

Operations Peer Group News

The latest information for Community Health Center Operations Staff



October 6, 2022

Need to Know

Thank you to those who attended the **Operations Directors Fall In-Person Affinity Peer Group Gathering** on September 28th. Slides & information from the meeting will be sent out on the Ops Peer Group List Serve. Don't have access to the list serve? Send me an [email](#) and I'll sign you up.

HRSA Tidbits

HRSA is Streamlining the Biweekly Health Center COVID-19 Survey by eliminating several questions. These changes will be in the Friday, October 7 survey. The [COVID-19 Data Collection Survey Tool User Guide](#) will be updated by noon that day.

Recommendations to Prevent Occupationally-acquired Monkeypox Infection in Health Care Personnel Reports of occupationally-acquired monkeypox infection in health care personnel ***remain rare in this outbreak***. CDC recommends health care personnel adhere to [recommended infection prevention & control](#) measures including [recommended PPE](#) to reduce risk. [Read more](#)

The Volunteer Health Professional (VHP) Program ended October 1, 2022. HRSA is monitoring the status of the VHP Program; however, please ensure to make alternate medical malpractice coverage plans for all volunteers after September 30th. Questions to Health Center Program Support - phone: 877-464-4772, option 1; or online: <http://www.hrsa.gov/about/contact/bphc.aspx>.

Available Funding for Service Area Competition (SAC) Adjusted Funding for several SAC notices of funding opportunity HRSA-23-020 and HRSA-23-021 have increased due to completion of FY 2022 funding actions. Check "Total Funding" column in [Service Area Announcement Table](#) to confirm final FY 2023 funding amount.

Quarterly 340B Program Registration Quarterly 340B Program site registration is open from October 1 to 15. Health centers will be able to register a site that has been verified as implemented and with a site status reflected as "active" in EHBs Form 5B through Friday, November 25. After that date, the system will close to prepare for the January 1, 2023, start. [Email the 340B Prime Vendor Program](#) or call 888-340-2787 (Monday-Friday, 9:00 a.m.-6:00 p.m. ET) to register a new site or ask questions.

Close the Loop: Simple Process to Order Testing Supplies & Oral Antivirals HRSA's COVID-19 Response Programs make it simple to order COVID-19 testing supplies & oral antiviral. To enroll or ask a question, submit a ticket to the COVID-19 Therapeutics Program or COVID-19 Testing Supply Program queues via the [BPHC Contact Form](#). FQHCs can order from the HRSA Health Center COVID-19 Therapeutics Program – even if you're already ordering from your local state. Submit a ticket to the COVID-19 Therapeutics Program or COVID-19 Testing Supply Program queues via the [BPHC Contact Form](#).

Training & Learning Opportunities

NACHC's 2022 Health Center Leadership 4-Part Webinar Series – Foundations of Becoming a Leader. A free virtual learning experience for midlevel managers, team leads and other staff seeking leadership or management roles. Wednesdays, October 5 – 26 11 am PT. [Register here](#).

Apply for the 2023 Northwest Public Health & Primary Care Leadership Institute The [2023 Leadership Institute](#) focuses on the intersection of public health & primary care; a 9-month program with two in-person sessions & one virtual session. For mid-career professionals in public health & primary care, emerging leaders working in rural & underserved populations. [APPLICATION](#) open until October 10.

Deadline for NTTAP 2022-2023 Learning Collaboratives Tuesday October 12. Health centers can apply for free intensive learning collaborative experiences designed to move from planning to implementation. Collaboratives include videoconference learning sessions, coaching sessions, and ongoing mentoring. [Learn more and apply](#). Contact Meaghan Angers, angersm@chc1.com

Improving Health Center Cybersecurity: Risk Assessment, Breach Defense, Mitigation & Response The Health Information Technology, Evaluation, & Quality Center considers cybersecurity strategy. Topics include breach & risk mitigation tactics, telehealth risk management, & incident response. [Registration page](#) for details & apply by Wednesday, October 12.

2022 CHAMPS/NWRPCA Fall Primary Care Conference *The Power of Together*, celebrates the 25th anniversary of this conference partnership between CHAMPS & NWRPCA. [Agenda](#); in-person & virtual options. October 15-18 in Denver, Colorado. [Register here](#).

CMS Emergency Preparedness Rule Virtual Conference Session at the [NWRPCA Fall Conference](#). An opportunity to learn, or brush up on, the CMS Emergency Preparedness rule. Presented by Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services, Tuesday, October 18 11:45 am PT [Register here](#).

Addressing Co-Occurring Substance Use & Mental Health Conditions Among People Who Live in Encampments This National Health Care for the Homeless Council Learning Collaborative is an opportunity to delve into best practices & build capacity to implement solutions to meet needs of those in encampments. [Registration page](#) for details; apply by Wednesday, October 19.

Screening for SDOH: Overview of Tools and Resources Join the Farmworker Health Network to learn about SDOH factors that impact medically underserved populations. Speakers will highlight information from "Screening for SDOH" learning collaborative & share screening tools & resources. Wednesday, October 26 1:00 pm PT. [Registration page](#)

Opening an Optometry Department at Your Community Health Center Join Association of Clinicians of the Underserved, [Prevent Blindness](#), and the [National Association of Community Health Centers](#) for a [webinar](#) to learn what it takes. Prepare for the session by viewing "Eyes on Access" [two-part webinar series](#). Wednesday, November 2, at 12 pm PT [Register here](#)

Perspectives from the Field: Retaining Medical Assistants & Dental Assistants A newly released publication by ACU STAR² Center following a series of focus groups exploring Medical Assistant & Dental Assistant attrition in health centers. [Click here to access this new publication!](#)

Supporting Staff Mental Health Through Compensation Equity & Inclusive Benefits This factsheet provides health center leadership with a better understanding of different mental health struggles workforce may face, identifies strategies related to compensation equity & inclusive benefits. [Click here to access the factsheet!](#)

Webinar Recording - Communicating Across Generations Join Dr. Michelle Fernández Gabilondo & Alex Rohlwing from the STAR² Center for *Communicating Across Generations*: A discussion on multigenerational workplaces, conflicts, & communication. [Revisit this session & download slides.](#)

Emergency Preparedness Resources

FEMA's Emergency Management Institute's Virtual Tabletop Exercise Program 2023. If you don't yet have an EP exercise planned for 2022, this [schedule of free community-based virtual tabletop exercises](#) can help FQHCs examine and validate capabilities in all preparedness mission areas.

Updated ASPR TRACIE Resources. A newly refreshed [Healthcare Facility Evacuation/Sheltering](#) and [Pharmacy](#) Topic Collections, and an updated [COVID-19 Vaccine Quick Links](#) document are now available. Check out those and other [ASPR TRACIE-Developed Resources](#) today.

Reporting Emergency Operational Status Please remember that if there is a declared emergency we ask that you report your clinic status. You can do so here: <https://forms.office.com/r/1VNmN2eKCT>, or at the QR code attached (open the file, point your phone camera at the graphic and a link should pop up to the form).

Questions? Please feel free to contact showk@orpca.org.

