



Inside today's Member Update Special Edition, we share the latest on:

- The Biden Administration's announcement of a CHC Vaccine Program beginning next week
- American Rescue Plan (Reconciliation)
- COVID-19 information and resources

Please take a few minutes to review the content below to learn more.

Biden Administration Announces Launch of CHC COVID-19 Vaccine Program

On Tuesday, the White House announced it will begin allocating a supply of COVID-19 vaccines directly to Community Health Centers beginning the week of Feb. 15 in an effort to reach the nation's populations made most vulnerable.

"Equity is our North Star here. This effort that focuses on direct allocation to the community health centers really is about connecting with those hard-to-reach populations across the country," said Marcella Nunez-Smith, chair of the White House's COVID-19 Health Equity Task Force in a press briefing Tuesday.

Oregon is not included in the rollout that begins next week, but OPCA is continuing to monitor and have conversations with our state and federal partners. We will share more information as we learn more. Here's [what we know](#) so far.

- [Read the White House Fact Sheet](#)
- [HRSA: Ensuring Equity in COVID-19 Vaccine Distribution](#)
- [Feb. 9 Today with Macrae slides](#)

- ♦ [Biden Announces Members of COVID-19 Health Equity Task Force](#)
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American Rescue Plan Act (Reconciliation)

Late last night, the House Energy and Commerce committee released its draft language for its section of the COVID Rescue/Reconciliation bill. The draft includes \$7.6 billion for health centers, as well as \$800 million for the NHSC. There is also a significant funding boost for Teaching Health Centers, an incentive for the 12 remaining states to expand Medicaid, and a provision that could expand CHCs' 340B savings on Medicaid drugs. [Read more here](#)

COVID-19 Vaccination: Join OPCA Workgroup; Latest Resources



Join OPCA's 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.**

OPCA COVID-19 Vaccine Workgroup Calls take place weekly on:

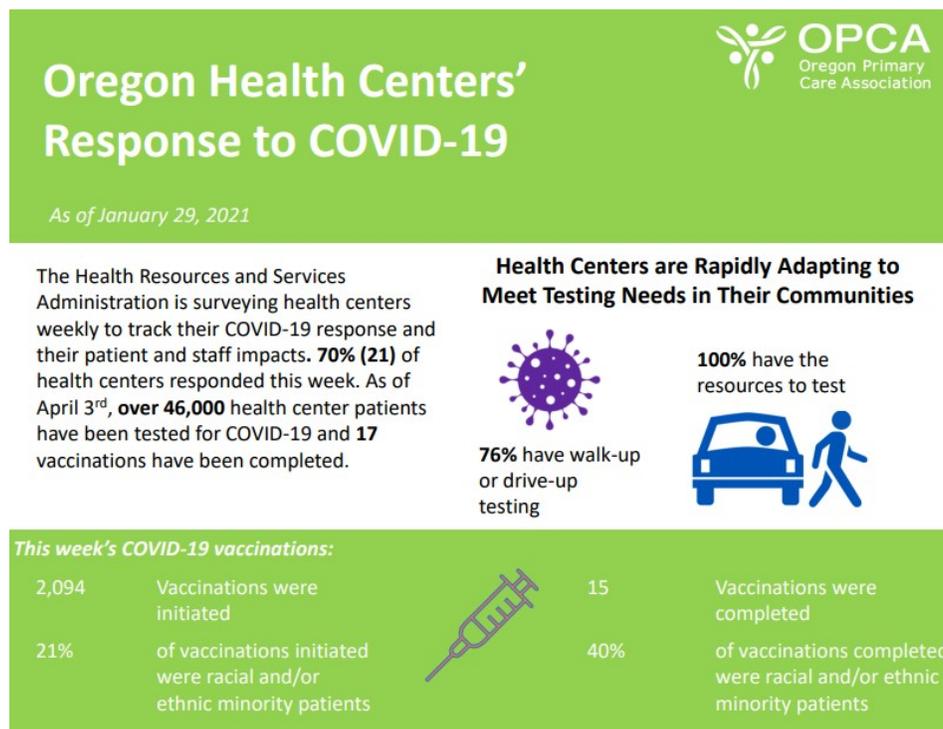
- ♦ **1st and 3rd Wednesdays from 4-5pm PT**
 - ♦ **2nd and 4th Wednesdays 8:30-9:30am PT**
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Latest Resources

- ♦ [OHA Partner Toolkit: Helping Older Adults Get COVID-19 Vaccinations](#)
- ♦ [Health Center materials to promote vaccination from NACHC](#): Posters and selfie signs in English and Spanish

- ♦ [OHA COVID-19 Communications Resources](#): Vaccines, specific groups, multiple languages
- ♦ [USP COVID-19 Vaccine Handling Toolkit](#): Information for those involved in handling COVID-19 vaccines
- ♦ Follow OPCA's [Facebook](#) and [Twitter](#) for member posts on COVID-19 vaccination efforts.

COVID-19: Latest CHC Response Numbers; Member Briefings Series



Click on the image above for more detail.

COVID-19 Member Briefings

WHAT: OPCA 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 share issues with your COVID response.

WHEN: First Tuesdays and Third Wednesdays of the month at 2pm PT

For questions or to get this series added to your calendar, contact events@orpca.org

For the most up-to-date COVID-19 information and tools, please visit [OPCA's COVID-19 Resources page](#).

Sign up for OPCA's Member Update



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