

RIM Monthly Newsletter

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

October 28, 2022

COVID-19 CDC Data Updates

US COVID-19 data: Number of Confirmed Cases in the past 7 days: 521,616

US Monkey Pox data: Total confirmed monkeypox/orthopoxviral cases: 28,004

Highlights of the Month

Cameron County Public Health

The Cameron County Public Health Department Preparedness team has partnered with the local homeless centers serving Refugee, Immigrant, and Migrant (RIM) communities in Cameron County, Texas. NACCHO had the opportunity to speak with Ashley Ruiz, Head of Preparedness, and Daniela Orozco, Epidemiologist, on the Preparedness team.

The Preparedness team of Cameron County Public Health provides an array of services, from distributing physical tools to prevent the spread of COVID to educating RIM communities on the vaccination process.



"We target the homeless shelters and the federal shelters that serve the Latinx communities," Ruiz explained. Through their NACCHO grant, the preparedness team serves local detention centers as well as unaccompanied minor shelters, specifically by distributing COVID mitigation and prevention supplies like vaccines and hand sanitizers. As part of their project goals, they create health communication resources such as a billboard educating RIM communities on the importance of the COVID-19 vaccine. To support elicit feedback from the community on tools such as the billboard, Cameron County continues to build bidirectional communication tools. Their goal for this month is to provide RIM communities in Cameron County free hygiene kits to help slow the spread of viruses like COVID-19, as well as creating a workshop to educate RIM communities on COVID prevention. This workshop took place on Wednesday, October 26th, 2022.

From the Field: Research, Policy, and Project Updates

HHS Announces Steps to Improve Language Access and Overcome Barriers to Equity in Health Care and Human Services

“The U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) is announcing a number of steps to improve language access through HHS programs and advance the Biden-Harris Administration’s goal of overcoming barriers to equity in health care and human services.

HHS is taking steps to improve meaningful communication with limited English proficient (LEP) individuals by relaunching its Language Access Steering Committee (Steering Committee) to support HHS’s implementation of language access obligations under President Joe Biden’s recent Executive Orders (EOs), as well as similar obligations under the [HHS Equity Action Plan](#). As part of this Steering Committee, all HHS agencies will reassess and update their language access plans to ensure that LEP persons have meaningful access to HHS-administered health and human services programs and activities.

Simultaneously, the HHS Office of Minority Health (OMH) is announcing more than \$4 million in grants to 11 organizations for an initiative called Promoting Equitable Access to Language Services in Health and Human Services. This three-year initiative covers developing and testing methods of informing individuals with LEP about the availability of language access services in health care-related settings.”

Health Equity Resources and News

Addendum for Refugees, Immigrants, and Migrants (RIM) Communities

There is a new resource called the Addendum for [Refugees, Immigrants, and Migrants \(RIM\) Communities](#) that has been created to help supplement the CDC resource: [How to Conduct a Rapid Community Assessment | CDC](#). This resource offers key RIM specific considerations when conducting the RCA needs assessment. While the resource was created during the COVID-19 response and COVID-19 vaccine specific, the elements of the addendum and needs assessment can apply to other health outcomes.

Webinars and Trainings

Telling a Story with Data- Introduction to Making your Project Information Visual Webinar

NACCHO, in partnership with LTG Associates is excited to present Telling a Story with Data - Introduction to Making your Project Information Visual webinar. LTG will overview the importance and relevance of visual data and provide guidance and examples of how to use visual data presentations to convey program activities and successes.

When done successfully, visual data can present findings and concepts more clearly than narrative alone to community, professional, and funding audiences. In this webinar, you will learn how to use graphic program data to identify and illustrate trends, intervening factors, outputs, strengths, and gaps in your own program information to help inform the use of variables that are appropriate for the work and community i.e., use of meaningful demographic data. Successful presentation of data can bring value to your organization by clearly presenting program effectiveness and can enhance the ability to share information and teach the field.

Join us on Thursday November 3rd, 10:00 am PT/ 12:00 pm CT/ 1:00 pm EST on Zoom for this presentation!

[Register in advance for this webinar.](#)

After registering, you will receive a confirmation email containing information about joining the webinar.

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.