



In this special edition, you'll find the latest on youth vaccination, state and federal vaccination goals, slides from the OPCA May 12 Member Briefing, funding opportunities, communication tools, and much more content meant to inform and help you do your work better.

Thank you for reading.

COVID-19 Vaccine Effort at Oregon CHCs: Latest News and Resources

Youth Vaccination To Begin: The Oregon Health Authority granted final approval late Wednesday to start vaccinating youth aged 12-15 starting today, according to [this Oregonian article](#).

Governor Sets Vaccination Goal: On May 11, Gov. Kate Brown announced vaccination targets to more fully reopen Oregon's economy, setting a 70% statewide goal to reach Oregonians 16 and older with a first dose to lift most Risk Level restrictions. [Read the news release here](#) and read OPCA's quote in the [Lund Report](#).

Latest Resources

- ♦ [OHA Minor Rights: Access and Consent to Health Care](#)
- ♦ [CDC COVID-19 Vaccines for Children and Teens](#): Resource for Parents
- ♦ [CDC Pediatric Healthcare Professionals COVID-19 Vaccination Toolkit](#)
- ♦ [White House Fact Sheet: President Biden to Announce Goal to Administer at Least One Vaccine Shot to 70% of the U.S. Adult Population by July 4](#)
- ♦ OPCA May 12 COVID-19 Member Briefing [slides](#)

- ◆ OHA is establishing at least eight Vaccine Redistribution Hubs throughout the state to widen vaccine access and prevent waste. Contact the [Oregon Immunization Program](#)
- ◆ OHA's Vaccine Operations Team-Equity (VOT-E) launched a centralized [community events mailbox](#) for questions and requests
- ◆ LISC has created the [Vaccine Access Fund](#) to support free Uber rides to and from COVID-19 vaccine sites
- ◆ [Abbott BinaxNOW Product Expiration Update](#)
- ◆ [Deadlines Related to Federal COVID Funding & Opportunities](#)
- ◆ 211Info now has live texting available in English and Spanish: text ORVAX to 898211
- ◆ [Safe + Strong COVID-19 Vaccination Toolkit: A Guide for Community-Based Organizations](#)
- ◆ [Community Health Center Network multilingual COVID-19 vaccination FAQ and fact sheets](#)
- ◆ [COVID-19 Educational Resources for Agricultural Workers](#)

OPCA COVID-19 Vaccine Workgroup

To support you in the development of your COVID vaccine programs, OPCA is leading a COVID-19 Vaccine Workgroup. This workgroup includes monthly calls, and a Google Group that provides a forum for peers to communicate and where up-to-date, pertinent information is shared. Sign-up by emailing tcook@orpca.org. Calls take place on the **last Wednesday of the month, 8:30-9:30am PT**.

OHA Hosting Virtual Vaccine Learning Collaborative

The Oregon Health Authority (OHA) Transformation Center, in partnership with the OHA Vaccine Planning Unit, is hosting a [learning collaborative](#) for clinics newer to COVID immunizations to learn not only from subject matter experts but other health center peers. Topics such as operational workflows, allocations, targeting high risk populations, vaccine hesitancy, and more will be covered. **Noon-1pm PT every other Friday**.

The latest COVID-19 news and information can be found on [OPCA's COVID-19 Resources page](#).

COVID-19: Latest Oregon CHC Response Numbers; Final Member Briefing Held

OREGON HEALTH CENTERS' RESPONSE TO COVID-19



As of April 30, 2021

The Health Resources and Services Administration is surveying health centers weekly to track their COVID-19 response and their patient and staff impacts. This week, **76% (28/34)** of health centers & look-alike health centers responded. As of April 2020, when survey collection started, **over 53,000** health center patients have been tested for COVID-19 and **47,194** patient vaccinations have been completed.

Health Centers are Rapidly Adapting to Meet Testing Needs in Their Communities



0 had a mobile van event



32 had a pop-up clinic

This week's COVID-19 vaccinations:

7,293

Vaccinations were initiated

53%

of vaccinations initiated were racial and/or ethnic minority patients



9,344

Vaccinations were completed

48%

of vaccinations completed were racial and/or ethnic minority patients

HRSA Weekly COVID-19 survey summary report for Oregon as of April 30, the latest information available. Click on the image for the full two-page summary.

COVID-19 Member Briefings To Be Scheduled As Needed

OPCA's May 12 COVID-19 Member Briefing was the final one for the time being. OPCA will host these meetings again as the need arises.

QUESTIONS: Email events@orpca.org

Funding Opportunity to Hire CHWs to Support Vaccine Outreach

On May 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. Also on May 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.

Important NHSC Deadlines

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:

- ♦ **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. A CHC must [register to be an eligible NHSC site](#) by May 25 to be eligible to recruit providers.
 - ♦ **May 27** – Deadline for individual providers to apply for Loan Repayment. Individuals can apply for the [Loan Repayment Program](#) (LRP), [Substance Use Disorder Workforce LRP](#) (SUD Workforce LRP), and [Rural Community LRP](#).
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Emergency Broadband Benefit Begins Enrollment

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 May 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](#).

Free Masks for Health Centers: Opt Out by May 14

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. **If you do NOT wish to receive these masks, please notify HRSA through the [BPHC Contact Form](#) no later than 9am PT on May 14.** Select category “COVID-19 Mask Distribution” and sub-category “Opt-Out.”

Video Campaign by Black Health Care Workers Address Vaccine Hesitancy

YouTube recently helped launch a campaign called “[The Conversation: Between Us, About Us, A New Campaign By Black Health Care Workers for Black People about the COVID-19 Vaccines](#).” [This campaign](#) is intended to provide Black communities with credible information about the COVID-19 vaccines co-developed by [KFF \(Kaiser Family Foundation\)](#) and the [Black Coalition Against COVID](#). Black doctors, nurses and researchers dispel misinformation and provide accessible facts in 50 FAQ videos that deliver the information Black people are asking for about the COVID-19 vaccines.

Media & Resources:

- ♦ Follow OPCA's [Facebook](#) and [Twitter](#) to see member posts on COVID-19 vaccination efforts.
- ♦ OPCA's [Events page](#) features 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.

Sign up for OPCA's Member Update



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