

Developing Data-Driven Language-Equity Tools to Combat Covid-19 within RIM Communities.

Background/Rationale:

With support from the National Association of County and City Health Officials (NACCHO) and the University of Minnesota's National Resource Center for Refugees, Immigrants, and Migrants (NRC-RIM), the Korean Community Center of the East Bay (KCCEB) established the Refugee Immigrant COVID-19 Engagement (RICE) collaborative in response to the disproportionate impact of COVID-19 in RIM communities.

From October 2021 to February 2022, the RICE Collaborative conducted a COVID-19 needs assessment survey primarily at community vaccine events across three cities within Alameda County.

Bilingual/bicultural Community Health Advocates administered the survey with 559 individuals across 12 languages. Findings were used to tailor health education strategies that are in-language and culturally centered for LEP communities. The survey findings also highlight emerging trends with significant implications for interventions, funding, and policies when supporting LEP-RIM communities for public health.

Content:

By the end of the session, participants will 1) understand how to implement a collaborative approach to health needs assessment in RIM communities; 2) articulate the importance of data disaggregation by primary/preferred language for effective health education strategies; 3) understand how to tailor health education/prevention strategies based on survey data and 4) discuss RICE Collaborative's next steps to advance language equity infrastructure within the local public health department.

Instructional Methods

KCCEB staff will present their process and findings in lecture and Q&A format, and subsequently engage participants in a structured conversation to elicit participant recommendations for advancing language equity infrastructure within their own public health settings.