

Aug. 5, 2020



The OPCA team is so excited to be able to recognize and celebrate our Oregon health centers this year during National Health Center Week (NHCW), which starts Sunday. This year's NHCW theme of Lighting the Way for Healthier Communities Today and in the Future, is fitting as health centers serve as a beacon of strength, service, and care in their communities. Over the last four months, we have had the opportunity to see how bright our health center members shine and I continue to be awestruck by your innovative work to meet needs in communities throughout our state. Your ability to pivot and ensure that you continue to support your patients and staff during one of the most challenging—if not the most challenging—times we've experienced in our lifetimes, is what continues to keep me motivated. On behalf of OPCA, I want to thank our Oregon health centers for all they are doing as leaders and partners on the front lines of COVID-19.

This year will look very different from years past, and while we may not be gathering in-person, it is still important to honor and celebrate health centers nationally and here in Oregon. OPCA has been looking at opportunities to support and showcase our Oregon health centers virtually during NHCW and we will be participating in activities throughout NHCW to remember and honor lives lost through COVID-19 and racism, and to take action.

OPCA is also sharing origin stories from members in today's Member Update and next week during National Health Center Week on our social media. Thank you to members who have shared their stories with us. As you look at unique ways to celebrate virtually during NHCW and showcase the value of your health center, it's also a great opportunity to reflect on the mission and roots of the health center movement, born through the civil rights movement and the War on Poverty.

If you don't yet have an event planned or are looking for other ways to celebrate CHCs, you can:



- [Take action today](#), by writing your members of Congress to tell them why you are celebrating National Health Center Week!
- Consider a virtual reading of [Gov. Kate Brown's Health Center Week in Oregon declaration](#).
- Identify webinars, videos, or other opportunities for staff, patients, and community members to learn about matters that align with the values and mission of health centers and the communities they serve.

As you continue to light the way as a leader in primary care, NHCW is a great opportunity to shine a light on your health center and the value you bring to your community. Thank you for all you do for our Oregon communities.

Joan Watson-Patko, OPCA Executive Director

Members Share CHC Origin Stories as Part of National Health Center Week

As part of NHCW, OPCA asked CHCs to share their origin story—the history of why and how they opened to meet their community's needs. Many CHCs open from grassroots movements to respond to inequities in their community. OPCA is highlighting eight stories today of the community oriented history of CHCs in Oregon. All are posted on OPCA's blog to make these stories accessible to the public. We will also be sharing on social media during NHCW and promoting in the [OPCA Health Center Week news release](#).



- [Yakima Valley Farm Workers Clinic](#)
- [Wallace](#)
- [La Clinica](#)
- [White Bird Clinic](#)
- [Mosaic Medical](#)
- [Neighborhood Health Center](#)
- [Prism Health](#)
- [OHSU Family Medicine Richmond Clinic](#)

If you would like to share your CHC's origin story during NHCW, contact [OPCA's Communications Team](#).

Tell Your CHC Story During NHCW for a Chance to Win Prizes



Enter to Win!

Tell your Community Health Center Story

New raffle for National Health Center Week! Great prizes: \$100 AMEX gift card (2), and a \$50 AMEX gift card (3) or a copy of Out in the Rural.

1. Upload a **main narrative and profile image** to your **CHroniCles profile** by **August 15, 2020**.
2. Email our project manager **ibruce@rchnfoundation.org**, so we know who is responsible for updating the health center profile.
3. Each additional item - document, photo album, or video upload - will get you an additional entry into the raffle.
4. Already have a profile on the site? Your organization can still participate by adding to the main narrative, or adding content to the profile.

Instructions on how to upload content to your profile can be found here: <https://bit.ly/32gsxGk>

The person uploading content to the website must be authorized by the CHC / PCA to do so!



As part of NHCW, CHroniCles has a raffle opportunity for CHCs that upload a main narrative and profile picture by Aug. 15.

CHroniCles is an interactive, multimedia website dedicated to the living history of the community health center movement.

Every CHC and PCA is invited to create and update a customized profile with photos, data, narratives and videos.

[Learn more about CHroniCles here.](#)

[Instructions on how to upload content to your profile here.](#)

Help Make the 2020 Census Count in Oregon

As of July 30, Oregon has a 65.1% self-response rate keeping us at 19th in the nation and 2.3% above the national average! July 30 also marks the day that census takers began visiting households that haven't responded to the 2020 Census in 34 of the 36 counties in Oregon. The remaining two counties, Multnomah and Clackamas, will begin on Aug. 11. At the same time, we heard that the Census Bureau is [cutting those door-to-door visits](#) short. Census takers will wrap up in-person interviews on Sept. 30—not Oct. 31.

The census is the tool federal agencies and Congress use to determine how federal programs will allocate over \$13 billion annually here in Oregon. An undercount of those living in our state will mean that critical programs and services Oregonians depend on every day will be underfunded for the next decade.

It is critical that we ensure a complete 2020 Census count despite the numerous obstacles. You and your health center can help! Visit [Oregon Counts 2020](#) to learn more or contact [OPCA's Policy Team](#) today!

Important Policy Updates: 340B, Public Charge, Second Special Session

Over the last week, we've seen some significant shifts in policies impacting health centers and the patients they serve. Unprecedented attacks on 340B and a reversal of the Public Charge Rule are just a few of the rapidly evolving policies we are watching

In our state, Gov. Kate Brown called for a second special session and announced the Oregon Worker Quarantine Fund. If you want the latest up-to-date details on these critical issues and much more you will find it all at the link below.

[Read more on 340B, Public Charge and the Second Special Session here](#)

Member Stories Correction: OHSU Family Medicine's Role in Becoming Anti-Racist

In OPCA's July 22 Member Update, we shared a Member Story from OHSU Family Medicine on its work to become anti-racist. The author of the piece, Amber Hollingsworth, asked to issue a correction around the burden placed on BIPOC colleagues. We offered the opportunity to rewrite the blog. You can [read the correction and updated version here](#).

OPCA To Host Final Health Equity Listening Session; Survey Open Until Aug. 18

Please join us for our final health equity listening session on Aug. 11, from 8-9am PT, to hear about your priorities and efforts as health equity champions in Oregon. These are guided discussions to help OPCA prioritize work with members and with partners. Two other sessions were held July 29 and Aug. 4. All three sessions cover the same content.

Didn't make any of our sessions or thought of something you'd like to add? We also have a [survey open now through Aug. 18](#). Please forward to your colleagues or complete if you've had additional thoughts.

WHAT: Final Health Equity Listening Session

WHEN: Aug. 11, 8-9am: [Click link to join](#) or call 971-203-2815, Conference ID: 587 999 502#

WHO SHOULD ATTEND: These sessions are relevant for CHC staff at any level/area of focus. Please also pass along to relevant staff to make your health center voice heard!

COST: Free

Not able to attend our sessions? We have a [survey open now through Aug. 18](#). Please forward to your colleagues or complete if you've had additional thoughts.

Reach out to [Carly](#) for a calendar invite or with questions.

Last Call To Register for Virtual Workshop on Reimagining SDH & Depression Screening



Join OPCA for virtual workshop for health center teams on the topic of reimagining the way we conduct social determinants of health and depression screening and initiate new ways of thinking in response to the current environment. The goal of this workshop is to learn from peers about the changing landscape of depression and social needs screening, and begin communication to inspire advancements as we move forward in this new telehealth environment. [See the final agenda or register here.](#)

WHAT: SDH & Depression Screening Workshop: Re-imagining Care Teams & Workflows

WHEN: Aug. 17 from 9am–12:15pm PT and Aug. 18 from 1:00-4pm PT

WHO SHOULD ATTEND: Due to data sharing this event is restricted to Oregon FQHC only. OPCA strongly recommends CHC teams of at least three. Suggested CHC staff roles include:

Clinical champion (medical, dental, or behavioral health)

Outreach worker (community health worker, front desk staff, patient navigator, patient coordinator, etc.)

Quality improvement staff (programs specialist, QI manager, etc.)

Data staff (analysts, report writers, EHR specialists, etc.)

COST: \$30/person

REGISTRATION CLOSES END OF THE DAY TODAY, AUG. 5

OPCA Launches Events Page on Website



OPCA has added an [Events page](#) to its website to make it easier for you to find information about upcoming OPCA events. This page has the most up-to-date information on registration, intended audiences, and who to contact with additional questions. We encourage you to take a look at this page, and bookmark it for future use.

Contact OPCA's Event & Marketing Specialist, [Malia Turina](#), with events questions.

Group Purchasing Program Available for Members Through Partnership

OPCA and the Washington Association for Community Health have partnered for many years with their [Washington Group Purchasing Program](#), a program that helps you get the equipment/services you need while saving you money and benefiting OPCA. Their focus over the last few months has been locating PPE sources for you and keeping you updated on availability of their partnered vendors.

In addition to discounted pricing, they strive to bring an educational element to the program through Webinars on topics relevant to you. They also have a newsletter on many topics relevant to the operational and purchasing departments. Some of you may already be receiving it. Another

communication resource is their [Group Purchasing Forum](#). If you are not receiving their communications, contact [Terri Blazell-Wayson](#), Group Purchasing Coordinator.

Just In: The August Edition of the Operations Peer Group Newsletter is Out

The latest Operations Peer Group Newsletter is out! You can read the [August edition here](#) for upcoming events, need-to-know information, training opportunities, and resources compiled by Sonya Howk, Sustainability Manager at OPCA.

Future editions of the newsletter will appear in the OPCA Member Update and on [OPCA's Peer Group webpage](#).

Spotlight on 2019-20 Annual Awards of Excellence Winner Katie Thornton



Every year OPCA is proud to honor individuals and organizations who do outstanding work to advance health equity and care for the health of Oregonians experiencing poverty and marginalization.

This year, individuals or teams at six community health centers were recognized at OPCA's Annual Meeting, held virtually on May 15.

We're highlighting each team or individual in OPCA's blog. [Read more here about Katie Thornton](#) and the REACH Team, who earned the 2019-20 OPCA Annual Award Winner for Health Equity.

Spotlight on Staff: Introducing OPCA's Data Strategy Director



Simon Parker-Shames recently joined OPCA as the Data Strategy Director. Simon has two kids, and his family speaks Mandarin Chinese and English at their home in Ashland, Oregon. Simon is an Irish traditional musician, playing accordion and penny whistle, and just at the beginning of a very long journey to learn the Uilleann pipes.

[Read more about Simon in today's OPCA's Spotlight on Staff blog post.](#)

Inspired by the theme of NHCW, Lighting the Way for Communities Today and in the Future, we've launched a Spotlight on Staff blog as a space for you to get to know our talented staff members a little better. Simon is the newest member of the OPCA team and the first to be featured as part of this series.

[Email Simon with your data strategy questions here.](#)

Media & Resources:

- Awards Available To Support Patient Experience Surveys at Health Centers: OPCA has awards available in the amount of \$1,500 that are available on a first-come, first-served basis. [Read more about this opportunity here.](#)
- [OPCA's COVID-19 Resources page](#) has the most up-to-date resources such as
 - [Oregon's COVID-19 Weekly Testing Summary](#)
- OPCA webinars, which provide the latest policy, funding, and other updates:
 - [Slides](#) from Tuesday's COVID-19 Member Briefing. Apologies that a recording of this meeting is not available.

[Sign up for OPCA's COVID-19 Member Update](#)



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