

Collaborative Feedback Session
Equitable and Accessible Pediatric Vaccine Planning & Implementation

Collaborative Feedback Session held on November 3rd , 2021: 101 attendees

Collaborative Feedback Survey collected end of November 19th 2021: 20 responses

How can we ensure equitable access?

- Partner effectively with schools, primary care providers, trusted community messengers and community media to deliver COVID-19 information and communicate the importance of vaccination.
- Ensure vaccines are available at local community-based pharmacies, clinics and events familiar to community.
- Provide logistical and administrative support to community partners in organizing and implementing vaccine clinics.
- Provide community organizations funding in advance of vaccine rollout and implementation to ensure adequate amount of planning and time for COVID-19 education, outreach and engagement.
- Provide culturally relevant and linguistically appropriate COVID-19 information in simplified, plain-language format.
- Deliver COVID-19 information through video and/or audio channels for languages better communicated orally and/or no written language exists; additionally, through flyers located at community specific sites as opposed to directing individuals to a webpage.
- Organize vaccine events with community rooted organizations, in accessible locations, with alternative hours (evening/weekend) and available language assistance on site.
- Ensure intentional outreach, communication and vaccine planning in rural geographical areas.
- Provide free and accessible transportation options for families who may need to travel with multiple children; ensure vaccination event is located nearby public transit.
- Prioritize vaccine distribution and allocation to youth and families most disproportionately impacted such as vaccine providers directly serving communities of color and immigrants.
- Remove barriers for unhoused and unaccompanied youth vaccination such as providing accessible alternatives and/or removing parental/guardian consent requirements

...[COVID-19 resources] do not have any of the languages spoken in our area (Mandinka, Wollof, Fula, Jola, Housa, Serer, Sarahuleh, Bambara, Egbo,)...these languages are not written, the most effective way is to produce videos and audios we can share on social media and our WhatsApp groups

“...many people of color and particularly Pacific Islanders in our community do not have regular health care. Therefore, it is highly recommended that places that they gather, such as their churches, media, and stores they frequently visited can have targeted outreach, to ensure they receive equitable access to the vaccines”

“me gustaria que las vacunas sea repartidas en todas las clinicas, en mi ciudad la unica clinica que tiene las vacunas es una clinica que nunca trabaja con la comunidad aparte no es el lugar al que acude la comunidad inmigrante ni de color si no la comunidad blanca, no entiendo como eso es querer repartir las vacun” English Translation: ***“I'd like to see the vaccines distributed to all the clinics. In my city, the only clinic that has the vaccines is a clinic that never works with community and is not a place where the immigrant community, nor other communities of color go to but instead just the white community. I don't understand how that is wanting to distribute vaccines.”***

What are the most effective strategies for reaching communities who experience the greatest access barriers?

- Intentional outreach to unaccompanied and/or unhoused youth, provide an accessible workaround to parental/guardian consent requirements
- Effectively partner with trusted community leaders such as community rooted organizations, primary care providers, youth service providers, teachers, coaches, and parents for vaccine planning, implementation and communication efforts.
- Partner with community rooted organization for intentional community specific outreach and engagement including mobile vaccination efforts.
- Bring COVID-19 vaccines and information to spaces most familiar to community such as faith-based centers, youth and family shelters, WIC, community centers, YMCA, youth programs, food banks, child care centers, child wellness visits, early/after school programs, libraries, local flea markets, corner stores, community ethnic stores and public transportation.

“Meeting them where they are, for example, at schools, local community centers, and where the parents can learn more about them in a safe space.”

“Go to where they are instead of having them come to a clinic, hospital, public health facility, etc.”

“[Collaborate] with community leaders and meaningfully listen, learn and lead by them.”

What questions and concerns are you currently hearing within your communities regarding pediatric vaccinations for children ages 5-11?

- Lack of vaccine confidence due to pediatric population (5-11) recently receiving approval - unclear what data led to authorization.
- Vaccine safety, effectiveness and negative long-term impacts on children (e.g.; developmental delays, stroke)
- Belief children are less susceptible to COVID-19 therefore not impacted.
- Access barriers such as parental consent form; unclear of vaccination clinic/event location in area.
- Fears fueled by misinformation spreading in closed social channels (Whatsapp, Facebook) such as negative side effects of vaccine.
- Unclear about receiving other vaccines at the same time as COVID-19 vaccination.
- Belief that natural immunity offers more protection than the vaccine.

“... families are worried that the shot will make their son sterile.”

“Are they safe? Can my child have a flu shot and COVID shot at the same time?”

“How can youth and children experiencing homelessness get the vaccine and how can they get support if they experience side effects. Where can youth and children experiencing homelessness get the vaccine?”

“Why is it that only the Pfizer vaccine can be administered to minors?”

Additional feedback, questions and/or concerns

- Emphasize in educational resources and information the significant impact of COVID-19 on children and importance of vaccination.
- Inform parents and families through school nurses by providing educational one pagers and material about risks and benefits of the vaccine for children.