

## January 20, 2023

CDC's Public Health Emergency Preparedness (PHEP) program is a critical source of funding, guidance, and technical assistance for state, local, and territorial public health departments to strengthen their public health preparedness capabilities and improve their response readiness. The Division of State and Local Readiness (DSLR) Friday Update provides information and resources for PHEP recipients and other preparedness planners. Please share the newsletter with your colleagues.

For more information, visit the CDC State and Local Readiness website or contact us at preparedness@cdc.gov.





# In This Issue

### **Upcoming Deadlines**

- January 23 Semiannual COVID-19 Workforce Progress and Fiscal Reports due in REDCap (2021 Response Funding)
- January 25 Letters of Intent for Mpox Round 2 Funding
- January 31 PHEP Capabilities Planning Guide (CPG) Data

### **PHEP Cooperative Agreement Updates**

- CDC Cancels January 26 PHEP Grants Management Call
- CDC Schedules PHEP BP5 Guidance Informational Calls for January 26
- CDC Conducts PERFORMS Training on PHEP BP5 Application Module
- Materials for PHEP Connects Webinar on BP4 Requirements to Be Available Online

### **Emergency Response Activities**

- Letters of Intent for Mpox Round 2 Funding Due January 25
- January 24 COCA Call Provides Updates on COVID-19 Testing and Treatment for the Current SARS-CoV-2 Variants

#### What's on the Calendar

- January 24 CDC COCA Call (2 p.m. to 3 p.m. EST)
- January 25 CDC Social Vulnerability Index Tool Webinar (11:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. EST)
- January 26 PHEP BP5 Continuation Guidance Informational Webinar (3 p.m. to 4 p.m. EST) New Date
- January 26 PHEP BP5 Continuation Guidance Informational Webinar (8 p.m. to 9 p.m. EST) New Date and Time
- January 26 CDC PHEP Grants Management Call (3 p.m. to 4 p.m. EST) Canceled
- January 30 PERFORMS BP5 Application Module Training (1 p.m. EST)
- January 31 PERFORMS BP5 Application Module Training (4 p.m. EST)

### **Preparedness and Response Resources**

- CDC to Host Social Vulnerability Index Tool Webinar on January 25
- Tick and Mosquito Bite Prevention Focus Group Findings Available Online
- NACCHO Now Accepting 2023 Vector Control Collaborative Mentorship Program Applications

### News You Can Use

- CDC Appoints Nirav D. Shah as Principal Deputy Director
- CDC Learning Connection Highlights October Online Trainings

#### **Online Resources**

• CDC MMWR Reports



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# **PHEP Cooperative Agreement Updates**

### **CDC Cancels January 26 PHEP Grants Management Call**

DSLR and CDC's Office of Grants Services (OGS) have **canceled** the PHEP grants management conference call scheduled for **3 p.m. EST on Thursday**, **January 26**. CDC will provide updated information once a new meeting date is finalized.

## **CDC Schedules PHEP BP5 Guidance Informational Calls for January 26**

The PHEP Budget Period 5 (BP5) guidance is scheduled for release the week of January 23. The CDC Office of Grants Services will officially release the guidance in GrantSolutions. CDC has tentatively scheduled informational calls for **3 p.m. EST and 8 p.m. EST on Thursday**, **January 26.** Please note this is a new date; once the calls are confirmed DSLR will provide details to PHEP recipients in a separate email.

CDC will conduct two training sessions in January on the PHEP BP5 application module in PERFORMS. Both PERFORMS training sessions will cover the same information, with recipients welcome to participate in one or all sessions.

1 p.m. EST on Monday, January 304 p.m. EST on Tuesday, January 31

### Participant Information

Dial-In: (646) 828-7666 (Audio only)

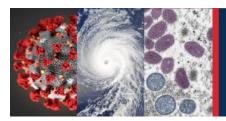
Webinar ID: 161 243 0078

Passcode: 356073 Webinar Access Link:

https://www.zoomgov.com/j/1612430078?pwd=RzJZSnFXQmJYeHppVmxqN0tQWVI0dz09

### Materials for PHEP Connects Webinar on BP4 Requirements to Be Available Online

CDC hosted a special PHEP Connects webinar on January 18 on Budget Period 4 (BP4) program requirements and Operational Readiness Review reporting. CDC apologizes for the technical difficulties that delayed the start of the webinar presentation. Two encore presentations were held the following day for recipients unable to join the first presentation. The webinar slides and recording will be available on the CDC website at <u>Division of State and Local Readiness Webinars (cdc.gov)</u>. Recipients will be notified when the materials are available.



# **Emergency Response Activities**

### Letters of Intent for Mpox Round 2 Funding Due January 25

CDC is activating CDC-RFA-TP22-2201 Public Health Crisis Response Cooperative Agreement to award Round 2 funding to support state, local, and territorial public health mpox response efforts. CDC will award up to \$41 million to jurisdictions on the approved but unfunded (ABU) list with reported cases of mpox. CDC notified all eligible recipients via email with the proposed funding available. Interested jurisdictions must provide the following information.

• Identify the appropriate and preferred principal investigator and authorizing official to manage this award and provide their names, titles, program affiliations, and email addresses.

Jurisdictions that are **not** interested in receiving the funding must submit letters signed by health department leadership, such as state health officials, acknowledging the jurisdiction has declined this funding opportunity.

All replies indicating interest in receiving funding or no interest must be submitted to CDC by **Wednesday**, **January 25**. Responses and questions should be sent to <a href="mailto:DSLRCrisisCoAq@cdc.gov">DSLRCrisisCoAq@cdc.gov</a>.

# January 24 COCA Call Provides Updates on COVID-19 Testing and Treatment for Current SARS-CoV-2 Variants

CDC will conduct a Clinician Outreach and Communication Activity (COCA) call from **2 p.m. to 3 p.m. EST on Tuesday, January 24**. During the call, CDC subject matter experts will provide an overview of COVID-19 epidemiology and the current variant landscape and address current CDC testing guidance and the National Institutes of Health and Infectious Disease Society of America COVID-19 treatment guidelines. Presenters will also discuss risk assessment and considerations for treatment options.

Materials for the call will be available on the <u>COCA Call webpage</u> in the call materials section. The presentation slides will be available the day of the call, and the call recording will be posted a few hours after the live event ends. Continuing Education (CE) credits will not be offered for this COCA Call.

Participant Information

Dial-In: (646) 828-7666 (Audio Only)

Webinar ID: 161 847 3235 Passcode: 106095

Access Link: https://www.zoomgov.com/j/1618473235?pwd=ZWq2RHhwU0FJcEJpWkYyRIB4Wk94Zz09



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# Preparedness and Response Resources

### CDC to Host Social Vulnerability Index Tool Webinar on January 25

CDC will host a webinar on "CDC/ATSDR Social Vulnerability Index (SVI): A Tool for Emergency Response and Health Equity" from **11:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. EST on Wednesday, January 25**. Attendees will learn about the <u>Social Vulnerability Index</u>, how it began, how it is updated, and how it is used for emergency planning and response and health equity. Presenters will also demonstrate how to access and obtain SVI information, provide a brief overview of the <u>Environmental Justice Index (EJI)</u>, and discuss how it differs from SVI. A question-and-answer session will follow the presentation. Following is the participant information.

### Webinar Access Link:

https://cdc.zoomgov.com/j/1612689867?pwd=NGtSSEdsTjRTVU5TOXp5QWIxMzFEdz09

### Tick and Mosquito Bite Prevention Focus Group Findings Available Online

In 2022, CDC's Division of Vector-Borne Diseases conducted focus groups to better understand certain at-risk audiences' knowledge, attitudes, and behaviors regarding mosquito and tick bite prevention. The agency asked participants about their knowledge of vector-borne diseases, likelihood of performing different personal protective behaviors, appeal and understanding of sample communication materials, and the preferred way to receive health information. View the <u>summary of findings</u>.

### NACCHO Now Accepting 2023 Vector Control Collaborative Mentorship Program Applications

The National Association of County and City Health Officials (NACCHO), with the support of the CDC, is currently accepting applications for the 2023 <u>Vector Control Collaborative (VCC) mentorship program</u>. Newly selected programs to the VCC will be awarded up to \$10,000 in grant funding. Completed <u>applications</u> must be submitted to <u>vectorcontrol@naccho.org</u> by **11:59 p.m. PST on Monday, February 27**. For questions on the VCC or the program application, please contact <u>aroy@naccho.org</u> or <u>cphan@naccho.org</u>.



## **News You Can Use**

### CDC Appoints Nirav D. Shah as Principal Deputy Director

On January 17, CDC announced that **Nirav D. Shah, MD, JD**, has been selected to become the agency's principal deputy director (PDD). He currently serves as the director of the Maine Center for Disease Control and Prevention, a role he has been in since June 2019. There he leads the state public health agency that oversees infectious disease control, chronic disease prevention, substance use prevention, environmental health, public health nursing, and emergency preparedness, among other areas. He led the state's response to COVID-19, managing a cross-disciplinary team of state employees and serving as the principal public communicator during the crisis. Prior to that, he served as the director of the Illinois Department of Public Health. Among his key initiatives was lowering the blood lead poisoning action level. He is also the immediate past president of the Association of State and Territorial Health Officials (ASTHO).

Deb Houry, MD, MPH, who has been serving as acting PDD, will assume a new role as the agency's deputy director for program and science/chief medical officer.

### **CDC Learning Connection Highlights October Online Trainings**

Start the new year with <u>CDC Learning Connection's</u> featured courses and earn free continuing education credit. Following are the current featured trainings.

- Learn about recent vaccine effectiveness data, schedules for different age groups, and ways to talk with patients in Clinical Guidance and Patient Education for Bivalent COVID-19 Vaccines.
- Learn how to create an onboarding plan that sets up new staff for success with <u>Onboarding New Employees</u>.
- Review vaccination guidance to prevent polio in You Call the Shots: Polio.
- Learn how to recognize and improve symptoms of patients diagnosed with myalgic encephalomyelitis/chronic fatigue syndrome (ME/CFS) with the <u>Expert Guidance on ME/CFS</u>.

<u>Sign up</u> to receive the CDC Learning Connection newsletter to stay informed about public health trainings from CDC and partners.



# **Online Resources**

## **CDC MMWR Reports**

- Morbidity and Mortality Weekly Report, January 20
- Early and Increased Influenza Activity Among Children Tennessee, 2022–23 Influenza Season
- Alcohol Use, Screening, and Brief Intervention Among Pregnant Persons 24 U.S. Jurisdictions, 2017 and 2019
- Substance Use Among Persons with Syphilis During Pregnancy Arizona and Georgia, 2018–2021
- Epidemiology of Human Mpox Worldwide, 2018–2021
- Reasons for Receiving or Not Receiving Bivalent COVID-19 Booster Vaccinations Among Adults United States, November 1—December 10, 2022

- Notes from the Field: Follow-up Assessment 1 Year After a Chemical Exposure Investigation Winnebago County, Illinois, July–August 2022
- Erratum: Vol. 71, No. 45
- QuickStats: Birth Rates for Females Aged 15–19 Years, by Age Group National Vital Statistics System, United States, 1991–2021

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