

## DOH COVID-19 Vaccine Implementation Collaborative Minutes:

### COVID-19 Relational Briefing and Feedback Session

November 3rd, 2021 | 4:00pm – 5:30pm

- I. Welcome from DOH & Land Acknowledgment - Fathiya Abdi
- II. Partner Spotlight – Jordan Chaney, Art Dojo
  - Art Dojo (<https://www.poetjordan.com/art-doj>) is a grass roots project that turns spaces such as basements of juvenile justice centers into a space for youth to express themselves through art and to teach youth character building messages to address the school to prison pipeline
  - To collaborate or implement an Art Dojo project in your community and/or local juvenile justice system, please email: [Jordanchaneypoet@gmail.com](mailto:Jordanchaneypoet@gmail.com)
- III. COVID-19 Relational Briefing + Conversation - SheAnne Allen, COVID-19 Vaccine Director; Tawanda Womack and Britney Gaines, COVID-19 Vaccine Planning and Response Team
  - The CDC now recommends COVID-19 vaccine boosters for all 3 vaccine types (Pfizer, Moderna and Johnson & Johnson) for certain populations. For more information, please see here ([English](#); [Spanish](#); click 'additional languages' drop down for more).
    - Eligible populations for Pfizer and Moderna mRNA vaccine boosters at least 6 months after primary series is complete:
      - 65+ years or older
      - 18+ who live in long term care settings
      - 18+ who have underlying medical conditions
      - 18+ who work or live in high-risk settings
    - Eligible populations for Johnson & Johnson's vaccine boosters at least 2 months after primary series is complete:
      - 18+
    - You are able to receive any vaccine type authorized in the US for a booster dose
  - To ensure the equitable access of vaccination with limited initial vaccine supply for pediatric patients ages 5-11, initial phasing may be necessary
  - To distribute the vaccine, DOH is planning to use primary care pediatricians, family practice providers, pharmacies, Federal Vaccine Program Partners, and Federally Qualified Health Centers (FQHC) and Rural Health for primary access modalities; and mobile vaccination sites such as Care-a-Van, public event vaccination sites, school-based clinics, and community-based pop-up clinics as secondary access sites
  - The Washington State Department of Health (DOH) recognizes that the COVID-19 pandemic has impacted everyone, but it has not impacted everyone equally. DOH has an obligation to ensure equitable access to the COVID-19 vaccine. To ensure a pro-equity approach in vaccine prioritization and access, we are intentionally prioritizing communities and groups who are disproportionately impacted by COVID-19 such as:

- Black and Indigenous youth and youth of color (BIPOC)
- Youth from immigrant & refugee families
- Youth with parents/guardians who have limited English proficiency
- Youth who are unhoused
- Youth in foster care or other transitional housing situations
- Youth with disabilities
- Youth in the juvenile rehabilitation systems, both in-facility and other residential programs
- Youth in group housing, for any reason
- Youth who live with a high-risk family member who is unable to receive the vaccine because of a medical issue
- Youth who live in a Census tract 7+ rank on the COVID-19 Social Vulnerability Index (SVI) index
- Youth from low-income households (prioritize youth eligible for free or reduced lunch)
- Youth eligible for Apple Health programs (Medicaid)
- Youth with medical conditions that put them at risk for severe complications from COVID disease.
- To promote health equity and build vaccine confidence when it comes to distributing vaccines to the 5-11 –year-old population, DOH will address key challenges and barriers including mistrust of government and health care entities, misinformation, lack of culturally responsive and linguistically appropriate education materials and outreach communication, and difficulty accessing vaccines or vaccine information
- DOH is launching 3 child eligibility campaigns including:
  - What We Know, What It Means
  - Social media content in 28 languages
  - Banner ads in 20 languages and radio ads in English and Spanish

**IV. Community Feedback Session (additional feedback was collected via an online survey that is not reflected in these meeting minutes)**

- As we roll out pediatric (5-11) vaccines, how can we ensure equitable access?
  - Have access to vaccine clinics in schools and provide mobile vaccine clinics throughout school districts—there may be some legal issues with doing this that the state should address
  - Support smaller community organizations by providing logistical and administrative support for implementing vaccine clinics
  - Provide funding for CBOS to promote vaccine education and engagement before vaccine rollout
  - Improve the timing of funds such as providing funding in advance
  - Provide information to parents in a simplified way, especially to parents who speak limited English
  - More education is needed to address vaccine hesitancy

- Provide COVID-19 resources in West African languages. Provide COVID-19 information on other platforms beyond written material and print.
- What questions and concerns are you currently hearing within your community about pediatric vaccinations for children ages 5-11?
  - Safety and effectiveness of vaccine
    - Concerns about how the vaccine is going to affect children; feelings that mRNA vaccines are not safe for children
    - Fear vaccine was fast tracked
  - Increase in hesitancy since children were not initially approved for the vaccine until recently
  - Parental consent is needed in order to vaccinate a minor which may create additional barriers and impact hesitancy
  - Communities may not be as worried about children getting or spreading COVID-19 because they may think they are not as susceptible
  - Misinformation spread on social media
  - Belief that natural immunity is better than being protected by the vaccine
  - Recommend DOH emphasize in messaging and communication the negative impact of COVID-19 on children and importance of vaccination
- To share your feedback with DOH regarding pediatric (5-11) vaccine planning and rollout, please fill out this [survey](#)

**V.** Closing Remarks

- Thank you to our speakers, interpreters, and captioners!
- Feel free to reach out and contact us at [vax.collaborative@doh.wa.gov](mailto:vax.collaborative@doh.wa.gov)