Partnerships and Vaccine Confidence

December 11, 2024





Association of Immunization Managers

Agenda

- Introduction
- Presentations
 - Dr. Michelle Macaraig
 - Dr. Jamilia Sherls and Sherry Carlson
 - **Achal Bhatt**
- Q&A

Achal Bhatt

Senior Advisor, Immunization Services Division CDC





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National Center for Immunization & Respiratory Diseases





FOCUS: Fostering Overall Community Understanding and Support

AIM Leadership in Action Conference Presentation

December 11-12, 2024

Achal Bhatt, PhD

Senior Advisor and FOCUS Lead

Coordination and Outreach Team, Partnership Branch

Immunization Services Division, National Center for Immunization and Respiratory Diseases

Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC)



Ten Largest U.S. Measles Outbreaks Since Elimination

Year	State	Community of Focus	Cases	Duration (months)	Unvaccinated or unknown vaccination status, N (%)
2013	NYC + 1 state	Haredi	59	2.9	59 (100)
2014	ОН	Amish/Plain	383	4.0	378 (99)
2014/2015	CA + 7 states	N/A	147	2.1	116 (79)
2017	MN	Somali	75	3.4	69 (92)
2018/2019	NYC + 3 states	Haredi	697	9.5	610 (88)
2018/2019	NYS + 1 state	Haredi	408	10.6	371 (91)
2019	WA + 2 states	Ukrainian	79	2.4	74 (94)
2022	OH + 1 state	Somali	86	2.0	84 (98)
2024	IL + 1 state	N/A	58	1.9	42 (72)
2024	MN	Somali	52	4.5	51 (98)



Overview of FOCUS

The Challenge

- Measles outbreaks continue to occur and have been connected to closeknit communities with persistently low MMR vaccination rates
- Limited evidence base exists for strategies to increase vaccination access, confidence, and uptake among closeknit communities

How FOCUS Can Support

****Example 2.2.** Type 1.2.** Type 1.2.** Type 2.2.** Type 2.2.****

- recent vaccine preventable disease outbreak(s)
- consistently lower routine childhood vaccination rates for one or more vaccines

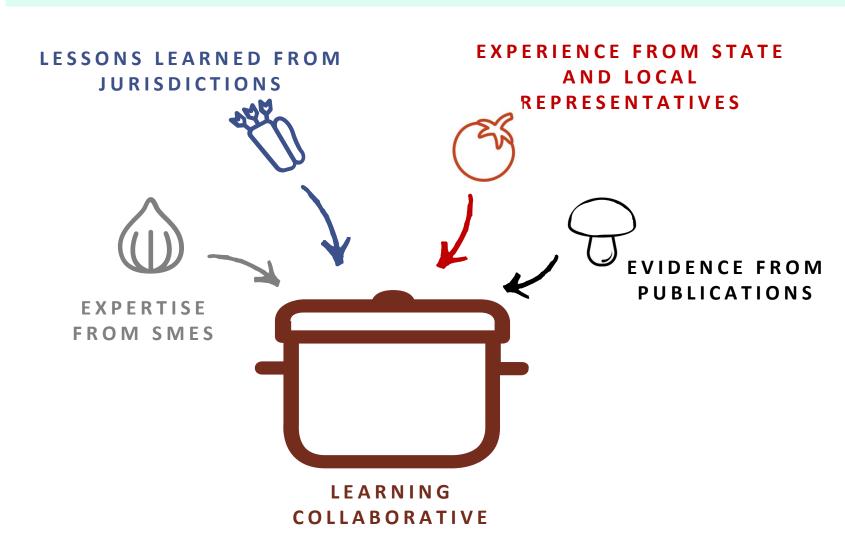
Collaboration with Jurisdictions by:

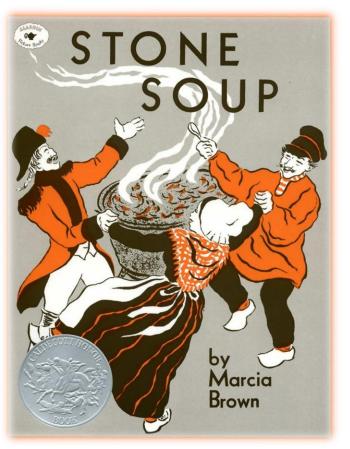
- Understanding community and jurisdictional needs
- Facilitating peer-to-peer Learning Collaborative (LC)
- Demonstrating FOCUS impacts



FOCUS "Stone Soup"

Collaborators bring unique expertise, experiences, and skillsets to support Communities of FOCUS







FOCUS Logic Model Overview



Jurisdictions have the knowledge and tools needed to effectively increase vaccination rates in Communities of FOCUS



Strategies

Understand community and jurisdictional needs

Support jurisdictions through peerto-peer learning, collaboration, and SME/TA support

Demonstrate FOCUS impacts and identify ways to enhance and expand



↑ collaboration and idea sharing

↑ strategies for vaccine uptake

↑ reach and impact

↑ capacity to address vaccine barriers

↑ support for jurisdictional goals

↑ evidence for community-specific interventions



↑ vaccine access, confidence and uptake

↓ prevalence of vaccine-preventable diseases



FOCUS Learning Collaborative (LC)

Communities of FOCUS

Four Communities of FOCUS based on recent measles outbreaks:

- Ultra Orthodox Jewish (e.g., Haredi)
- Somali (identify themselves as Somali)
- Ukrainian (identify themselves as Ukrainian)
- Plain People (e.g., Amish, Mennonite)

Strategic Council and Learning Collaborative Work Group

Shape the LC and provide subject matter expertise







Promising Practices

Collect and evaluate promising practices

Learning Collaborative Meetings and Jurisdictional Community Chat

Peers and SMEs supporting similar communities of FOCUS collaborate



AIM survey: jurisdictions are tailoring engagement

Communities of FOCUS

Barriers to Vaccination

ULTRA-ORTHODOX JEWISH

Distrust of government; wide spacing between doses and **delayed vaccination schedule**

SOMALI

Targeted misinformation campaigns; concerns of **autism**; **language** barriers

UKRAINIAN

Distrust of government; language barriers; lack of engagement with US healthcare system

PLAIN PEOPLE **Distrust of government**; delayed **vaccination schedules**; not subject to school rules

Steps Taken to Address Barriers

- Community outreach
- Collaboration with community members and other partners
- Culturally appropriate materials
- Pop-up clinics

Additional Support Requested

- Connecting and knowledge sharing between jurisdictional immunization programs
- Translated materials and resources
- Data acquisition and analysis
- Toolkits



FOCUS Learning Collaborative Meetings to Date

1

September Learning Collaborative

Measles Among Communities of FOCUS

Georgina Peacock (CDC) and Achal Bhatt (CDC) shared FOCUS objectives, and Dan Filardo (CDC) shared recent measles data

76 attendees from 22 jurisdictions

2

October Jurisdictional Community Chat

Jurisdictional Approaches to Engaging the Somali Community

Lynn Bahta (MN), and Debra Berliner (Seattle King County, WA) shared lessons learned

75 attendees from 14 jurisdictions

3

November Learning Collaborative

Vaccine Outreach Among Orthodox Jewish Families: Lessons and Challenges from London

Ben Kasstan-Dabush and Kristin Oliver, NYC shared lessons learned on relationship building, working with non-traditional partners, and community engagement

69 attendees from 13 jurisdictions

Upcoming

Learning Collaborative: January 8



What we've learned: Working with Somali communities

	Seattle and King County (Washington)	Minnesota		
Challenge	 Few Translated Materials Lack of Vaccine Trust 	 Tailored Communications Lack of Vaccine Trust and Misinformation 		
Action	 Celebrated and elevated the work of the Somali Health Board (SHB) Created video series to explain the importance of vaccinations Launched a Community Navigator Program 	 Disseminated information on Somali TV, radio, mosque community settings, using TikTok and Snapchat Supported imams and healthcare providers to jointly educate the community on measles and autism Focused outreach in Somali-owned childcare centers 		
Lessons Learned	 Verbal conversations are crucial Acknowledge the expertise and lived experience within the Somali community 	 Leverage multiple communications channels Use faith-based messaging Establish trusted relationships before an outbreak 		



What we've learned: Working with Orthodox Jewish communities

	Lessons from London		
Challenge	 Challenges with Vaccination Access and Vaccine Trust Tailored Communications are costly Short Term Funding 		
Action	 Identified new leads to reach additional outlets for engagement Supported vaccine co-delivery with Hatzolah (Jewish volunteer emergency medical service organizations) Campaigns and communications and outreach clinics Health agencies maintained clear responsibilities in approaches Flexible clinic times designed around Ultra Orthodox school hours 		
Lessons Learned	 Shared responsibility between NHS and the community Non-traditional partners' roles need to be clearly defined Use community led faith-based messaging as part of a broader package on family and community health Engagement needs to be sustained 		



Met with jurisdictions during Reverse Site Visit, held one-on-one conversations with jurisdictions and AIM, and met at NIC Adapted meeting format to add smaller group discussions

Captured promising practices and planned for Resource Repository to share materials

Jurisdictional needs drive FOCUS

Conducted AIM Measles
Situational Awareness
Survey to understand
barriers and successes
engaging Communities of
FOCUS

Worked closely with jurisdictions to identify SMEs to present and engage in Q&A with jurisdictions

Exploring the balance between meeting more learning opportunities and jurisdictions' limited time



Coming Soon! Learning Collaborative (LC) Resource Repository

Resource Repository is a SharePoint site, accessible to FOCUS jurisdictions.

Share the following types of information between jurisdictions working with Communities of FOCUS:

- ✓ LC meeting materials
- ✓ Community outreach promising practices
- ✓ Health communications

Next Steps





Share Jurisdiction Resources and Input

- Communications or other resources (promising practices, toolkits, etc.) for the Resource Repository
- Ideas for speakers and SMEs at upcoming Learning Collaborative meetings
- Challenges and initiatives
- General questions or feedback
- Email us at <u>focus@cdc.gov</u>



Join Upcoming FOCUS Meetings

- Learning Collaborative meeting on January 8 from 3:30-4:30pm ET!
- NOT on the email distribution list? Email us at <u>focus@cdc.gov</u>



Thank you

For more information, contact CDC 1-800-CDC-INFO (232-4636)
TTY: 1-888-232-6348 www.cdc.gov

The findings and conclusions in this report are those of the authors and do not necessarily represent the official position of the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention.



Efforts to Improve Vaccination Rates in New York City's Haredi Population

Challenges, Past Efforts, and Current Initiatives

Michelle Macaraig, DrPH, MPH

Executive Director, Bureau of Immunization New York City Department of Health and Mental Hygiene

Association of Immunization Managers meeting, December 11, 2024



Jewish Population in New York City

- 960,000 Jewish adults and children in NYC
 - > ~287,000 (30%) Orthodox Jewish
 - ≻75% Haredi
 - ➤ ~93% reside in 3 Brooklyn neighborhoods



Data source: https://communitystudy.ujafedny.org/explore-data



Understanding the Haredi Community

- Strict adherence to Jewish law
- Preferred term: "Haredi" (vs. Ultra-Orthodox)
- Includes Hasidim, Litvish/Yeshivish groups
- Highly mobile within communities nationally and internationally
- Tend to be tight-knit and communityfocused





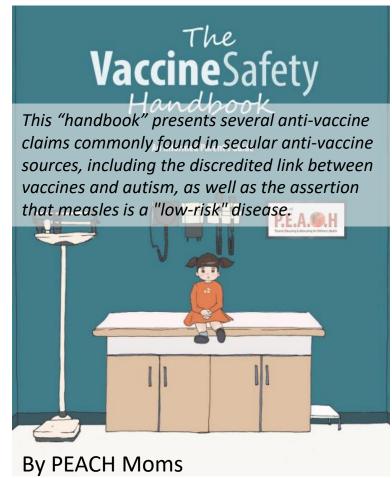
Perspectives on Vaccination

- Jewish Law supports the preservation of human life, including pediatric vaccination
- Decision not to vaccinate often made without consulting with Rabbinic authorities¹
- Barriers²
 - Logistical, convenience
 - Concerns about vaccine safety and multiple vaccines administered simultaneously
 - Limited information about diseases and vaccine benefits
- Interventions should focus on specific barriers as opposed to "exclusive religious framing"²



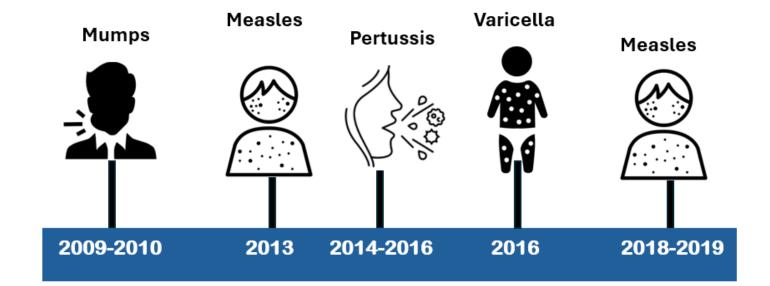
Vaccine Misinformation in the Haredi Community

- The community has been targeted by the antivax movement through social and print media
- Concerns about MMR, HPV, neonatal, and pregnancy vaccines
- Anti-vaccine messages have been allowed to proliferate due to:
 - "Echo chamber"-ideas spread quickly
 - High levels of conformity and exclusivity
 - Distrust of government in general due to history of persecution
 - Added distrust of government post COVID-19



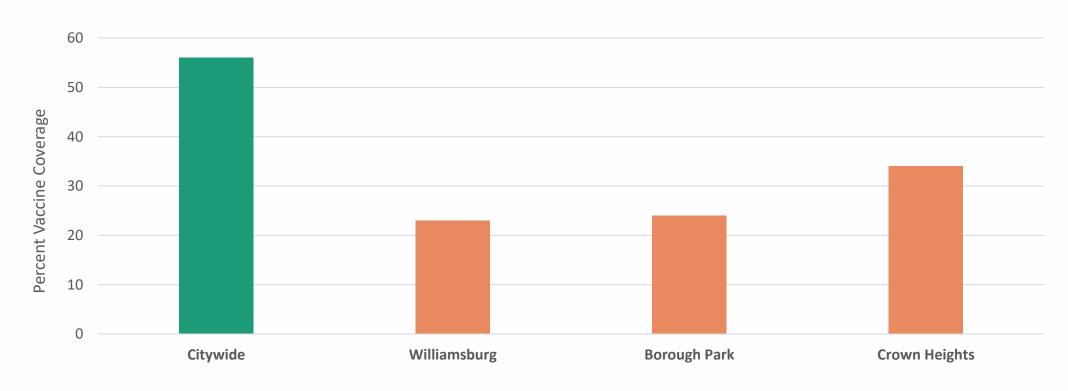


VPD
Outbreaks in
Haredi
Community





Low Vaccination Coverage Among Children by Age 24 Months in Three Neighborhoods with Haredi Population



NYC Health Department Citywide Immunization Registry (numerator); Vintage 2022 Population Estimates for 2021 (denominator). Data as for October 30, 2024



NYC Initiatives to Improve Vaccine Uptake

Engaging Haredi Community



Outbreak Response Efforts

Communication

- Targeted ads robocalls, school letters
- Set-up hotline for parents
- Sent 3000+ letters to Williamsburg families

Partnerships

- Collaborate with Rabbinical leaders, Jewish medical associations
- Participate in community health fairs

Legal measures

 Enforce legal immunization requirements

Pop-up vaccination clinics

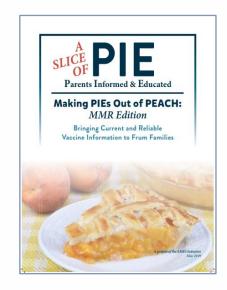
Set-up by DOHMH



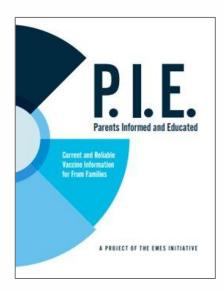
Tailored Educational Materials



https://www.nyc.gov/assets/do h/downloads/pdf/imm/tzimgezint-measles.pdf By Hudson Valley Coalition



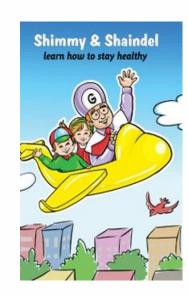
https://www.nyc.gov/assets/do h/downloads/pdf/imm/a-sliceof-pie.pdf By The Vaccine Task Force



https://www.nyc.gov/assets/do h/downloads/pdf/imm/parents -informed-and-educatedbooklet.pdf By EMES Initiative



Translation: Together we can stop measles. One person with measles can infect 12-18 people with immunity



Coming soon!



Current Efforts in NYC

- 1. Employed staff who are members of the community
 - Build trust and understand the community
- 2. Collaborations:
 - New Jersey and NY State Health Departments
 - Israel's Health Ministry
 - Jewish Orthodox Medical Women's Association
 - Various community organizations
- 3. Health Department leadership buy-in

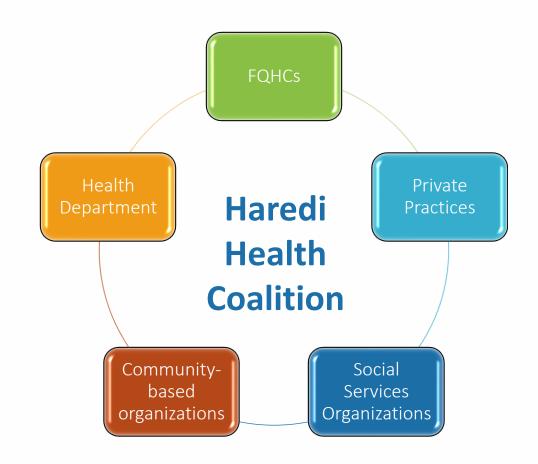


Photo source: https://www.jowma.org/



Haredi Health Coalition

- Established in 2018
- Purpose:
 - Improve trust
 - Bidirectional communication
 - Information sharing
- Consult and advise
- Activities:
 - Develop resource guide
 - Created a WhatsApp for real-time communication
 - Engage providers to integrate vaccine messaging





Integrate Community Health Workers (CHW) in Medical Practices

- New York University peer-led vaccine education in community medical practice
 - Assessed peer education to improve vaccine acceptance in NYC community healthcare practices
 - Trained peer educators delivered vaccine information to patients to address hesitancy
 - Results showed a significant increase in vaccine acceptance, supporting peer-led interventions
- Exploring the possibility of adopting a peer-education model



Vaccine

Volume 42, Supplement 5, 14 November 2024, 126028



Peer education as a strategy to promote vaccine acceptance: A randomized controlled trial within New York community healthcare practices \$\pm\$

Emily Hoffman ^a A M, Tamara Kahan ^{b f}, Esther Auerbach ^c, Heidi Brody ^c,

Natalie Nesha Abramson ^c, Sarah Haiken ^{d g}, Danielle Shields ^b, Ailin Elyasi ^e,

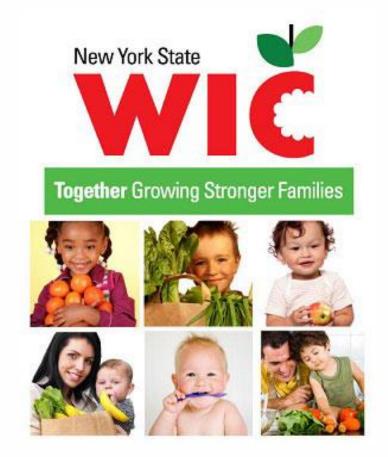
Sheindel Ifrah ^{c h}, Alysa Frenkel-Schick ⁱ, Israel Zyskind ^j, Miriam Knoll ^c, Ellie Carmody ^a

Show more 🗸



Women, Infants, Children (WIC) center Engagement

- Educating nutritionists on pediatric vaccines
- Distributing educational materials
- Present Health Department updates at Health Advisory Committee meetings





Lessons learned

- Community liaison is essential for guiding our efforts
- Partnership is crucial for messaging to the community
- Utilize logos of trusted community partner for credibility
- Integrate vaccine messaging with broader health demands and initiatives
- Leverage non-traditional pathways to reach the community



Conclusion

- On-time vaccination rates are low among very young children
- Challenges in vaccination confidence; though, logistical barriers exists
- Investing in culturally informed programs is critical for sustained efforts
- Focus on sustainable community engagement



Acknowledgements

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- Shaila Rao, EdD, MPH



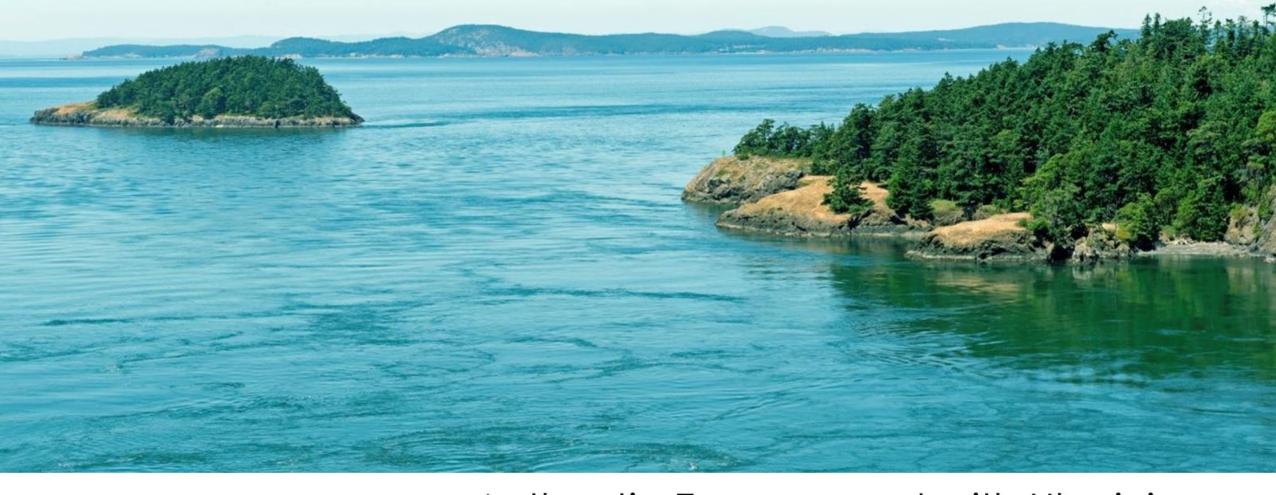
Citations

- 1. Popper-Giveon A, Keshet Y. Non-Vaccination Stage Model (NVST): The decision-making process among Israeli ultra-orthodox Jewish parents. Health (London). 2022 Nov;26(6):777-792. doi: 10.1177/1363459320988884. Epub 2021 May 18. PMID: 34002627.
- 2. Hoffman E, Kahan T, Auerbach E, et al. Peer education as a strategy to promote vaccine acceptance: A randomized controlled trial within New York community healthcare practices. Vaccine. 2024 Nov 14;42 Suppl 5:126028.
- 3. Jacobson A, Spitzer S, Gorelik Y, Edelstein M. Barriers and enablers to vaccination in the ultra-orthodox Jewish population: a systematic review. Front Public Health. 2023 Oct 12;11:1244368.
- 4. Rosen JB, Arciuolo RJ, Khawja AM, Fu J, Giancotti FR, Zucker JR. Public Health Consequences of a 2013 Measles Outbreak in New York City. JAMA Pediatr. 2018 Sep 1;172(9):811-817. doi: 10.1001/jamapediatrics.2018.1024. PMID: 30073293; PMCID: PMC6143061.

Images:

- Pertussis created by bsd studio from Noun Project
- Boys with measles by Gamma Designs from Noun Project
- Pain by popcomarts from Noun Project
- Travel by Art.Design from Noun Project







Authentic Engagement with Ukrainian Communities as an approach to Vaccine Education and Outreach

AIM Conference, 12/2024

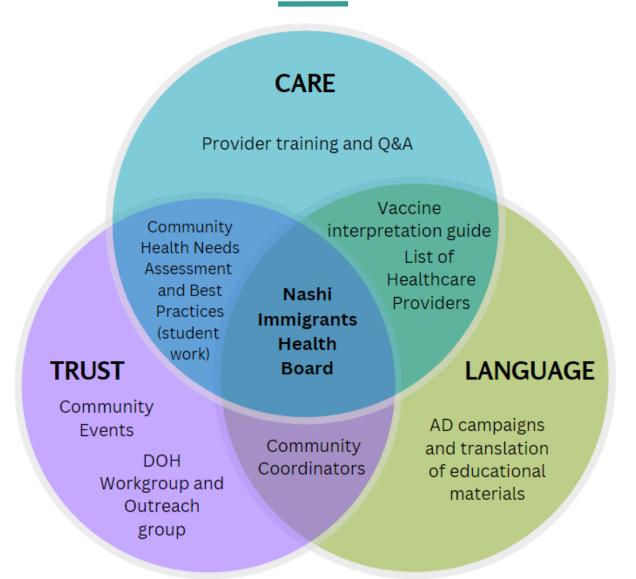
Receipt of 2 or more MMR, Hepatitis A, and 3 or more DTaP-containing vaccines by age 3 years old among children by parental country of birth, born between 2006-2016

Parent birth country	Hep A Vaccine (≥1 do	ose) MMR vaccine (≥1 dose)	DTaP vaccine (≥3 doses)
Ukraine	32%	44%	48%
Russia	47%	55%	60%
USA	79%	86%	88%

Key Barriers to Vaccination

- Care: Lack of culturally and linguistically appropriate care from health providers.
- **Language:** Lack of translated or trusted public health materials.
- **Trust:** Lack of existing and continued relationships to public health and health care organizations, resulting in community members interpreting that public health decisions are being made without their input.

Key Methods/Strategies



Local Health Participants and Partner Organizations

Washington is the 4th largest state for Ukrainian refugee arrivals

Partnered with 5 county health departments

Each hired at least 1 Community Coordinator

Partnered with over 15 local and communitybased organizations **Partner Organizations** Afisha/Slavic Family Media Perspectiva Magazine Nashi Community Health Board Radio Continent S-Media PR (Radio) Slavic Spokane Ukrainian Association of Washington State **Ukrainian Community Center** DH

Major Community Health Needs via Focus Groups and Key Informant Interviews (In order of Priority)

- Housing and rental assistance for both U4U beneficiaries and sponsor families
- 2. Access to healthcare resources (PCP, dental, vaccines, medications, TB)
- 3. Immigration and legal services
- Access to adequate interpreters, specifically Ukrainianspeaking
- 5. Access to mental health and anxiety resources

Establishing a Community Health Board: Nashi Immigrants Health Board

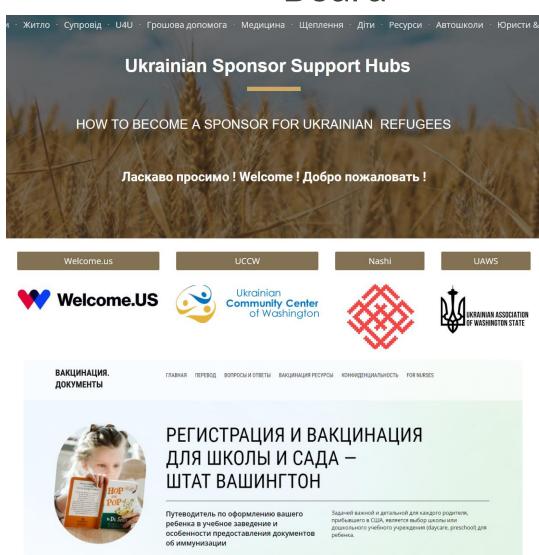


Mission:

We partner with Ukrainian and Russian speaking communities in WA state to meet the broad range of health and social needs of our people and advocate through community engagement, empowerment and connection to resources

We seek to understand, support and empower our community and provide for a healthy future for "Nashi" (our community) through a lens of health equity and social justice.

in Share





Examples of Developed Materials



SKONOTOPCHIK@TPCHD/ 253-999-0992







Key Takeaways

- 1. Hire community members to serve as local coordinators.
- 2. Find and support organizations already serving the community.
 - Build capacity: Help communities start new organizations and create pathways for professional development.
- 3. Collect and provide data to justify why you are looking to partner with communities.
- 4. Share information with other agencies, partners, and the community. Create a resource hub.
- 5. Trust and respect others' perspectives, experiences, and beliefs.

Key Takeaways

- 6. Partnerships take time. Several of these partnerships took years to establish.
- 7. Be intentional about establishing authentic, reciprocal relationships with community members. They can help you develop a better public health program.
 - Go beyond soliciting community input on activities: Involve people in planning. Show that you've acted on their recommendations, even if it is beyond the scope of your project. This builds trust.
- Give partners the tools they need to carry out the work.
- 9. Recognize that mistrust is a significant barrier in your community outreach. Account for this in your work.

Questions?

By building a network of Ukrainian community leaders, we were able to better address new community health needs after the 2022 escalation of the Russian invasion of Ukraine



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AIM Vaccine Confidence Toolkit

- Designed to equip AIM members and their staff with the tools and information necessary to promote vaccine confidence across the nation and its territories.
- Archived webinar topics include:
 - Utilizing Infodemiology to Improve Vaccine Confidence: Resources for **Immunization Programs and Partners**
 - A Playbook for Addressing Health **Misinformation**: Applications for **Immunization Programs and Partners**
 - Using Qualitative Research to **Increase Vaccination Access and Uptake** in Under-Immunized Communities

Vaccine Confidence Toolkit

This toolkit is designed to equip members of the Association of Immunization Managers (AIM) and their staff with the tools and information necessary to promote vaccine confidence across the nation and its territories. For even more resources, visit the AIM resource library,

Connecting the Dots

Webinar Series

Resource Guide

More Resources

Lessons From the Field: Promoting Vaccine Confidence

Lessons from the Field: Promoting Vaccine Confidence provides key lessons learned from select immunization programs and stakeholders that have substantial experience addressing vaccine hesitancy and vaccine confidence in their communities. The three chapters of the guide cover the legislative process, cultural competence,

Download the Full Guide (PDF)

Chapter 1: The Legislative Process and Other Forums



Chapter 1 of Lessons From the Field: Promoting Vaccine Confidence highlights insight, lessons learned, and resources to help immunization programs minimize the impact of vocal vaccine opposition during legislative and rulemaking processes and maximize efforts to inform policymakers of the value of immunization.

Download Chapter 1 (PDF)

Connecting the Dots: Vaccine Confidence

- Vaccine Confidence resources distilled into a one-page, easy-toreference guide including effective communication, health equity, and addressing mis and disinformation.
- Available on the Vaccine Confidence Toolkit landing page.
 - Resources are reviewed and updated quarterly.
 - Email resource suggestions to **Kendall** Phillips.
 - kphillips@immunizationmanagers.org

Connecting the Dots: Vaccine Confidence Resources topic and audience and includes the name of the organization who created it. Share any of the resources with your internal team and external partners that align with your program's goals! If you would like to suggest a resource for this guide or sign up for AIM's weekly newsletter, please Health Equity and Addressing Misinformation Communication Special Populations and Disinformation For IPs and their Partners For IPs and their Partners . Lessons from the Field: Promoting Vaccine Confidence Chapter 1 - Lessons from the Field Chapter 2 - Managing Vaccine Hesitancy During an . Lessons from the Field Chapter 3 - Addressing Incorrect Vaccing The Legislative Process and Other Public Forums | AIM Outbreak: A Focus on Cultural Competency | AIM · Vaccine Confidence Toolkit Home Page | AIM Lessons Learned Report: Building Vaccine Equity for COVID-19 and Flu · Working Together to Navigate the Legislative Environment and Address Webinar Series Vaccination in REACH Communities | AIM Misinformation: A Tip Sheet for IPs and PIOs | AIM · Program Practice Database | AIM REACHing for Vaccine Equity: A Podcast | AIM The Debunking Handbook 2020 | Lewandowskey, et.al · Public Health Communications Collaborative How Can CBOs Help Support the COVID-19 Vaccination Effort? | AIM Resources on applying Inoculation Theory to Misinformation | Inoculation Communications Tool: Building Bridges How Can Faith Leaders Help Support the COVID-19 Vaccination Effort? Plain Language for Public Health Checklist · Practical Playbook for Addressing Health Misinformation | Johns Hopkins Building Trust in Public Health Communications Bloomberg School of Public Health Health Equity Guiding Principles for Inclusive Communication | CDC . Vaccine Misinformation Management Field Guide | The Public Good Projects . 13 Best Practices in Vaccine Communication | Project VCTR Beyond the COVID-19 Emergency: Sustaining and Expanding Vaccine UNICEF, Yale Institute for Global Health, and First Draft Fauity | The Rockefeller Foundation . Communicating Science Clearly e-course | CDC Train Vaccine Resource Hub | Partnering for Vaccine Equity For Healthcare Providers . Increasing Vaccine Confidence: A Resource Guide for Local Health · Engaging Diverse Audience How to Debunk Misinformation and Bolster Vaccine Confidence e-course COVID-19 Information and Resources: People with Disabilities | CDC Vaccinate Your Family University For Healthcare Providers . Talking with Vaccine Hesitant Parents | American Academy of Pediatrics Provider Resources for Vaccine Conversations with Parents | CDC For Healthcare Providers . Shots Heard Round the World Toolkit | The Public Good Projects · Reframing the Conversation about Child and Adolescent Vaccinations . Counseling Guide for Outreach Workers to Address Vaccine Hesitancy FrameWorks Institute Among At-Risk Adults during Outbreaks of Hepatitis A | CDC American Pharmacists Association Vaccine Confident Initiative #ShowUp and #FightFlu Partner Toolkit: Helping You Show Up for your Conversation Guide Family and Your Community | National Foundation for Infectious Diseases . Talking Points and FAQs about Vaccines | Vaccine Resource Hub · Vaccine Confidence Campaign Resources | American College of Vaccine Resources for Healthcare Providers | Vaccine Resource Hull Preventative Medicine Updated May 20, 2024 Immunizationmanagers.org

Thank you!



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