

Operations Peer Group News

The latest information for Community Health Center Operations Staff



April, 2023

Need to Know

OPCA's Spring Peer Groups Gathering in Bend, April 24th at the beautiful [Tetherow Resort](#),. The day-long in-person meeting will focus on *Building the Road Forward* with plenary presentation by the Weitzman Institute, and dedicated time for Affinity Peer Groups. [Register](#) by April 10th to reserve your spot.

HRSA Tidbits

New [Health Center Program Compliance FAQs webpage](#) Consolidating compliance-related FAQs from six different pages, it has updated and newly added FAQs in response to feedback. This is the first stop for answers to Health Center Program compliance questions. Questions? Use the [BPHC Contact Form](#).

Act Now to Ensure Continued Access to EHBs Starting May 26, you will have to use [Login.gov](#) to access EHBs. The site employs two-factor authentication, creating an extra layer of security. See [HRSA's instructions webpage](#) for setting up & verifying a Login.gov account.

Updated Patient Targets Released HRSA began a staggered release of updated patient targets for CHC (H80) award recipients. Make sure your contact information is up to date in EHBs. See [Patient Target FAQs](#) for more information. Submit questions at [BPHC Contact Form](#). Under "Health Center Program," select "Patient Targets."

New Resources Available for Understanding Health Center Service Area Needs [HRSA's new webpage](#) covers Unmet Need Score, Service Area Status, & new service utilization benchmarks, which address existing unmet need for mental health, substance use disorder, oral health, vision, & interpretation/translation services in underserved areas served by FQHCs.

National Prescription Drug Take Back Day is Saturday, April 22 An opportunity to educate your community about the potential for abuse of medications.

- FDA resources for drug disposal, includes videos and links to helpful tips:
 - [Where and How to Dispose of Unused Medicines](#)
 - [Disposal of Unused Medicines: What You Should Know](#)
 - [Department of Justice's drug disposal website](#) & [Take Back Day website](#)

CMS COVID-19 PHE Overview Fact Sheet Check out CMS' new fact sheet, [CMS Waivers, Flexibilities, and the Transition Forward from the COVID-19 Public Health Emergency](#) (PDF). It clarifies their policies on COVID-19-related topics, telehealth, and health care access. CMS provides updates on its [Current Emergencies webpage](#).

Training & Learning Opportunities

Expanding COVID-19 Vaccination Award Project Period End & Upcoming Webinar Health Centers unable to complete the ECV award activity by May 31, may request an extension without funds 60 days before project period end. Learn more: **ECV Award: Working with Community Partners to Address Vaccine Equity** April 5, 11:00 am PT [Registration page](#)

Cannabis Use Disorder (Rescheduled) Join speakers from the HRSA-funded National Clinician Consultation Center who will provide an overview of cannabis use disorder (CUD), including signs & symptoms of CUD. They will also explore the risks & consequences of CUD and offer treatment strategies. Monday, April 10, 9:00 am PST [Registration page](#)

Public Health Emergency Wind Down - 1135 Waiver Termination for Acute & Continuing Care Facilities/Agencies Webinar. Hosted by OHA's Health Care Regulation & Quality Improvement Section & Health Services Division. April 10, 2:30-4:00PM PST. [Please register.](#)

2-Day Federal Tort Claims Act (FTCA) Deeming Virtual Application Clinic HRSA hosted virtual event replacing the annual deeming & redeeming application call. Free and register as many staff members as possible. Everyone who joins must register independently for certificates of fulfillment. Registration ends April 17 - [Registration information](#) Clinic: May 3 – 4 10:00 am – 3:00 pm

Association of Clinicians for the Underserved's [STAR² Center](#) - Preparing Mental Health Leaders [webinar](#) to learn how mental health clinicians can play key roles as organizational leaders. [Session](#) highlights the importance of leadership training to help advance the mental health workforce. April 24 1:00 pm PST

Virginia Garcia's 2023 Virtual Health Care Symposium The Future of Health Care: Restoring & Rebuilding the Workforce - with special guest Dr. Luis Padilla, Associate Administrator for Health Workforce at HRSA. April 26 11:30 am PT. [Register here.](#)

NWRPCA Core Competencies for CHC Managers & Supervisors at All Levels Five-week virtual training health center managers & supervisors at all levels develop and strengthen critical "core" skills necessary to successfully navigate their roles in today's increasingly challenging CHC environment. Recommended for first-time managers with 18 months or less of experience AND more experienced managers looking to refresh skills. Tuesdays from May 23 - June 27. [Click here to learn more.](#)

Emergency Preparedness Resources

Wildfire Preparedness in Community Buildings Grant EPA's Office of Air and Radiation just announced a \$10 million Notice of Funding Availability for the [Wildfire Preparedness in Community Building Grant](#). Applications due May 9th. Join the information session April 10, 3:00-4:00 PM PST. Register and apply for the grant [here](#).

Preparing for Extreme Heat, Rural Health, & Climate Change Extreme heat increases challenges with medication management, decreases air quality, and makes blackouts and grid failures more frequent. Panelists will discuss challenges from a health equity lens. April 18, 10:00 am PT [Registration page](#)

The Administration for Strategic Preparedness and Response (ASPR) Released the [Cybersecurity Framework Implementation Guide](#), which provides specific steps that health care organizations can take immediately to manage cyber risks to information technology systems. This [cybersecurity implementation](#) guide provides recommendations, best practices, and resources to help the public and private health care sectors prevent cybersecurity incidents.

National Disaster Resilience Listening Sessions. FEMA wants to hear from a broad range of stakeholders across the whole community to inform development of resilience guidance and resources. Join a 60-minute listening session (April through June), share a story, and [learn more here](#).

Reporting Emergency Operational Status Please remember that if there is a *declared emergency*, we ask that you report your clinic status as soon as you can. 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.



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