



As part of Black History Month, we celebrate the work of Dr. John Hatch, who in 1967 co-founded The Delta Health Center in Mound Bayou, Miss.—the first rural health center in the United States. [Learn more about Dr. Hatch and The Delta Health Center on the CHroniCles website.](#) CHCs were born out of the civil rights and social justice movement of the 1960s and Dr. Hatch is one of the Black leaders involved in creating the first health centers.

In this edition, you'll find the latest COVID-19 information, OPCA's policy update, the latest Health Equity & SDH newsletter, Peer Group news, clinician focused content, Oregon CHCs in the news, and much more content meant to inform and help you do your work better.

Thank you for reading.

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## The Latest on the COVID-19 Vaccine Effort at Oregon CHCs



- ◆ Listen to a [recording](#) of OPCA's Feb. 2 COVID-19 Member Briefing or review the [slides](#). Email [Claire Tranchese](#) with questions.

- ◆ OPCA's Joan Watson-Patko was featured in [KGW8's Jan. 15 story](#) discussing CHCs' important role in vaccinating Oregon communities made vulnerable and those experiencing the highest impact of COVID-19.
- ◆ Follow OPCA's [Facebook](#) and [Twitter](#) to see shared member posts on COVID-19 vaccination efforts.
- ◆ For the latest COVID-19 vaccine information, visit [OPCA's COVID-19 Resources page](#).

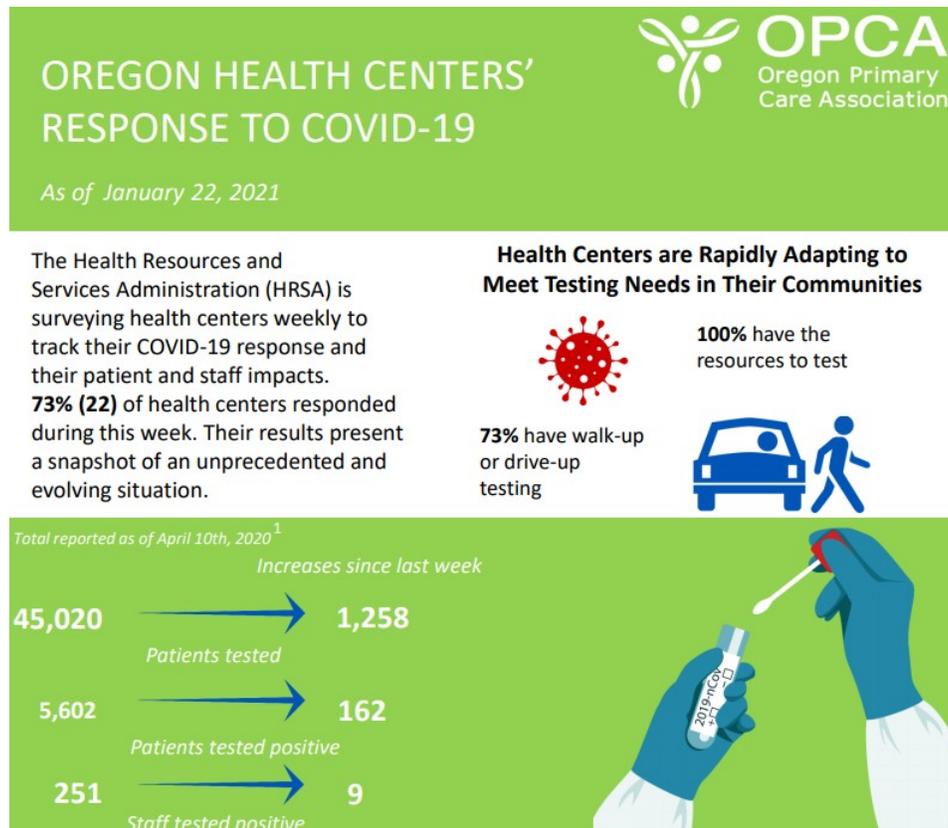
## OPCA COVID-19 Vaccine Workgroup

We know there are many remaining questions about how vaccines will be administered to your staff and your patients and where FQHCs fit in the vaccine picture. To support you in the development of your COVID vaccine programs, OPCA is leading a COVID-19 Vaccine Workgroup. This workgroup includes weekly calls, as well as a Google Group that provides a forum for peers to communicate and where up-to-date, pertinent information is shared. Sign-up by emailing [tcook@orpca.org](mailto:tcook@orpca.org).

Calls take place weekly on:

- ◆ **1st and 3rd Wednesdays from 4-5pm PT**
- ◆ **2nd and 4th Wednesdays 8:30-9:30am PT**

## COVID-19: Latest Oregon CHC Response Numbers; OPCA Member Briefings



## COVID-19 Member Briefings Take Place Twice a Month

**WHAT:** OPCA is hosts a twice monthly COVID-19 briefing to provide information and resources for CHCs.

During this briefing, you can ask questions about emerging practices, policies, or issues with your COVID response.

**WHEN:** First Tuesday and Third Wednesday of the month at 2pm PT

**WHO SHOULD ATTEND:** Open to all members

**QUESTIONS or CALENDAR INVITE:** Email [events@orpca.org](mailto:events@orpca.org)

Above is latest HRSA Weekly COVID-19 survey summary report for Oregon as of Jan. 22, 2021, the latest information available. This is one part of the two-page summary. Click on the image for more.

For more COVID-19 tools and information, visit [OPCA's COVID-19 resources page](#).

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## Policy Updates That Matter to Health Centers

Yesterday, a federal judge ruled that Oregon's prison inmates should be offered the COVID-19 vaccine immediately. We dig into this as well as Oregon's 81st Legislative Assembly, 340B, Biden's COVID relief plan, which will be drafted over the next two weeks, new developments in public charge, and much more.

[Click here](#) to read our February 2021 Policy Update.

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## Feb. 15 Due Date for 1st PRF Report Postponed Indefinitely

On Jan. 15, [HHS postponed the first deadline](#) for providers to report on how they used their Provider Relief Fund (PRF) funding. The deadline was set for Feb. 15, 2021; HHS has yet to set a new deadline.

On the same afternoon, HHS also issued [updated PRF reporting requirements](#), which supersede all previous versions. The most significant update is the option to define "lost income" using "any reasonable method." This is the definition that HHS initially issued back in June, but later rescinded. In December's giant Appropriations law, Congress ordered HHS to reinstate it.

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## REALD Lessons Learned: OHA Listening Session

The Oregon Health Authority (OHA) is hosting the following learning series: "REALD Lessons Learned for Phase 1 Organizations." This meeting series will focus on hearing from partners on lessons learned while operationalizing REALD. If you'd like to present on lessons your organization has learned, please contact [Renee Harger](#) and [Craig Mosbaek](#).

### Session dates & times:

- Feb. 26, 2-3 pm [Register here](#)
  - March 15, 3-4 pm [Register here](#)
  - April 29, 1-2 pm [Register here](#)
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## OPCA Board Approves 2021 Strategic Plan

OPCA is excited to share its [2021 OPCA Strategic Plan](#). Through the Strategic Planning process, members requested a pivot to focus on the health center COVID-19 response in 2021 and to view all other strategic work in early 2021 through a COVID-19 lens. In this new Strategic Plan you will find a sub COVID-19 response plan as one of our Key Performance Indicators, laying out how OPCA will support members in this effort.

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## You Don't Have to Send OPCA Your UDS Reports (Unless You're Out of State)

For the past 14 years, OPCA had always asked health centers for a copy of your entire UDS report and any subsequent revisions, a burdensome process for all of us. This year, OPCA has developed a process to obtain the final complete UDS reports directly from HRSA for all FQHCs headquartered in Oregon. This is a small change, but one which we hope will reduce the burden on your data staff during this unprecedented period of crisis.

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## February Editions of the Peer Group Newsletters

The latest editions of the following newsletters are available to read. Curated by OPCA staff who lead these peer groups provide need-to-know information, training opportunities, and resources.

- ♦ [Integrated Clinical Peer Group News](#) for behavioral health, dental, medical, and pharmacy leaders
- ♦ [HR Leaders Peer News](#)

You can also find the latest newsletters and past editions on [OPCA's Peer Groups page](#)

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## Read the February Edition of the Health Equity & SDH Newsletter



In the [February edition of the Health Equity & SDH Newsletter](#), learn about the latest COVID-19 vaccine sequencing recommendations from the Oregon Health Authority Vaccine Advisory Committee and more news, reports, learning opportunities, and resources.

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## OPCA Launching Community Health Worker Deployment Peer Group

OPCA will convene and support a peer group focused on enhancing the role of Community Health Workers (CHWs) at Oregon health centers; unlike other peer groups, this group will be defined by the CHW interest-area, rather than role.

Our goal is to build health center capacity for successful deployment of CHWs as members of a primary care team and will touch on key strategic and operational topics relating to CHW program design and implementation, culturally specific services, strategies to address health disparities, and empowerment of the CHW workforce. Learn [more here](#) or [register to join the kick off meeting](#) on **March 15 from 1-4pm**.

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## Oregon CHCs in the News

A collection of news and announcements about Oregon CHCs:



**Aviva Health** held a mass COVID-19 vaccination event on Jan. 23 and administered 753 shots Douglas County residents in Phase 1a. Read the [Jan. 23 article in The News Review](#) and watch the [Aviva Health video](#).



**La Pine Community Health Center** became the first and only in the South Deschutes County area to receive approval from OHA in January to be a COVID-19 vaccination site. Read the [KZTV Channel 21 article](#) about La Pine receiving 250 doses of Moderna COVID-19 vaccine.



**Winding Waters** was featured in this [Jan. 27 Wallowa County Chieftain article](#) for playing a key role in vaccinating all of the residents and staff of Wallowa County's five long-term care facilities.



**OHSU Family Medicine's** Dr. Laurel Hallock-Koppelman, DNP, co-authored this [Jan. 27 editorial in The Hill](#) explaining the importance of including advanced practice registered nurses and physician assistants in an opioid treatment prescribing waiver ("x-waiver").



**White Bird Clinic's** CAHOOTS program was featured in a [Jan. 25 episode of The Daily Show with Trevor Noah](#). In the video, Roy Wood Jr. talks to Tim Black and Ebony Morgan about CAHOOTS, the program aimed at providing an alternative to aggressive law enforcement methods, in Eugene, Oregon.

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## Media & Resources:

- OPCA's [Events page](#) features the most up-to-date information on registration, intended audiences, and who to contact with questions. We encourage you to take a look and bookmark it. Contact [events@orpca.org](mailto:events@orpca.org) with questions.
- [NACHC COVID Vaccine Toolkit: Social Media Resources](#)

## Sign up for OPCA's Member Update



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