

DSL**R**

FRIDAY UPDATE

November 9, 2023



CDC's Public Health Emergency Preparedness (PHEP) program is a critical source of funding, guidance, and technical assistance for state, local, and territorial public health departments to strengthen their public health preparedness capabilities and improve their response readiness. The Division of State and Local Readiness (DSL)R Friday Update provides information and resources for PHEP recipients and other preparedness planners. Please share the newsletter with your colleagues.

For more information, visit the [CDC State and Local Readiness website](https://www.cdc.gov/stateandlocalreadiness/) or contact us at preparedness@cdc.gov.

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DSL**R** FRIDAY UPDATE



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Upcoming Deadlines

- **November 21** – PHEP Direct Assistance (DA) Requests



PHEP Cooperative Agreement Updates

CDC PHEP Recipient Call Scheduled for November 15

The next monthly PHEP recipient conference call will be held from **2 p.m. to 3 p.m. EST on Wednesday, November 15**. Agenda topics include updates on closeout requirements for the current PHEP period of performance. CDC will also provide updates on the expansion of the Career Epidemiology Field Officer (CEFO) and Preparedness Field Assignee (PFA) programs. Following is the participant information.

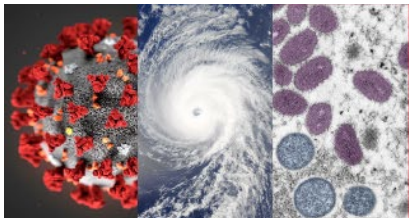
Participant Information

Dial-In: (646) 828-7666 (Audio only)

Meeting ID: 160 752 4717

Passcode: 07271150

Access Link: <https://cdc.zoomgov.com/j/1607524717?pwd=czhra1pScTQrS3ptR3pjMVVSRzEwZz09>



Emergency Response Activities

CDC to Host Respiratory Virus Community of Practice Webinar on November 16

CDC's next community of practice call is scheduled from **2 p.m. to 3 p.m. EST on Thursday, November 16**. During this call, representatives from three organizations will share their innovative messaging and approaches to reach African American and Latinx populations to address respiratory virus prevention and promote access to vaccinations. Following is the participant information.

Participant Information

Dial-In: (646) 828-7666 (Audio Only)

Meeting ID: 161 148 9877

Passcode: 66625007

Access Link: <https://cdc.zoomgov.com/j/1611489877?pwd=Q1dKY01tVExydjFQVzRzSnJia25Fdz09>



What's on the Calendar

- **November 15** – [CDC PHEP Recipient Call](#) (2 p.m. to 3 p.m. EST)
- **November 16** – [CDC Respiratory Virus Community of Practice Webinar](#) (2 p.m. to 3 p.m. EST)



Preparedness and Response Resources

Rural Health Webinar Scheduled for November 16

The [National Organization of State Offices of Rural Health](#) (NOSORH) annually celebrates [National Rural Health Day](#) on the third Thursday of November to recognize activities that address the unique healthcare needs of rural America. This year, the organization will host a webinar **from 3 p.m. to 4 p.m. EST on Thursday, November 16**, to highlight national and state strategies to enhance the well-being of rural Americans. Diane Hall, director of CDC's [Office of Rural Health](#), will describe the mission, vision, and priorities for this newly established office. The webinar will also include representatives from rural health offices in Texas and Virginia who will present case studies regarding their transformative work in rural communities. Register [here](#) to attend the webinar.

As part of its National Rural Health Day observance, CDC encourages jurisdictions to submit their rural-focused success stories, initiatives, publications, and other resources. Jurisdictions can submit information to ruralhealth@cdc.gov.

Funding Opportunity Available to Address Vaccine Hesitancy in Rural Populations

With support from CDC, the National Association of County and City Health Officials (NACCHO) has announced a [funding opportunity](#) that will provide local health departments with resources to address vaccine hesitancy across the lifespan for routine, influenza, COVID-19 and other vaccines. Selected recipients will receive training, technical assistance, and other resources to address vaccine hesitancy and misinformation, build partnerships with other local organizations, and identify areas of need to improve vaccine confidence and uptake. More details are available at [Request for Applications](#). NACCHO will host an informational webinar at **1 p.m. EST on Thursday, November 16**. Register [here](#) to attend the webinar.

Applications are due no later than **11:59 p.m. EST on Monday, December 4**. For additional information, contact NACCHO's Immunization Program at immunization@naccho.org.



News You Can Use

New CDC Preparedness Field Assignees Now on Board in Eight Jurisdictions

Eight new Preparedness Field Assignees (PFAs) are now on board in the following PHEP jurisdictions.

- Arizona – Amanda Harris
- Chicago – Brandon Paetznick
- Idaho – Hugo Magana Garcia
- Oregon – Martine Fulling
- Pennsylvania – Sarah Tomkins
- Rhode Island – Jake Reichelt
- Texas – Brett Niermeier
- Wisconsin – Michelle McKinney

CDC continues to expand the PFA program to meet the growing preparedness and response needs of PHEP jurisdictions. CDC initiated a phased approach to strategically grow the PFA program, initially adding 11 new PFAs in 2022 to provide boots-on-the-ground support to state and local preparedness programs and provide early-career professionals with additional field experience in state and local emergency preparedness and response. With the assignment of a senior PFA to Guam in November, there will now be 29 PFAs supporting 28 jurisdictions. As graduates of CDC's Public Health Associate Program, PFAs are a vital link in the public health preparedness workforce pipeline and help to fill state-level staffing and preparedness capacity gaps.

CDC Updates Recommendations for Hepatitis C Testing among Perinatally Exposed Infants and Children

The elimination of hepatitis C is a national priority. During 2010-2021, hepatitis C virus (HCV) acute and chronic infections increased in the United States, consequences of which include cirrhosis, liver cancer, and death. In 2020, because of continued increases in HCV infections in the United States, CDC released universal screening recommendations for adults, which included recommendations for screening of pregnant persons during each pregnancy. A new Morbidity and Mortality Report introduces new CDC recommendations for hepatitis C testing to identify more perinatally infected children and link them to care.

Read the full report at [CDC Recommendations for Hepatitis C Testing Among Perinatally Exposed Infants and Children](#) and view the [Viral Hepatitis National Strategic Plan 2021-2025](#).

CDC Learning Connection Highlights Online Trainings

[CDC Learning Connection](#) has several new courses available. Following are two courses that may benefit preparedness and response planners.

- Learn more about influenza vaccination guidance for the 2023–2024 season with [You Call the Shots: Influenza](#). The latest updates on respiratory syncytial virus (RSV), COVID-19, and influenza are available in the [Clinical Update on the 2023 Respiratory Virus Season](#).
- [Understanding and Preventing Burnout Among Public Health Workers](#) provides an overview of burnout in public health and how to improve staff well-being.

[Sign up](#) for the CDC Learning Connection newsletter for updates on public health trainings from CDC and partners.



Online Resources

CDC MMWR Reports

- [Morbidity and Mortality Weekly Report, November 9](#)
- [Arthritis Prevalence Among Veterans — United States, 2017–2021](#)

- [Coverage with Selected Vaccines and Exemption from School Vaccine Requirements Among Children in Kindergarten — United States, 2022–23 School Year](#)
- [Strain of Multidrug-Resistant *Salmonella* Newport Remains Linked to Travel to Mexico and U.S. Beef Products — United States, 2021–2022](#)
- [Progress Toward Eradication of Dracunculiasis — Worldwide, January 2022–June 2023](#)
- [Influenza and Up-to-Date COVID-19 Vaccination Coverage Among Health Care Personnel — National Healthcare Safety Network, United States, 2022–23 Influenza Season](#)
- [Declines in Influenza Vaccination Coverage Among Health Care Personnel in Acute Care Hospitals During the COVID-19 Pandemic — United States, 2017–2023](#)
- [QuickStats: Percentage of Adults Aged ≥18 Years Who Felt Very Tired or Exhausted Most Days or Every Day in the Past 3 Months, by Sex and Age Group — National Health Interview Survey, United States, 2022](#)

CDC Online Resources

- **UPDATED** [CDC Respiratory Virus Updates](#)

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Centers for Disease Control and Prevention

