

National Association of County and City Health Officials (NACCHO)

RIM Monthly Newsletter

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

November 2022

COVID-19 CDC Data Updates

US COVID-19 data: Number of Confirmed Cases in the past 7 days: 303,101

US Monkey Pox data: Total confirmed monkeypox/orthopoxviral cases: 29,630

Highlights of the Month

Tennessee Immigrant and Refugee Rights Coalition

NACCHO had the opportunity to talk with leaders from the Tennessee Immigrant and Refugee Rights Coalition (TIRRC) as well as Siloam Health. Representatives included Chi-Chi Faulk, Services Director at TIRRC, Amy Richardson, Chief Community Health Officer of Siloam Health, and Caitlin Washburn, Community Health Program Manager at Siloam Health. TIRRC is “nationally recognized for [their] multiethnic, multigenerational coalition building, effective legislative advocacy, and award-winning communications initiatives. [They] organize both individual immigrant and refugees, as well as organizations that serve immigrant and refugee communities.” Siloam is a nonprofit health care organization that serves the uninsured.

Richardson noted that 90% of their clients were refugees, immigrants, or migrants. “Nashville has one of the fastest growing immigrant populations in the country, so not as historically established as some of the states or cities, but largely increasing. Providing services in a state that does not have as long of a history of serving these community members has been exciting and challenging, both at the same time,” said Richardson.

The two nonprofits have created a partnership in the wake of COVID-19. Their local health department reached out to TIRRC asking for help with a targeted outreach as most COVID breakouts in Tennessee happened to be in RIM communities. TIRRC pointed to Siloam, as they already had a community health worker program. Together, they worked to create an outreach program that targeted RIM communities in the Nashville area. Faulk described one of their strengths as the ability to get accurate information out fast and far, so they focused on getting COVID information out as fast as possible in several different languages. Through their grant, TIRRC in partnership with Siloam has been able to sponsor many events, like a backpack giveaway. Each backpack was filled with COVID information. They also held vaccine drives at local, immigrant-owned shops from trusted people within the RIM community. TIRRC uses several different outreach strategies, from small vaccine drives to large social media campaigns. Richardson noted that Nashville has a strong history of nonprofit partnership. Whether it's a natural disaster like a hurricane or tornado, or a global pandemic like COVID, people in the Nashville community tend to step up and support each other in any way possible. Faulk also thanked the small business owners that opened up their doors to allow their vaccine drive events to be housed in a trusted location. The Tennessee refugee, immigrant, and migrant community, with support from TIRRC and Siloam health, has been able to access the healthcare that they need on a timeline that works for them. The work these two nonprofits are doing is invaluable and the relationship they have created with the RIM communities in Tennessee is one that will last a lifetime.



From the Field: Research, Policy, and Project Updates

NC-RIM Communications Toolkit

NC-RIM has created a communications toolkit regarding flu season. Their toolkit “supports client-facing staff in answering questions about vaccines. [They] have guides on many topics, and the frequently asked questions at the intersection of COVID-19 and the flu are listed [at this link](#).”

Health Equity Resources and News

CDC Vax Up America

Sharing on behalf of CDC and the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS)

Let’s work together to help Vax Up America. Holiday gatherings and travel are around the corner. With your partnership to spread the word about the importance of getting [updated COVID vaccines](#) this season, we can work together to protect our friends, loved ones, and community as we gather across America for Thanksgiving and the holiday season.

We’re working with partners across sectors to get a simple message out:

- The [updated vaccines](#) are our best protection against the version of COVID we’re fighting, and everyone should get their updated COVID vaccine right away.
- Older adults and people with underlying [medical conditions](#) are at higher risk for severe illness from COVID-19.
- COVID-19 vaccines are [safe](#), [effective](#), free, readily available, and getting the updated vaccine is the best thing you can do to avoid getting sick with the current version of COVID-19.
- If it’s more than 2 months since your last COVID-19 vaccine, you might be due for the updated vaccine. Visit CDC’s [web page](#) to find out when you can get your booster.

We invite you to:

POST our [sample social messages](#) to spread the word to your followers. We have suggested posts for the ten days leading up to Thanksgiving, as well as evergreen messages.

SHARE our [sample email message](#) with your networks.

LEARN more about the Department of Health and Human Services' resources for outreach at the We Can Do This [website](#) with the links below.

JOIN the [COVID Community Corps](#) for updates, events, and future resources.

Visit [vaccines.gov](https://www.vaccines.gov) to find a location to get a vaccine, and for more resources on our countdown to Thanksgiving go to: Vax Up America! We Can Do This!

Together, We Can Do This.

Webinars and Trainings

NRC-RIM Honest Conversations Toolkit Webinar

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.

At the end of the webinar, participants will be able to:

- Articulate the value of community-driven work
- Amplify community voices with authentic and creative storytelling techniques
- Use open-source materials and templates to create an Honest Conversations campaign for their communities that lasts three to four months.

This is a bilingual webinar taking place on Thursday, December 15, 2022 at 2 pm ET. Register [here](#).

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.