APIC COVID-19 and Flu Resource Corner

November 10, 2022

In collaboration with the Asian and Pacific Islander American Health Forum (APIAHF), APIC is disseminating COVID-19 and Influenza-related resources to increase vaccination coverage at the national level. See below for relevant resources and distribute them throughout your communities.

COVID -19 Information and Resources

Monovalent COVID-19 Boosters for Adults

- On October 19, CDC's Director Rochelle P. Walensky, M.D., M.P.H., signed a decision memo allowing Novavax monovalent COVID-19 boosters for adults.
    - This action gives people ages 18 years and older the option to receive a Novavax monovalent booster instead of an updated (bivalent) Pfizer-BioNTech or Moderna booster if they have completed primary series vaccination but have not previously received a COVID-19 booster—and if they cannot or will not receive mRNA vaccines.

Updates for 2023 Recommended Adult and Child Immunization Schedules

- On October 20, CDC's Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices (ACIP) recommended updates to the 2023 childhood and adult immunization schedules, which includes incorporating additional information for approved or authorized COVID-19 vaccines.
    - Updated immunization schedules will not take effect until 2023, when the updated schedules and program guidance are published.

- In addition to recommending updates to immunization schedules, ACIP also voted to approve the incorporation of authorized COVID-19 vaccines into the Vaccines for Children (VFC) program.
- This action ensures that in the future, vaccination coverage will continue once the COVID-19 vaccines are commercialized.

CDC Talking Points for RSV, COVID-19, and Influenza

In brief:

- This year's flu season is expected to be more severe than usual. Get a flu shot ASAP.
- RSV cases are hospitalizing a record number of children.
- Get an updated COVID-19 booster to help prevent a "tripledemic" of flu, RSV, and COVID-19 this winter.

CDC's weekly Vaccine Confidence Report, Morbidity and Mortality Report, and COVID-19 Science Update

Events

- **Thursday, November 10 at 12 pm PT / 3 pm ET**

COVID-19 and Monkeypox Updates for Pregnant and Lactating People and Children 0-5 Years Old

Please join BreastfeedLA for their live webinar featuring Dr. Christopher Zimmerman from the Orange County Health Care Agency. Dr. Zimmerman will discuss who is eligible for the COVID vaccine, safety of the vaccine for children, lactating and pregnant individuals, options for

vaccines, updates and recommendations. Additionally, Dr. Zimmerman will provide the latest information on Monkeypox for the 0-5 population and lactating individuals and what the current recommendations are. Register here.

- **Tuesday, November 15 at 9 am PT / 12 pm ET**

Facilitating and Celebrating Honest Conversations About COVID-19 and Other Health Topics in RIM Communities

The National Resource Center for Refugees, Immigrants, and Migrants and IDEO.org have collaborated with Canal Alliance to develop Honest Conversations: a modular kit to build communication campaigns that amplify candid, health-related stories and concerns of people in RIM communities. Health concerns change often and are usually colored by the reality of the moment— what's in the news, popular culture, and people's hearts. RIM communities have a lot of wisdom and experiences to share, and rebuilding trust with the system means creating a space for listening and meeting people where they are, both physically and emotionally.

This campaign playbook supports you in connecting your communities to health guidelines and resources in a timely, relevant, and compelling way, focusing on re-engaging people and rebuilding trust. Register here.

- **Thursday, November 17 at 12 pm PT / 3 pm ET**

What's Next? Sustainability Wins from Community Based Organizations COVID-19 Response

In the next webinar hosted by the CDC Foundation in partnership with Vaccine Equity Cooperative, presenters will reflect, highlight and celebrate examples of equitable and effective COVID responses, and share sustainability plans that promote the continued health and well-being of their communities moving forward, as well as:

‣ Spotlight local successes and lessons learned from equity-centered approaches that ensured public health initiatives reached our most vulnerable populations;

‣ Revisit previous bright spot examples, their recent adaptations, and future state plans for COVID response and other public health work and collaborations;

‣ Create a discussion space for attendees that is both realistic and hopeful about the next part of the pandemic.

Register here.

Funding Opportunities

- **2023 Public Health AmeriCorps Funding Priorities – Due January 4, 2023**

  Public Health AmeriCorps will invest $400 million, over five years, that will enable the recruitment, training, and development of a new generation of public health leaders. AmeriCorps' priorities for this funding opportunity are:

  - Efforts to help local communities respond to and recover from the COVID-19 pandemic
  - Programs creating pathways to good-quality public health-related careers through onsite experience and training
  - Organizations leading service in communities with concentrated poverty, rural communities, tribal communities, and those organizations serving historically underrepresented and underserved individuals
- **Surgo Ventures, Uber, and LISC have partnered through the Vaccine Access Fund to provide funded support for organizations looking to increase vaccination rates.** Your organization can apply to receive grant funds and free technical assistance to implement the following:
  - A Vaccine Ambassador Program that equips health center staff and incentivizes vaccinated patients to become trusted messengers, encouraging others in their network to get the COVID-19 vaccine.
  - The coordination of free rides with Uber (via the Uber Health platform) to appointments where COVID-19 vaccines are available.
  - To apply, click here.
- **AAMC - Funding Opportunities for Health Equity and Research Interventions**

- **Robert Wood Johnson Foundation's Evidence for Action: Innovative Research to Advance Racial Equity (Rolling)**

Evidence for Action prioritizes research to evaluate specific interventions (e.g., policies, programs, practices) that have the potential to counteract the harms of structural and systemic racism and improve health, well-being, and equity outcomes. We are concerned both with the direct impacts of structural racism on the health and well-being of people and communities of color (e.g., Black, Latina/o/x, Indigenous, Asian, Pacific Islander people, and other races and ethnicities)—as well as the ways in which racism intersects with other forms of marginalization, such as having low income, being an immigrant, having a disability, or identifying as LGBTQ+ or a gender minority.

This funding is focused on studies about upstream causes of health inequities, such as the systems, structures, laws, policies, norms, and practices that determine the distribution of resources and opportunities, which in turn influence individuals' options and behaviors. Research should center on the needs and experiences of communities exhibiting the greatest health burdens and be motivated by real-world priorities. It should be able to inform a specific course of action and/or establish beneficial practices, not stop at characterizing or documenting the extent of a problem.

E4A seeks grantees who are deeply committed to conducting rigorous and equitable research and ensuring that their findings are actionable in the real world. In addition to research funding, RWJF also supports grantees with stakeholder engagement, dissemination of findings, and other activities that can enhance their projects' potential to "move the needle" on health and racial equity. Only through intentional and collaborative efforts to disrupt racism and translate research to action can we hope to build a more just and equitable society and a Culture of Health.

Applications are accepted on a rolling basis. Applicants will generally receive notice within six to nine weeks of applying as to whether they are invited to submit a full proposal. Full proposals will be due two months from the date of notification. Funding recommendations will generally be made within eight weeks of receipt of the full proposal. In circumstances when a research opportunity is time sensitive, reviews may be expedited. An explanation of the time-sensitive nature of the research should be included in the LOI application.

Click here for more information.

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