

PROJECT FIRSTLINE ANNUAL PARTNER SUMMARY REPORT

YEAR 2: AUGUST 2022 - JULY 2023



PROJECT
FIRSTLINE
CDC's National Training Collaborative
for Healthcare Infection Prevention & Control



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Thank you for your continued contributions to California's Project Firstline!

We appreciate your support to encourage certified nursing assistants (CNAs) in their infection prevention and control (IPC) training journey! We want to acknowledge the efforts of our partners and highlight some projects from the past year.

This report summarizes California's Project Firstline activities from Year 2 (August 1, 2022 - July 31, 2023) which focused on two key expansion efforts:







Further disseminate IPC curriculum to CNAs statewide.



Develop IPC curriculum specifically for environmental services (EVS) staff.

Executive Summary

In Year 2 we expanded our curriculum reach to CNAs statewide and developed additional IPC curriculum for EVS staff. Through your partnership we are able to share the following resources statewide:

-  **IPC training for CNAs in Spanish**
Based on feedback from CNAs, we translated CNA training materials into Spanish to support our bilingual CNA population. We offered live webinars in Spanish; recordings are available on our webpage.
-  **CNA curriculum toolkit and implementation guide for skilled nursing facility (SNF) and local health department (LHD) educators**
To offer IPC trainings more widely we developed a toolkit that includes resources to implement or enhance CNA IPC training. SNFs and LHDs are invited to contact us for additional guidance.
-  **Train-the-trainer workshops for SNF and LHD educators**
We partnered with Health Services Advisory Group (HSAG) to offer train-the-trainer curriculum that meets the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) F880 and F945 IPC training requirements.
-  **IPC training for EVS staff**
In collaboration with EVS staff and managers, we developed IPC curriculum for EVS staff and a corresponding toolkit for SNF and LHD educators. These resources are forthcoming.



8

IPC TRAININGS
ADDED IN SPANISH

548

TOOLKIT WEBPAGE
VIEWS IN FIRST 30
DAYS AFTER
LAUNCH

545

SNF EDUCATORS
TRAINED ON CNA
IPC TRAINING
IMPLEMENTATION

4

EVS TRAINING
MODULES IN
DEVELOPMENT

Curriculum Review and Resources

Direct-to-CNA IPC Training



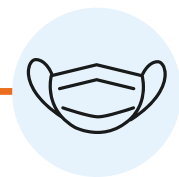
Project Firstline directly engages CNAs in an interactive and supportive training environment, empowering them to understand the *why* of infection prevention. We hosted **48 virtual direct-to-CNA training webinars, including 8 courses in Spanish**, with trainings offered on both weekdays and weekends at different times throughout the day to accommodate early morning and late night CNA shifts. We trained **486 participants who represented 57 SNFs in 23 counties**.

Note: Facility educators may have convened groups of staff for trainings, and the total reach could have been higher than what our data capture.



Standard Precautions

- 7 sessions
- 109 attendees
- 35 SNFs
- 76 CNAs trained



Personal Protective Equipment

- 6 sessions
- 56 attendees
- 16 SNFs
- 43 CNAs trained



Environmental Cleaning and Disinfection

- 6 sessions
- 64 attendees
- 22 SNFs
- 46 CNAs trained



Skin, Perineal, and Urinary Catheter Care

- 6 sessions
- 53 attendees
- 22 SNFs
- 42 CNAs trained



Oral Care and Feeding

- 6 sessions
- 51 attendees
- 17 SNFs
- 39 CNAs trained



Positioning and Transferring

- 6 sessions
- 56 attendees
- 22 SNFs
- 41 CNAs trained



Bathing and Dressing

- 6 sessions
- 54 attendees
- 19 SNFs
- 41 CNAs trained



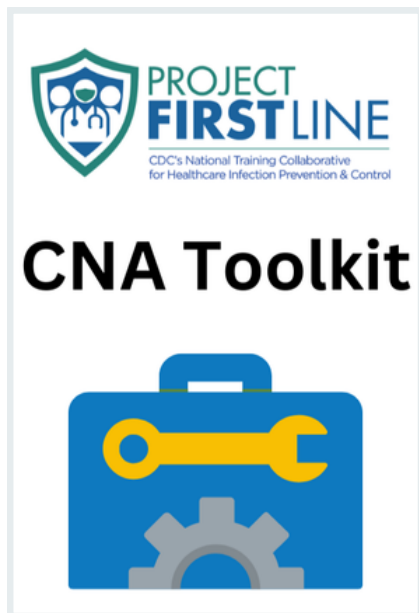
Nail Care and Shaving

- 5 sessions
- 43 attendees
- 15 SNFs
- 35 CNAs trained

View previous training recordings on the [Project Firstline webpage](http://www.cdph.ca.gov/Programs/CHCQ/HAI/Pages/ProjectFirstline_Resources.aspx) (www.cdph.ca.gov/Programs/CHCQ/HAI/Pages/ProjectFirstline_Resources.aspx).

Resources for SNF and LHD Educators

CNA Training Toolkit and Implementation Guide



Content specifically designed for SNF and LHD educators includes:

- ✓ Ready-made IPC curriculum with instructor scripts and embedded knowledge checks
- ✓ Frequently asked questions and discussion prompts
- ✓ Pre- and post-training questions to gauge change in staff IPC knowledge
- ✓ Recommendations for IPC curriculum implementation tailored to CNAs in their facilities

View the entire **CNA Toolkit** on the **[Project Firstline webpage](http://www.cdph.ca.gov/Programs/CHCQ/HAI/Pages/ProjectFirstlineCNAToolkit.aspx)** (www.cdph.ca.gov/Programs/CHCQ/HAI/Pages/ProjectFirstlineCNAToolkit.aspx).

Train-the-Trainer Workshop Series



- ✓ Open to all SNFs in California
- ✓ Oriented educators to the CNA curriculum and IPC training implementation strategies
- ✓ Previewed the newly launched CNA toolkit and implementation guide
- ✓ Offered office hours to provide additional support, respond to questions, and share ideas and best practices for training implementation

Find complete train-the-trainer resources and workshop recordings on the **[HSAG website](http://hsag.com/ip-train-the-trainer)** (hsag.com/ip-train-the-trainer).

In Development: EVS Staff Curriculum

Outbreaks of multidrug-resistant organisms (MDROs) in California have been linked to poor adherence to environmental cleaning and disinfection practices, which make improvements in this area a top priority for the CDPH HAI Program. We developed IPC curriculum for EVS staff and managers, and piloted the content as part of a **joint project with the Stanislaus County Public Health Department and seven SNFs in the county.**



Content Preview

Each module will review IPC practices related to EVS staff tasks, emphasizing the essential role of EVS staff in IPC.



Hand Hygiene



Setting Up an EVS Cart



Understanding Disinfectants



Cleaning and Disinfection of Resident Rooms

Toolkit Preview

A corresponding toolkit and implementation guide will include resources to implement or enhance IPC training for EVS staff:

- ✓ Ready-made IPC **curriculum** with instructor scripts
- ✓ Discussion prompts and **activity guides** for hands-on learning
- ✓ Pre- and post-**training questions** to gauge change in staff IPC knowledge
- ✓ **Recommendations** for IPC curriculum implementation tailored to EVS staff

Stayed tuned to our Project Firstline website for EVS curriculum updates
(www.cdph.ca.gov/Programs/CHCQ/HAI/Pages/ProjectFirstlineEVSToolkit.aspx).

Program Infrastructure

Meet the New Project Firstline Team Members

We hired Nurse Educators to help expand our train-the-trainer curriculum and EVS staff education, and a Communications and Outreach Coordinator with a health education background to develop cohesive Project Firstline communications. Meet the team who is here to support you in your IPC training journey!



Aurora Avalos, RN, MSN, PHN - Nurse Educator

I am a passionate and dedicated nurse educator with over 13 years of nursing experience. I have 6 years experience in medical-surgical nursing and 6 years in public health nursing. I completed my BSN in 2013 at the University of Phoenix and MSN with a focus on nursing education in 2020 at Holy Names University. I am motivated by the passion to teach and help others, and to empower and inspire nurses to positively affect health outcomes and the well-being of the entire community. In my spare time, I enjoy learning new things, sharing time with my family, traveling, hiking, reading, and walking my two chihuahuas.

Shannon Malindzak, RN, BSN, PHN - Nurse Educator

I am a public health nurse passionate about infection prevention and control. I graduated with my BSN from Northeastern University in Boston, MA, before working in cardiology and then street health nursing in East County, Bay Area. Prior to my role with CDPH, I worked at a local public health department for various programs. I currently am in the process of obtaining my Master of Public Health (MPH) degree. In my spare time, I love getting out in nature and traveling to new places.



Sophie Frank - Communications and Outreach Coordinator

I am a public health enthusiast and I work on communications, outreach, and educational materials in my current role. I completed my bachelor's degree in public health at UC Berkeley in 2016, and will graduate with my Master's of Science in Public Health (MSPH) degree in health education and health communication from Johns Hopkins Bloomberg School of Public Health in December 2023. I love to bring creativity, fun, and sociological perspectives to public health communications! Outside of work, I enjoy spending time with my family, drawing, painting, biking, and walking in nature.



Publications, Promotion, and Partnerships

Publications



We **published 2 issues of our quarterly newsletter for CNAs** including an issue celebrating Nursing Assistant Appreciation Week. In each volume we feature:

- Curriculum reviews
- CNA Spotlight recipients
- Seasonal activities
- Mindfulness exercises

View previous issues of *CNA Today* on our [webpage](#)

(www.cdph.ca.gov/Programs/CHCQ/HAI/Pages/ProjectFirstline_PrintMaterialsLibrary.aspx)

Promotion

LinkedIn



- 15 posts
- 7,000+ impressions

Website



- 4 new webpages (CNA Toolkit, Project Firstline Community, Partner With Us, Print Resources Library)
- 11,800+ views

Email



- 14 communications
- 2,600+ subscribers

Discussion



- 37 presentations and coordination meetings with SNFs and LHDs
- 3,000+ individual reach

Partnerships



We **exchanged ideas and built community** with Project Firstline partners at New Jersey, Los Angeles County, and Washington DC Departments of Public Health.



We **learned ways to better engage our audiences** with the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention's (CDC) Project Firstline and the National Association of County and City Health Officials (NACCHO) skills sharing opportunities.



We **gained insight into CNA training program learning and resource needs** via feedback from more than 65 surveyed training programs.

Summary and Next Steps

What's in store for Project Firstline Year 3?

In Year 3, California's Project Firstline will prioritize working with areas that serve under-resourced populations. We will:

- Continue to **create accessible content** for our frontline healthcare staff including translated materials and curriculum on MDROs,
- **Offer virtual and in-person CNA and EVS staff training** to smaller groups of facilities as part of the CDPH HAI Program regional IPC collaboratives,
- Further **develop our resource library** for SNF educators to include video demonstrations,
- **Develop a stipend application** for CNA training programs in California to create or enhance skills labs necessary for IPC training, and, in doing so, will **partner with CNA training programs to provide ongoing support and consultation** to integrate Project Firstline trainings in their curriculum,
- **Utilize the CDPH HAI Program's mobile skills lab for in-person trainings** in areas where training resources are limited, and
- Continue to **foster relationships** including building peer-to-peer networks among our partners to optimize collective resources and empower their involvement with HAI Program IPC training activities.



Continue to Partner with Us

As a Project Firstline site, the CDPH HAI Program partners with SNFs, LHDs, training programs, and others to offer IPC education and training, share information about HAI and IPC practices, raise awareness of materials and resources designed to provide IPC training, and empower CNAs and EVS staff in their IPC roles. Contact us to discuss partnership opportunities.

Connect With Us!

[Email Us](mailto:ProjectFirstline@cdph.ca.gov)

ProjectFirstline@cdph.ca.gov

[Visit Our Website](http://www.cdph.ca.gov/Programs/CHCQ/HAI/Pages/ProjectFirstline.aspx)

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Project Firstline is a national collaborative led by the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) to provide infection control training and education to frontline healthcare workers and public health personnel. The California Department of Public Health Healthcare-Associated Infections (HAI) Program is proud to partner with Project Firstline, as supported through Strengthening HAI/AR Program Capacity (SHARP) funding. CDC is an agency within the Department of Health and Human Services (HHS). The contents of this report do not necessarily represent the policies of CDC or HHS and should not be considered an endorsement by the Federal Government.