID-19 Vaccine Program participants, we are also making changes to the addendum questions 25 and 26. For both, we are asking you to report the vaccines you administer to children (patients less than 18 years).
Vaccine waste and small batches

Minimizing Vaccine Waste - Memo from April 29, 2021


- State Pfizer hub to allow for smaller batches of Pfizer.
  » Access to Pfizer thought these state hubs to vaccine the Youth!

- How to best vaccinate during other routine medical visits?
- How to best vaccinate homebound patients?
OHA Transformation Center Vaccine Calls

Topics TBD

- **May 14, noon–1 p.m.**: Register here: https://www.zoomgov.com/meeting/register/vJItc--vqDkrGzpDq-__4c973_SalzHqPAmo
- **May 28, noon–1 p.m.**: Register here: https://www.zoomgov.com/meeting/register/vJItd-Cgrj8iHi7RZZafZOgzbfRPrh2na5l
- **June 11, noon–1 p.m.**: Register here: https://www.zoomgov.com/meeting/register/vJItfuyoqTMiHztQrz7mWlbcgzMptTato
- **June 25, noon–1 p.m.**: Register here: https://www.zoomgov.com/meeting/register/vJIsdO-qrTotHvpP3DNYkyaJY1R9iMPnJ3w

Questions?
Contact: Bernadette Nativo (Bernadette.Nativo@dhsoha.state.or.us)
Vaccine Confidence & Access
COVID-19 Multicultural Communications: Embracing Health Center Patients’ Diverse Demographic Differences to Meet People Where They Are

To help with COVID-19 vaccination, many health centers are employing a multicultural communications approach to engage their diverse populations with a respectful and authentic manner, using a language they understand and scenarios that resonate with them, and through a channel(s) available to them.

https://chcnetwork.org/covid-19-resources/
Community health centers play a key role in vaccinating millions of the nation’s most vulnerable, highly marginalized communities, including those who speak a language other than English.

“To address a lot of misinformation about the vaccines’ fast-paced development, safety concerns, and confidential access to the vaccines (an issue for many migrant workers and non-citizens), we developed a multilingual “myth versus facts” sheet and clear and concise, multilingual FAQs around each of the available vaccines,” says Laura Miller, M.D., Chief Medical Officer, Community Health Center Network (CHCN).

To download these materials, visit CHCN's COVID-19 Resources page.
From the National Center for Farmworker Health

http://www.ncfh.org/covid_resources_for_ag_workers.html
In partnership with Uber, PayPal and Walgreens, LISC has created the Vaccine Access Fund to support free Uber rides to and from COVID-19 vaccine appointments for people in communities hard hit by the pandemic, with a focus on helping Black and Latinx adults and adults with low incomes access vaccines. LISC is providing grants to organizations to coordinate rides on the Uber Health platform; riders themselves do not need the Uber app, a smartphone or credit card.

Information: https://www.lisc.org/covid-19/vaccine-access-fund/

Application: https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSfnx9MMAx93MBQdZno2Hf8OdTwMYyvYF-7-HcWEKvP0F2A/viewform

The program is open now through December 31, 2021, or as long as resources are available and needed. Health centers are strongly encouraged to apply, as well as other community organizations involved in efforts around vaccine education and access.
Vaccine Access Fund Eligibility

Racial/Health Equity:
The Vaccine Access Fund prioritizes grantees that are led by or serve Black, Indigenous and People of Color (BIPOC). Only organizations demonstrating a history of engagement with communities of color and low-income communities hard hit by the pandemic will be considered for grants.

Non-profit status:
LISC is only able to consider organizations with 501c3 non-profit status through this intake process. We encourage other types of organizations to partner with local community-based non-profits or contact us at health@lisc.org.

Scale:
At this time, LISC is prioritizing grantees able to book 500 or more rides, which for many sites will mean engagement with 125 people (a ride is defined as a one-way trip, so most vaccine appointments will require two rides for roundtrip transport, and many vaccines require two shots). Other requests will be considered based on evidence of need. We encourage partnerships between community-based organizations to achieve required scale.

https://www.lisc.org/covid-19/vaccine-access-fund/
Building Vaccine Confidence

Strategies
Good Marketing!!!
Emphasize the norm of getting vaccinated!
• Vaccine Party!
• Creative Events
• Incentives $$?
• Cake? Donuts?

Community partnerships
• Community Based Organizations
• Churches
• Schools
• Businesses
BinaxNow COVID-19 Expiration updates

May 2021

Dear Valued Customer:

Link to expiration update:
Order more BinaxNow

Contact:
Sarah Andersen, Director of Field Services
Oregon Office of Rural Health
Email: ansarah@ohsu.edu
Phone: 503-444-1570
COVID-19 Resources and Funding Opportunities
Free Masks for Health Centers

HHS and the Department of Defense are distributing free masks to HRSA-supported health centers and Health Center Program look-alikes.

Your health center received an Electronic Handbooks (EHBs) notification about this program on March 29, 2021, alerting you to the number of masks being shipped.

**IMPORTANT:** If you do NOT wish to receive these masks, please notify HRSA through the BPHC Contact Form no later than noon ET on Friday, May 14. Select category “COVID-19 Mask Distribution” and sub-category “Opt-Out.”
CURRENT FUNDING OPPORTUNITIES

For PCAs, HCCNs, and CHCs

Coming Soon: Funding opportunity to hire community health workers to support vaccine outreach among vulnerable populations.

On Tuesday 5/4, the White House announced that later in May, HRSA will offer an opportunity for community-based organizations – including PCAs, HCCNs, and CHCs – to apply for funding to support community health workers “to increase vaccine access for the hardest-hit and highest-risk communities through high-touch, on-the-ground outreach.” Roughly $125 million will be made available through this opportunity; there are no details yet on deadlines, maximum award amounts, etc. On 5/4 HRSA announced a similar funding opportunity targeted at large organizations with a “broad geographical reach”; this opportunity will provide ten awards averaging roughly $12.5 million each.
CURRENT FUNDING OPPORTUNITIES

For Patients

Emergency Broadband Benefit to begin enrollment on this coming Wed. May 12, with applications funded first-come-first-served.

The Emergency Broadband Benefit -- a new, temporary FCC program to help families and households with incomes below 135% FPL to afford internet service during the pandemic – will begin accepting applications on Wed. 5/12. Applications will be funded on a first-come-first-served basis.

Eligible households will receive a discount of up to $50 per month towards broadband service, and a one-time discount of up to $100 to purchase a laptop, desktop computer, or tablet. Eligible households can enroll by visiting https://getemergencybroadband.org or by contacting a participating broadband provider by state. For more information, see these FAQs for consumers.
Important NHSC deadlines this month

The American Rescue Plan provided an additional $800 million in funding for the National Health Service Corps (NHSC) – more than twice the program’s typical annual funding of $330 million.

To ensure that these funds have maximum impact on patient access (and to demonstrate to Congress the need to significantly increase NHSC funding on a permanent basis) please note these two important deadlines:

**Tues. May 25 – Deadline for CHCs to apply to host a NHSC or Nurse Corps provider.**

- Given the amount of funding available, even CHCs with relatively low HPSA scores may be able to recruit NHSC providers this fall. However, to be eligible to recruit providers, a CHC must register to be an eligible NHSC site by 5/25.
Important NHSC deadlines this month

Thurs. May 27 – Deadline for individual providers to apply for Loan Repayment.

Please help get the word out to potential applicants – including primary care, dental, behavioral, and mental health care providers -- that the application deadline is May 27.

Individuals can apply for the Loan Repayment Program (LRP), Substance Use Disorder Workforce LRP (SUD Workforce LRP), and Rural Community LRP.
Where to find the latest COVID-19 information

- OPCA’s Member Update: Sign up at https://action.orpca.org/newsletter_signup/
  » Check your spam or junk folders to ensure you are receiving these
- Visit OPCA’s website for COVID-19 resources: www.orpca.org
- Follow us on Twitter @OregonPCA
  Facebook @OregonPrimaryCareAssociation
  or LinkedIn: www.linkedin.com/company/oregon-primary-care-association
Thank You!