

**DSL**R

# FRIDAY UPDATE

*\* The next DSLR Friday Update will be published Thursday, November 9, due to the Veteran's Day holiday. \**

**November 3, 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 (DSL)R 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](mailto:preparedness@cdc.gov).

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**DSL**R FRIDAY UPDATE



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## Upcoming Deadlines

- **November 21** – PHEP Direct Assistance (DA) Requests



## PHEP Cooperative Agreement Updates

### November 8 PHEP Connects Webinar Highlights Schools and Community Preparedness

CDC's next PHEP Connects webinar, "Public Health and Educational Agencies Working Together to Improve Community Preparedness," is scheduled for **1 p.m. EST on Wednesday, November 8**. CDC speaker Susan Hocevar Adkins, MD, will

discuss the benefits of establishing and maintaining public health and educational agency partnerships. The speaker will also highlight emergency preparedness planning with schools, the intersection between public health and schools, and the logistics of working with schools to improve community preparedness. Following is the participant information.



#### Participant Information

Dial-In: (669) 254-5252 (Audio only)

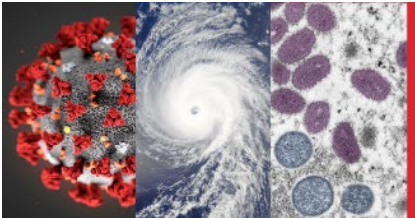
Meeting ID: 161 241 1865

Passcode: 569595

Access Link: <https://www.zoomgov.com/j/1612411865>

### Direct Assistance Requests Due November 21

**Tuesday, November 21**, is the deadline for PHEP recipients to submit direct assistance (DA) requests to their PHEP project officers to request and renew staff currently funded through DA for PHEP Budget Period 1 beginning July 1, 2024. As a reminder, CDC now centrally funds one Career Epidemiology Field Officer (CEFO) per state and directly funded locality and three regional CEFOs for the Caribbean and Pacific jurisdictions, but recipients can use DA funding to support additional CEFOs. CDC now centrally funds senior Preparedness Field Assignees (PFAs) in addition to junior PFAs. Recipients do not need to submit DA renewal forms for centrally funded assignees. Recipients should contact their project officers for DA request forms.



## Emergency Response Activities

### **CDC Host Rural Health Partners Webinar on Protecting Communities from Fall Respiratory Illnesses**

CDC will host a rural health partners webinar at **4 p.m. EST on Wednesday, November 8**. CDC experts will provide updates on respiratory virus activity in the U.S. Vaccine educational resources and strategies to protect your communities will be shared during the call. Following is the participant information.

#### Participant Information

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

Meeting ID: 161 439 3417

Passcode: 77622373

Access Link: <https://cdc.zoomgov.com/j/1614393417?pwd=ZzZKbmhjNWlvQmMzMzZqREY3c1VSQT09>

### **HHS Releases Letter to COVID-19 Therapeutics Manufacturers, Distributors, Pharmacies, and Health Care Payer Community**

Beginning on November 1, COVID-19 oral antiviral treatments will transition from government distribution to traditional health care distribution channels. As the federal government transitions away from distributing these products, access will primarily depend on the arrangements in the private commercial market among each of the particular drug manufacturers and private insurers. Over the coming weeks and months, manufacturers should work with the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) and other payors to make sure that such payors have the required information from the manufacturers to make payments for these therapeutics after commercial distribution begins.

Read the full HHS [Letter to COVID-19 therapeutics manufacturers, distributors, pharmacies and the health care payer community](#).



## What's on the Calendar

- **November 8** – [CDC PHEP Connects Webinar](#) (1 p.m. to 2 p.m. EST)
- **November 15** – [CDC PHEP Recipient Call](#) (2 p.m. to 3 p.m. EST)



## Preparedness and Response Resources

### **ASPR Launches New Health Care and Public Health Cybersecurity Website**

The Administration for Strategic Preparedness and Response (ASPR) has launched a new website with cybersecurity resources and information for health care and public health entities. The website contains links to tools and resources, links to trainings, webinars and other educational materials, and updated news. Learn more and view the new [ASPR cybersecurity website](#).

### **Funding Opportunity Available for Strengthening Adverse Childhood Experiences and Substance Use Prevention Programming**

With support from the CDC, the National Association of County and City Health Officials (NACCHO) is offering a funding opportunity to help local health departments and their communities support high-risk families affected by substance use and overdose through sustaining and expanding existing evidence-based adverse childhood experiences (ACEs) prevention programming. Sites will receive training and individualized technical assistance to help them infuse the [HOPE framework](#) into their current ACEs prevention program's policies and practices.

NACCHO will host an informational webinar on the funding opportunity from **2 p.m. to 3 p.m. EST on Monday, November 6**. Register [here](#) for the informational webinar. This webinar will be recorded and posted on NACCHO's Overdose, Injury, and Violence Prevention [webpage](#). Applications must be submitted by **5 p.m. EST on Friday, December 1**.

Learn more and access the request for proposals at [naccho.org/blog/articles/request-for-proposals-strengthening-aces-and-substance-use-prevention-programming-with-hope-saspp-project](https://naccho.org/blog/articles/request-for-proposals-strengthening-aces-and-substance-use-prevention-programming-with-hope-saspp-project).



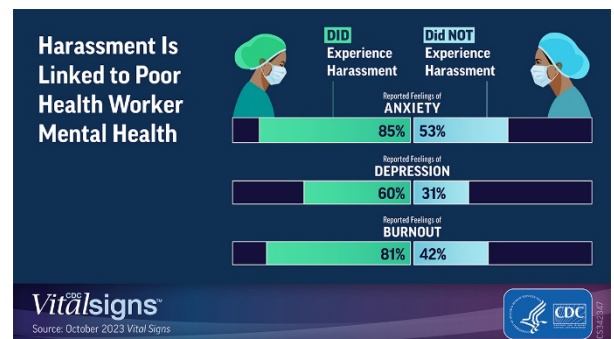
### Public Health Professionals Complete Field Epidemiology Training in Guam

CDC's Strengthen Health Interventions in the Pacific (SHIP) field epidemiology training program exists to advance health equity and strengthen regional emergency preparedness and response capacity, jurisdictional surveillance capabilities, and data-driven health interventions and services for populations across the U.S.-affiliated Pacific Islands (USAPI). Nine Guam-based public health professionals recently completed the first tier of the SHIP training program. Participants learned to collect, analyze, interpret, communicate, and transform data to support decision-making and action. From October 2022 to May 2023, staff from the Guam Department of Public Health and Social Services (DPHSS), Westcare Pacific Islands, Inc., and Pacific Island Health Officers' Association (PIHOA) Pacific Public Health Fellows completed five, week-long training sessions, online coursework, and health systems improvement projects using actual health agency data.

### Health Workers Report Harassment, Poor Mental Health Symptoms, and Difficult Working Conditions

More than double the number of health workers reported harassment at work in 2022 than in 2018. This may include threats, bullying, verbal abuse, or other actions from patients and co-workers that create a hostile work environment. This finding has important implications for health worker mental health, according to a new [CDC Vital Signs report](#).

Health worker burnout was at crisis levels prior to the COVID-19 pandemic. The new *Vital Signs* issue reports that the pandemic presented unique challenges that may have further impaired health worker mental health and increased health workers' intent to leave their jobs.



This report is the first to describe and compare self-reported well-being and working conditions for health workers, other essential workers, and all other workers before the pandemic (2018) and after the start of the pandemic (2022). It shows that health workers have continued to face a mental health crisis. From 2018 to 2022, U.S. health workers experienced greater declines on a range of mental health outcomes than other workers.

View the full media statement at [Health Workers Report Harassment, Symptoms of Poor Mental Health, and Difficult Working Conditions](#).



## Online Resources

### CDC MMWR Reports

- [Morbidity and Mortality Weekly Report, November 3](#)
- [Tobacco Product Use Among U.S. Middle and High School Students — National Youth Tobacco Survey, 2023](#)
- [Tuberculosis Testing and Latent Tuberculosis Infection Treatment Practices Among Health Care Providers — United States, 2020–2022](#)
- [Vaccination Coverage by Age 24 Months Among Children Born in 2019 and 2020 — National Immunization Survey-Child, United States, 2020–2022](#)
- [Vital Signs: Health Worker–Perceived Working Conditions and Symptoms of Poor Mental Health — Quality of Worklife Survey, United States, 2018–2022](#)
- [Erratum: Vol. 72, No. 42](#)
- [Quickstats: Percentage of Adults Who Used the Internet in the Past 12 Months to Communicate with a Doctor or Doctor’s Office, by Urbanization Level — National Health Interview Survey, United States, July–December 2022](#)

### CDC Online Resources

- **UPDATED** [CDC Respiratory Virus Updates](#)

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