

RIM Monthly Newsletter

Updates and resources for SCALING UP COVID-19 PREVENTION AND MITIGATION STRATEGIES WITH REFUGEE, IMMIGRANT, AND MIGRANT (RIM) COMMUNITIES

January, 24, 2022

Welcome!

Hello COVID-19 Refugee, Immigrant, and Migrant partners,

We welcome this new year with our first newsletter and are so excited to use this monthly compendium to share NACCHO RIM updates, webinars, and resources. We will also share COVID-19 information from around the nation regarding refugee, immigrant, and migrant communities. Along with this newsletter, join our Virtual Communities to share information, tools, resources, and experiences with other grantee awardees. We are excited to build this community!

Sincerely,

NACCHO RIM Team

Site Spotlight: Tri County Mediation

Located on the Lower Eastern Shore of Maryland and representing the three counties of Wicomico, Worcester, and Somerset, Tri Community Mediation (TCM) is a community-based organization dedicated to supporting people and communities through mediation and conflict resolution services. Probing through the demographics of their localities, TCM recruits members of diverse and critical communities to train as volunteer mediators who often receive referrals and respond to areas of social need at no cost.

One critical population TCM serves and collaborates with is the local Haitian community, many comprised of newly arrived families and individuals who face various sociopolitical and economic challenges abroad and here in the United States. In light of the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic, TCM fosters and nurtures relationships with other community organizations, including Haitian Development Center of Delmarva and Rebirth, Inc., as well as Migrant Clinicians Network and Wicomico County Health Department to connect with Haitian communities to identify, understand, and address COVID-19 challenges including misunderstandings, congregated living and working settings, health education, and other needs that may exacerbate the burden and impacts COVID-19 is leaving these communities with. Through programs like one-stop-shop events in collaboration with libraries, food banks, partners, and volunteer community mediators, TCM connects communities with resources and social services related to housing, employment, childcare, school registration, utility assistance, health insurance, and various other challenges for vulnerable populations, especially people facing issues of documentation, discrimination, neglect, stable housing, and more. Through partnership building and elevating involvement, leadership, and contribution from critical populations like local Haitian communities, TCM is a part of a growing network that leverages collaboration and connection with community leaders through human-centered approaches to deepen relationships, trust, and access to more significant resources for populations most in need amidst the disproportionate impacts of COVID-19 and continuous health and systemic issues faced by many.

Highlights of the Month

NEW Funding Opportunity: Equipping Local Health Departments to Build COVID-19 Vaccine Confidence

With support from the CDC, NACCHO is pleased to offer a funding opportunity that will support LHDs to improve COVID-19 vaccine confidence and address misinformation at the community level in partnership with local trusted community messengers. NACCHO will select up to twenty (20) local and/or tribal health departments, providing each up to \$75,000 for this funding opportunity. This funding opportunity is open to LHDs with an interest or clearly identified need to promote COVID-19 vaccine confidence and mitigate the impact of vaccine misinformation among priority populations disproportionately impacted by COVID-19 disease and complications, as well as those with low COVID-19 vaccination rates. For full details and instructions, please review the [Request for Applications](#).

Applications must be submitted by January 31, 2022. Questions about the RFA and application process can be directed to NACCHO's Immunization Program at immunization@naccho.org.

NEW Funding Opportunity: Printing Mini-Grants Funded by NRC-RIM

Common barriers to using NRC-RIM vaccine campaign materials are time and cost. Now, a new mini-grant program, provided by University of Minnesota, can help overcome both obstacles. Local health departments, community organizations, and other small non-profits can now request printed materials from NRC-RIM. Funding is limited, and requests will be processed in the order they are received. Please allow approximately two weeks for delivery. If we are unable to fund your request, NRC-RIM will work with you on ideas to support your work through non-printed materials, like social media campaigns.

News and Announcements

Attend the 'SARS-CoV2 Vaccines Information Equity and Demand Creation Project' Webinar!

NACCHO invites local health department leadership and staff to participate in a webinar, SARS-CoV2 Vaccines Information Equity and Demand Creation Project (COVIED). Please join us for a guided introduction to the materials and tools developed by the COVIED Project – a consortium bringing together academic, not-for-profit, and for-profit organizations to increase COVID vaccine uptake in vulnerable populations through a unique approach to develop and deliver context-specific messages. This webinar is open to all members of local health departments as well as other community partners who are interested in this topic. Only registered participants will be able to join.

NEW Conversation Guide from NRC-RIM Explains Why It Is Important to Get Tested for COVID-19

NRC-RIM newest conversation guide explains why it is important to get tested for COVID-19 and how to stay safe regardless of the results. This fact sheet is available in English with more languages on the way. This is the latest in NRC-RIM growing collection of conversation guides, which includes topics such as boosters, breakthrough infections, and immigration and COVID-19. For checklists, guides, and even more resources on COVID-19 testing in RIM communities, check the [NRC-RIM website](#).

Protecting Immigrant Families Developed a Video Addressing Immigrant Concerns and COVID-19

Protecting Immigrant Families developed a video to address concerns with messages validated through focus groups and partner organizations. The video is available in three different lengths (2 minutes, 60-second, and 30-second) and in nine languages.

Health Equity Resources and News

National Equity Atlas Fellows Program Announced

The National Equity Atlas research partnership, a collaboration between PolicyLink and the USC Equity Research Institute, is seeking applicants for its 2022-2023 class of National Equity Atlas Fellows. This 12-month fellowship program is designed to support community-led efforts to advance racial and economic equity by building the capacity of people of color working in grassroots organizations to analyze, visualize, and use deeply disaggregated data in support of equity campaigns.

HD4NYC and NYC Health Partner to Advance Policy-Relevant Research in Health Equity

[Health Data for New York City \(HD4NYC\)](#), a unique partnership between The New York Academy of Medicine and the NYC Health Department to advance policy-relevant research to promote health equity, has released its initial research publications in the Journal of Urban Health. The papers address important systemic factors that influence health, including the criminal legal system, tobacco control, maternal healthcare, and socioenvironmental contributors to childhood asthma.

From the Field: Research, Policy, and Project Updates

[Recent Report from COVID-19 State of Vaccine Confidence Notes that Social Media Users Pointed out Discrepancies in CDCs Quarantine Guidance](#)

The COVID-19 State of Vaccine Confidence Insights Report emphasizes major themes influencing COVID-19 vaccine hesitancy and uptake, categorized by their level and type of threat to vaccine confidence, degree of spread, and directionality. The recent report noted that consumers and news outlets had pressing questions and concerns about the SARS-CoV-2 Omicron variant. Most notably, social media users pointed out discrepancies in CDC guidance and quarantine practices. Those surveyed also questioned whether people could donate blood or blood plasma after receiving the vaccine. Visit the link above to read other major themes from this report.

Webinars and Trainings

[SARS-CoV2 Vaccines Information Equity and Demand Creation Project \(COVIED\)](#)

February 1, 2022, at 3:00pm ET

Hosted by: NACCHO

Virtual Communities Info

Join our Virtual Communities!

How to Sign Up for Virtual Communities (VC)

- Email membership@naccho.org requesting an account
- Once membership has created you an account, email RIM@naccho.org to be added to the group
- You will then be added to the VC page and sent instructions on using the page
- It takes 24-72 hours to enroll in the VC after membership creates an account for you



Public Health
Prevent. Promote. Protect.

The mission of the National Association of County and City Health Officials (NACCHO) is to improve the health of communities by strengthening and advocating for local health departments.