HHS Community Health News Jan. 25-29, 2021

The new administration released its [National Strategy for the COVID-19 Response and Preparedness](#) last week. In it we see an important role for community-based organizations especially as it relates to education and access.

As we await the details of the National Strategy's [seven point plan](#), our understanding is that it will still be operationalized through [state and local public health entities.](#) (Use this [locator](#) to determine local vaccine efforts in your state or territory or contact your [state or local health department](#) to find out when, where, and how vaccines will be available in your community.

In the meantime, we're excited to see the growing number of faith communities championing and even hosting vaccine programs. These hopeful examples include [churches in Florida partnering with hospitals and the state to better distribute vaccines](#)—as they become available—through local churches to the people who are most at risk and [pastors being publically vaccinated in Boston](#) to encourage vaccine reluctant members.

COVID-19 Vaccine Toolkit for Community-based Orgs
[COVID-19 Vaccine Communication Toolkit for Community-Based Organizations: Getting Started](#)
CDC has designed a toolkit for organizations serving communities affected by COVID-19 including social service organizations, faith-based organizations, and others to help educate their members about COVID-19 vaccines, raise awareness about the benefits of vaccination, and address common questions and concerns.

Experts Talking to Communities about COVID-19
[Engaging Faith Leaders to Protect their Congregations and Communities from COVID-19](#)
Today! **Mon., Jan. 25, 2021 3:00 p.m. EST. Register [here](#).**
This CDC COVID-19 Partner Update will focus on strengthening the efforts of faith and community organizations to prevent the spread of COVID-19.

[Everything you Should Know About the COVID-19 Vaccines](#)
Wed., Jan. 27, 2021, 1:00 p.m. EST. Register [here](#).
Promoted by NIH and presented by the Urban Health Institute and Johns Hopkins Office of Diversity, Inclusion, and Health Equity, this webinar features Dr. Kizzmekia Corbett, a leading scientist for the development of the COVID-19 vaccines, in a community forum discussing what people need to know about COVID-19 vaccines.

[Treating Long COVID: Clinician Experience with Post-Acute COVID-19 Care](#)
Thurs., Jan. 28, 2021, 2:00 p.m. EST. Call details [here](#).
Patients and clinicians across the U.S. are reporting long-term effects of COVID-19, commonly referred to as *long COVID.* Presenters will share their firsthand experiences with treating long COVID, focusing on the pulmonary, neurologic, and psychological aspects.

[**Moving the Needle on COVID-19 Vaccination: Learning from National Public Health Experts & Community-Based Organizations**](#).
Thurs., Jan 28, 2021, 12:00 p.m. EST. Register [here.](#)
At this event, CDC COVID-19 Response Vaccine Task Force Chief Medical Officer Amanda Cohn, MD, will present the latest information about available vaccines and current vaccine distribution plans. Afterwards, leaders from community-based organizations (CBOs) will join the conversation to discuss ways to overcome barriers to a successful COVID-19 vaccination campaign.

[**Faithful Action: Preventing Exploitation & Human Trafficking Among Youth in a COVID Environment**](#)
Thurs., Jan. 28, 2021, 2:00 p.m. EST. Register [here](#).
Learn from three non-profit youth prevention educational programs about youth vulnerability in a COVID environment, prevention strategies and cultural sensitivities in supporting youth impacted by trauma.

[**Harmonizing the Spiritual and Scientific Worldviews**](#)
Tues., Feb. 9, 2021, 2:00 p.m. EST. **View [here](#).**
The Religion, Spirituality, and Health Scientific Interest [Group](#) will host Dr. Francis S. Collins as their inaugural presenter.

[**A Conversation on COVID-19 with Dr. Fauci and the Muslim Community**](#)
Thurs., Feb. 11, 2021. Register [here](#).
American Muslim Health Professionals (AMHP) hosts this conversation with Dr. Anthony Fauci, NIAID Director and Chief Medical Advisor on COVID-19 to President Biden.

Grants and Funding Opportunities
Note: A primary reason funding opportunities are highlighted each week is to let you know of potential investments in your community. To participate in these funds, you may need to actively engage with local community partners, health care systems, and/or public health entities and contribute to your community's collective efforts. *Newly listed here.

[**Resumed Paycheck Protection Program**](#)
The loan portal for the [Paycheck Protection Program (PPP)](#) reopened in January. This program provides small businesses, including [faith-based organizations](#), with funds to pay up to 8 weeks of payroll costs including benefits. Funds can also be used to pay interest on mortgages, rent, and utilities.

[**Mental Health Awareness Training**](#)
SAMHSA is accepting applications for fiscal year 2021 Mental Health Awareness Training grants. One of the primary purposes of this program is to train individuals and community leaders to recognize the signs and symptoms of mental disorders, particularly serious mental illness (SMI) and/or serious emotional disturbances (SED). **Closing date: Feb. 5, 2021.**

[Enhancement and Expansion of Treatment and Recovery Services for Adolescents, Transitional Aged Youth, and their Families](#)
Program aims to enhance and expand comprehensive treatment, early intervention, and recovery support services for adolescents, transitional aged youth, and their families/primary caregivers with substance use disorders (SUD) and/or co-occurring substance use and mental disorders. **Closing date: Feb. 8, 2021**.

[Cooperative Agreement for the National Suicide Prevention Lifeline and Disaster Distress Helpline](#)
SAMHSA is accepting applications for FY 2021 Cooperative Agreement for the National Suicide Prevention Lifeline and the Disaster Distress Helpline. **Closing date: Feb. 9, 2021**.

[Reducing Inequities in Cancer Outcomes through Community-Based Interventions on Social Determinants of Health](#)
Funding to conduct evaluation research to build an evidence base of innovative, community-based interventions across multiple domains of social determinants of health to reduce racial and ethnic disparities in cancer outcomes. **Closing date: Feb. 10, 2021.**

[Reducing Risk for Girls in the Juvenile Justice System](#)
The goal of this program is to reduce risk factors and promote protective factors for girls who come in contact with the juvenile justice system, and place them on a path toward success, stability, and long-term contribution to society. **Closing date: Feb. 12, 2021**. View related [webinar](#) on Jan. 28, 2021, 2:00 pm, EST.

[Building Communities of Recovery (BCOR)](#)
These FY 2021 grants are intended to support the development, enhancement, expansion, and delivery of recovery support services, as well as education about recovery. Programs will be principally governed by people in recovery from substance abuse and addiction who reflect the community being served. *Extended* **Closing date: Feb. 15, 2021.**

[FY 2021 Second Chance Act Pay for Success Initiative](#)
Program funds state, local, and tribal governments to strengthen contracts with reentry, permanent supportive housing, or recovery housing providers to reduce recidivism and address the substance use disorders impacting formerly incarcerated people. **Closing Date: Feb. 16, 2021.**

[Integrated Substance Use Disorder Training Program (ISTP)](#)
The program expands the number of nurse practitioners, physician assistants, health service psychologists, and/or social workers trained to provide mental health and substance use disorder (SUD), including opioid use disorder (OUD) services in underserved community-based settings that integrate primary care, mental health, and SUD services. **Closing date: Feb. 24, 2021.**

*[Housing Assistance Grants for Victims of Human Trafficking](#)

The goal of this program is to provide safe, stable housing and appropriate services to victims of human trafficking. The program will support transitional housing, including funding for the operating expenses of a newly developed or existing transitional housing program; and short-term housing assistance, including rental or utilities payment assistance and assistance with related expenses. **Closing date: March 1, 2021.**

Strategies to Support Children Exposed to Violence

Grants to develop support services for children exposed to violence in their homes, schools, and communities; and to develop, enhance, and implement violent crime reduction strategies that focus on violent juvenile offenders. Priority will be given to applications that address challenges in rural communities. **Closing date: Mar. 8, 2021**.

Multistate Mentoring Programs Initiative

This program supports the implementation and delivery of mentoring services to youth populations that are at risk for juvenile delinquency and juvenile justice system involvement. Mentoring services can be one-on-one, group, peer, or a combination of these types. Solicitation-related webinar review Feb. 2, 2021. **Closing date: Mar. 9, 2021**.
Also see **National Mentoring Programs Closing date: Mar. 9, 2021.**

OVC FY 2021 Preventing Trafficking of Girls

This solicitation from the Office of Violent Crimes (OVC) provides funding for organizations to support prevention and early intervention programs for girls who are at-risk of, or are victims of, sex trafficking. **Closing Date: Mar. 15, 2021.**

Community Health Access and Rural Transformation

The Community Health Access and Rural Transformation (CHART) Model aims to improve health care quality and reduce Medicare and Medicaid expenditures within rural communities. The CHART Model will harness the drive, creativity, and local expertise of rural communities and leverage national resources to improve access to care, quality of care, and health outcomes for rural residents. *Extended* **Closing date: March 16, 2021.** Join the CHART Payment Webinar, Thurs., Jan. 21, 3 00 p.m. EST

Rural Community Development Initiative (RCDI)

Funding to help nonprofit housing and community development intermediary organizations support housing, community facilities, and community and economic development projects in rural areas. **Closing date: Mar. 22, 2021.**

Rural Health and Safety Education Competitive Grants Program (RHSE)

Funds community-based outreach education and extension programs at land-grant colleges and universities that provide individuals and families in rural areas with information on health, wellness, and prevention. **Closing date: April 29, 2021.**

Finally, our partners at Adult & Teen Challenge are offering a free webinar (with CEU's), Spirituality, Science & Addiction Treatment – Faith as an Evidence Based Intervention for Substance Dependence, on Wed. Feb. 3, 2021, 1:00 p.m. EST. Register here.