



Anyone Listening? Amplifying Community Voices



We're Launching a Newsletter!

[The Pacific Hospital Preservation and Development Authority \(PHPDA\)](#) is excited to share the stories of our grantees and partners across the Seattle - King County region.

To combat health inequity, PHPDA will amplify significant successes, challenges, and lived experiences of community and grantees.



Equity Still Lacking in Vaccine Rollout

While we are encouraged that local leaders are speaking to the need of an equity centered approach to disseminating COVID-19 vaccines, many people from underserved populations are still struggling to get vaccinated.

In this newsletter, we are sharing learned experience from our grantees that demonstrates the need for more equity in vaccine rollouts. We have been reliant on our problematic health systems to create an equitable rollout plan, yet we continue to see gaps in equitable distribution.

“They want us to get to the moon by taking the train.”

- Gloria Velasquez Burton, PHPDA Governing Council Member.

We feel the frustrations of our community. We know an equitable rollout presents unique challenges and good intentions will not be enough.



Inequitable Systems Leads to More Inequity



Ethiopian Community in Seattle

The Ethiopian Community in Seattle works with Ethiopian elders who are eligible for COVID-19 vaccines but are experiencing great difficulty actually getting them. Online signup systems are challenging to navigate, with language barriers while trying to sign up and complete medical forms; there are cultural challenges; many cannot get time off work, and even if they can, access to reliable transportation is lacking.



International Community Health Services

As soon as International Community Health Services (ICHS) opened their COVID-19 vaccine scheduling app, requests from tech savvy applicants came flooding in, making it difficult for ICHS's eligible patients and neighbors to make appointments at a time when vaccine supplies were limited. To make sure that targeted local community members got appointments, ICHS closed their public-facing website and directly engaged their community with the help of Seattle Chinatown International District Preservation & Development Authority (SCIDpda) to get shots in the arms of their intended recipients.



Health Equity News & Data



Communities with Strong Collective Cultures

There are wide differences in cultures amongst our grantees. Many communities of color have historically felt distrust of our healthcare system, and yet, are now polling at higher rates of interest when it comes to receiving a vaccine compared to the general public*.

*A new poll from The Associate Press-NORC Center for Public Affairs Research found that 42% of Republicans say they probably or definitely will not get the shot, compared with 17% of Democrats - a 25%-point split.



The Study of Urban Indian Health Institute (a division of Seattle Indian Health Board) found that among all participants surveyed within their American Indian / Alaska Native community, 75% were willing to receive vaccination; 74% believed that receiving vaccines is their individual responsibility to their Collective Community

[View Report](#)



Calls to Action

Volunteer to Help with Vaccine Rollout

Organizations providing outreach and vaccine administration will need volunteers to perform direct services.



[Get involved with International Community Health Services](#)

[Sign up with ICHS](#)



[Get involved with Seattle Indian Health Board](#)

[Sign up with SIHB](#)

Like what you're reading? Share our quarterly Newsletter!

About Pacific Hospital PDA

The Pacific Hospital PDA partners with community organizations to improve access to health care services in Seattle - King County.

In 1981, the City of Seattle chartered the Pacific Hospital PDA, placing in its trust the Pacific Hospital and surrounding campus, [a historic Seattle landmark](#). The Pacific Hospital PDA leases the property. The lease revenues are used to increase access to health resources and to improve health outcomes in King County.

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