



# COVID-19 Health Equity Playbook for Communities

## Strategies and Practices for an Equitable Reopening and Recovery



Equity Playbook Bulletin – April 2021

*The [COVID-19 Health Equity Playbook for Communities](#) (Equity Playbook) supports local communities build an equitable recovery. Through these [Equity Playbook Bulletins](#), the California Department of Public Health (CDPH) Equity Technical Assistance Team continues to collect and share new equity resources, best practices and strategies.*

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For more information about any of these resources and population-specific contacts, or to share suggestions for topics or resources to include in future Equity Playbook Bulletins, please contact our CDPH Equity Technical Assistance Team, Equity Playbook Coordinators:

[Katey.Rosenquist@cdph.ca.gov](mailto:Katey.Rosenquist@cdph.ca.gov); [Jessica.Lin@cdph.ca.gov](mailto:Jessica.Lin@cdph.ca.gov); [AnnaGabriela.Ycaza@cdph.ca.gov](mailto:AnnaGabriela.Ycaza@cdph.ca.gov).

## Announcements

- **Funding Opportunity: [Hazardous Materials Emergency Preparedness \(HMEP\) 2021 Grant](#).** The [California Office of Emergency Services \(Cal OES\) HazMat Section](#) has released a new funding opportunity titled, *Hazardous Materials Emergency Preparedness Grant*, it provides funding for developing, improving, and carrying out emergency plans and/or ascertaining flow patterns of hazardous material on lands. Eligible applicants are the State of California's political subdivisions and federally recognized Tribal Governments within California that have not applied directly to United States Department of Transportation / Pipeline and Hazardous Materials Safety Administration (US DOT/PHMSA) for funding under this grant program. The application deadline is June 30th, 2021.

## Immediate COVID-19 Response Strategies

### Worker Protections

- **[California Local Health Department Actions for Worker Health and Safety during COVID-19](#).** Local health departments (LHDs) play a critical role in ensuring everyone has the protections needed to stay safe and healthy at work during public health emergencies. Human Impact Partners (HIP), with support from the California Department of Public Health Office of Health Equity, created this new resource guide of actions that local health departments (LHDs) can take to protect and support workers during COVID-19 and beyond. This report also includes an analysis of major barriers LHDs faced in protecting worker health during the first year of the pandemic, along with guidance for assessing actions most critical and implementable locally to protect workers.
- **[COVID-19 Resources and Training for the Agricultural Workplace](#).** The [UC Davis Western Center for Agricultural Health and Safety](#) created resources and training materials for the agricultural workplace that cover topics such as COVID-19 symptoms, spread, prevention, employer responsibilities, and workers' rights.

### Vaccine

- **[Vaccine Access Fund to Support Free Transportation to and From Vaccine Distribution Sites](#).** In partnership with Uber, PayPal and Walgreens, Local Initiatives Support Corporation (LISC) has created the Vaccine Access Fund to support free Uber rides to and from COVID-19 vaccine sites for people in communities hard hit by the pandemic. LISC is working with community organizations to connect people in need with rides, with a particular focus on supporting vaccine access for Black and Latinx adults and low-income individuals. Additional background information on this initiative can be found here and interested organizations can complete a Vaccine Access Form [here](#).
- **[Let's Get to ImmUnity Toolkit](#).** CDPH's Let's Get to ImmUnity toolkit is designed to help communicate about ongoing COVID-19 vaccine efforts in California. The toolkit features ready-to-use digital resources that can be shared in communities and on social media including 30 second PSAs in multiple languages, a vaccine eligibility toolkit and graphics, social media banners, and the Let's Get to ImmUnity Marketing Media Plan.
- **[The Public Health Alliance Vaccine Equity Video Series: Promising & Actionable Practices for Local Health Departments](#):** The purpose of the Vaccine Equity Video Series is to elevate promising and replicable practices for equitable vaccine distribution. The series works to showcase community-informed and equity-centered practices that specifically aim to reach disproportionately impacted low-income Californians and Californians of color. The newest videos added to the series are the [Protect Chicago Plus: Data-Driven, Neighborhood-Based Strategies to Reach Black and Latinx Chicagoans](#) and [Housing in St. Louis: Intra-Governmental Partnerships to Reach City of St. Louis Housing Authority Residents](#). Many of the strategies captured are aimed towards supporting and uplifting access to Black and Latinx communities, other communities of color, and low-income communities.

## Crosscutting Strategies

### Data

- **[CDPH COVID-19 Outbreak Data \(Workplace\)](#).** California law requires employers to report COVID-19 outbreaks to local health departments, local health departments then report those data to CDPH. From January 1, 2021 to March 22, 2021, a total of 5,141 confirmed COVID-19 outbreaks and 51,034 outbreak-related cases were reported to CDPH. CDPH has now posted the workplace outbreak data to the [HHS Open Data Portal](#) and on the CDPH website. Updates will be posted every 2 weeks.

## Language Access and Cultural Competency

- [Multilingual COVID-19 Resources](#). The Food and Drug Administration (FDA) released a Multilingual COVID-19 Resource pertaining to vaccine facts sheets ([Pfizer](#), [Moderna](#), [Janssen](#)) for recipients and caregivers in 20+ languages. On the same webpage, there is additional COVID-19 information organized by language.
- [Key Things to Know About COVID-19 Vaccines](#). The CDC released a webpage highlighting important information about vaccines. It includes frequently asked questions, myths & facts, and talking about vaccines. From a dropdown menu this resource page is translated into multiple different languages and [offers additional resources](#) in various languages as well.

## Mental Health

- [CalHope Connect Offering Emotional Support to All Californians](#). [CalHOPE](#) in partnership with California Mental Health Services Authority ([CalMHSA](#)) has launched CalHOPE Connect. There are crisis counselors from 29 community-based organizations ready to help people address the stress and anxiety from the public health emergency with specific populations: African American/Black, Asian and Pacific Islanders, Latino/Latinx, LGBTQ+ Community, Parents/Caregivers, Veterans, and Young Adults. CalHOPE Connect offers safe, secure, and culturally-sensitive emotional support for all Californians who may need support related to COVID-19 by live chat or phone.

## Longer-term COVID-19 Response Strategies

### Schools and Childcare

- [CDPH School Liaison Toolkit](#). CDPH's new School Liaison Toolkit provides school personnel with information and resources to respond to a COVID-19 exposure in the school community. Information includes: [Getting Started and Contact Tracing](#), [Key Terms](#), [Decision Tree](#) and [Printable Contact Form](#).

### Cross-sectoral Collaboration and Health in All Policies (HiAP)

- [COVID-19 Policy Playbook II: Legal Recommendations for a Safer, More Equitable Future](#). The *COVID-19 Policy Playbook* was produced by [Public Health Law Watch](#) in collaboration with many legal partners to offer creative policy solutions at all levels of government that encompass strategies, improved responses, and decision-making. The playbook includes topics such as lessons learned around government policy response to the pandemic, improving data collection and management, fulfilling government responsibility in a federal system, financing and delivering health care, strategies to assuring access to medicines and medical supplies, addressing disparities and inequities, and protecting workers and families.
- [Trauma-Informed Care and Services for Immigrant Families: A Three-Part Symposium](#). California Health Care Foundation and the University of California, Davis (UC Davis) Center for Reducing Health Disparities, put together a symposium that explored trauma-informed care and identified key recommendations and best practices for providing services to vulnerable populations in California. The virtual symposium is organized as a three-part series, with each part focusing on a unique theme. [Part 1](#) highlights the impact of the public charge rule on immigrant families. Part 2 discusses trauma-informed approaches by health care, mental health and social service providers caring for immigrant families. And Part 3 identifies the financial impact of trauma on immigrant families and potential policy and systems changes to support trauma-informed care and services for immigrant families. On the [UC Davis website](#) you will find all the necessary links and reports that cover each part of this three-part symposium.

## Population-specific Response Strategies

### Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender, Queer, Intersex, Asexual (LGBTQIA+): Resources

- [COVID-19 LGBTQ+ Help Center](#). Equality California has a resource page centering the LGBTQ+ community that can be found both in English and Spanish. This resource webpage includes a helpline, information on how to get vaccinated, getting tested or treated, state and local resources, transportation support, and additional resources.

## Native American Communities: Communications

- [COVID-19 Resources for Tribal and American Indian and Alaskan Native Communities](#). The [California Tribal Epidemiology Center](#), housed within the [California Rural Indian Health Board, Inc.](#) (CRIHB) creates and disseminates materials and information for Tribal community about the COVID-19 pandemic. This includes community posters, public service announcements, and fact sheets. To download these resources, please visit [CRIHB's COVID-19 Response](#) website.

***Please note:** These resources, best practices, and strategies have been included based on self-identification or partner referral. This Bulletin does not represent CDPH's connection with, or approval or endorsement of, all the listed content and their sources. These materials are being shared to help support and elevate dialogue and collaboration across equity focused state and local teams.*