

# Operations Peer Group News

The latest information for Community Health Center Operations Staff



Dec. 2, 2020

## Need to Know

### OPCA COVID-19 Member Briefing

*Dec. 8 from 1-2pm PT*

OPCA will provide updated information and resources from local, state, and federal partners in preparation for increased COVID-19 infections. There will be an opportunity to ask questions of OPCA and of your FQHC colleagues. For more information, contact [Malia Turina](#), or join [Zoom meeting](#).

**Oregon OSHA Adopts Temporary Rule on COVID-19 Workplace Risks:** [A temporary rule to combat the spread of coronavirus](#) in all workplaces by requiring employers to carry out a comprehensive set of risk-reducing measures. The rule took effect Nov. 16, with certain parts phased in, and is expected to remain in effect until May 4, 2021. Other items to note:

- Risk Exposure Assessment and Infection Control Plan, due Dec. 7
- Employee training to be completed by Dec. 21
- Ventilation requirements due Jan. 6, 2021
- Additional rules for “workplaces at exceptional risk”
- The COVID-19 Hazards Poster is now available in [English](#) and [Spanish](#). Read the [news release](#) for more details.

**Group Purchasing Savings Program:** OPCA continues to partner with the [Washington Association for Community Health](#) by welcoming Oregon FQHCs to access and make orders through the [Washington Group Purchasing Savings Program](#). In addition to the discount pricing the program affords, they continue to find PPE sources, stay on top of vaccine and storage availability, and provide updates from partnered vendors via their newsletter and [Group Purchasing Forum](#). To receive communications, please contact [Terri Blazell-Wayson](#), Group Purchasing Coordinator.

## HRSA Tidbits

**Loan Repayment Program Application Cycle Extended:** The [National Health Service Corps](#)' Students to Service Loan Repayment Program application cycle is **extended through Dec. 3 at 4:30 pm PT**. The program awards up to \$120,000 in loan repayment to medical, dental, and nursing students in the final year of health professional school. Interested clinicians should [check eligibility and apply](#).

### Housing Innovations for Health Centers During COVID-19 Webinar

*Dec. 14 from 10-11am PT*

Communities nationwide have set up alternative care sites, often in hotels, for people experiencing homelessness or housing instability and who have no safe, stable home in which to quarantine. The Corporation for Supportive Housing (CSH), a HRSA-funded NTTAP, invites you to learn more about this practice. Hear from three health centers in Los Angeles, Minneapolis, and Maine regarding how they are supporting these sites and assisting in the re-housing process for those being served at the sites.

[Register here](#)

## Training & Learning Opportunities

**2020 PCPCH Recognition Standards:** The PCPCH program has published prerecorded webinars that detail the requirements for the 2020 PCPCH Recognition Standards. Below are available and upcoming webinars. Go to [Resources and Technical Assistance](#) for more information.

- [PCPCH 2020 Recognition Standards Overview](#)
- [PCPCH Standard 1.A – In-Person Access](#)
- [PCPCH Standard 1.G – Alternative Access](#) (new standard)
- [PCPCH Standard 2.A – Performance and Clinical Quality](#)
- [PCPCH Standard 2.E – Ambulatory Sensitive Utilization](#)
- [PCPCH Standard 3.C – Behavioral Health Services](#)
  - Live Q&A Session: Dec. 4 from 11am – noon [Link to Zoom Call](#)
  - Meeting ID: 160 990 2361; Passcode: 578549

### **PCPCH Standard 3.D – Comprehensive Health Assessment & Intervention**

- Webinar recording to be published: Dec. 7
- Live Q&A Session: Dec. 11 at 11am

**COVID-19 Information Sessions and ECHO for Providers:** OHA's Chief Medical Officer, Dana Hargunani, M.D., hosts [regular information sessions for Oregon health care providers](#) on the first and third Thursdays of the month, and a [COVID-19 response ECHO for Oregon clinicians](#), on the second and fourth Thursdays of the month.

**Free Learning Collaborative on Health Professions Student Training:** A four-month Comprehensive Care Learning Collaborative hosted by Community Health Center, Inc. (CHC). Begins early January and is free for health centers to join. **Applications open until Dec. 11** [Apply here](#)

**Free Health Care Interpreter Training Scholarship for Candidates in PacificSource CCO Service Areas:** The [Oregon Health Care Interpreters Association \(OCHIA\)](#) is partnering with PacificSource to offer its OHA approved online 60-hour Health Care Interpreter training from **Jan. 2 - March 6, 2021**. This 10-week online course held on Saturdays prepares individuals to pass the state requirements for Health Care Interpreter qualification and certification credentials. These full scholarships benefit bilingual individuals currently living and working in the following counties where PacificSource offers services: **Hood River, Wasco, Jefferson, Crook, Deschutes, Northern Klamath (Zip codes 97731, 97733, 97737, and 97739), Marion, Polk, and Lane**. If you are interested, [pre-register](#) by **Dec. 11**. Space is limited, first come, first served.

**Staff Wellness and Satisfaction Learning Collaborative:** The Association of Clinicians for the Underserved invites health center teams to participate in a [learning collaborative](#) from March 2 – Aug. 17, 2021. This six-month learning collaborative invites 20 health center teams to learn and discuss drivers of burnout and test new interventions to improve staff well-being and quality of care. [Apply by Dec. 31](#).

**Oral Health Workforce Learning Collaborative:** In partnership with the STAR<sup>2</sup> Center, the National Network for Oral Health Access (NNOHA), invites health center staff to apply to the virtual [Oral Health Workforce Learning Collaborative](#). This Learning Collaborative will focus on developing a recruitment and retention plan for dental team members in health centers. With the current climate, health centers experienced many changes to their dental workforce. This Learning Collaborative will give health centers the opportunity to create a framework to enhance their oral health workforce. The Learning Collaborative will take place from January to June 2021 and will involve five virtual sessions. [Learn more and apply by Dec. 11](#).

## Other Resources

**Addressing the Decline in Childhood Immunizations During COVID-19:** This [blog post](#) features a conversation with Rhode Island Medicaid director, Ben Shaffer, who shares how cross-sector partnerships in the state helped respond to declining vaccinations.

**OHA Interim Vaccination Plan:** Read OHA's [interim vaccination plan](#) submitted to the CDC on Oct. 16.

**OHA BinaxNOW Provisional Guidance:** [Guidance for the BinaxNOW](#) antigen rapid test for the general population

**Natural Disaster Reporting:** HRSA has asked [Primary Care Associations](#) (PCAs) to take the lead in gathering critical health center information and reporting impact data back to us on the operational status of delivery sites. [OPCA has a form for you to complete if an emergency affects your health center.](#)