AHSC’s Vaccine Response Effort

APRIL 2021

AHSC Provides Linguistically and Culturally Specific COVID-19 Vaccination Clinics

The arrival of COVID-19 vaccinations has created hope as well as confusion over how, when and where to access a vaccine. For those experiencing language and/or cultural barriers, finding timely and accurate information about this process is very challenging. At this critical stage of the pandemic, AHSC’s top priority is helping the region’s Asian population equitably access COVID-19 vaccinations.

AHSC has recently partnered with Rosewood Family Health Care and Multnomah County to vaccinate 1,420 individuals at four separate vaccine events on February 27th, March 7th, March 27th and April 3rd. The clinics took place at AHSC’s main building at 9035 SE Foster Road, in the Lents neighborhood of SE Portland. Portland Fire personnel and

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We are thankful to all of our volunteers, staff and community partners for their hard work to implement these vaccine clinics,” said AHSC Chief Executive Officer Holden Leung. “We are focused on accessing more vaccine doses to expand this culturally specific vaccine effort to the rest of AHSC’s 18,000 members.”

Without culturally and linguistically specific support, many Asians would struggle to access the vaccine, increasing risks and disparities in health outcomes. With community support, AHSC can draw on its experience as a trusted provider of culturally specific services to ensure Asian community members have equitable access to COVID-19 vaccinations.

**AHSC CEO Holden Leung Participates in Governor Brown’s Vaccine Press Conference**

On March 19th, AHSC Chief Executive Officer Holden Leung was honored to participate in a press conference updating the public about Oregon’s COVID-19 vaccination timeline and progress. Mr. Leung was invited by the Office of Governor Kate Brown to share details about AHSC’s work to ensure members of the Asian community receive equitable access to COVID-19 vaccines. He thanked project partners Multnomah County, Rosewood Family Health Center, and OHSU, who provided 117 medical student volunteers for the effort from its pharmacy, dentistry and medical schools.

“Recent hate crimes against Asian people have increased fears among Asian community members to go out in the community and access vaccinations at large public clinics. AHSC has an important role to play in providing vaccine access in a culturally comfortable setting.”

**Vaccine Inquiries**

To learn more about who is eligible and how to set up an appointment for the monthly AHSC Health Clinic, call our helpful staff in the language you prefer.

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<th>Language</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Cantonese</td>
<td>(503) 772-5889</td>
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Volunteers and staff listen to a briefing on procedures before AHSC’s February 27th vaccination clinic.
Appreciation Expressed by AHSC Members

AHSC members have responded to the organization’s vaccination effort with gratitude and relief. We received this heartfelt thank you from one of our members:

“Thank you very much for setting up an appointment for me to get the Coronavirus vaccination, when I had many difficult times to get an appointment through the Oregon state government agencies. When I called Asian Health & Services Center with a little hope, you were willing to assist me. I really appreciate your kindness and efforts to help me out.”

Special Thanks to Our Health Partners

Multnomah County
OHSU
Rosewood Family Health Care

Senator Ron Wyden Visits AHSC for Roundtable on Asian Hate Crimes

At the request of Oregon Senator Ron Wyden, AHSC hosted a roundtable with the Senator and leaders of the Asian community on Friday, March 26th. The discussion included about a dozen participants, who gathered to discuss the surge in hate crimes and bias directed at members of the Asian and Pacific Islander community during the Coronavirus community.

“We are grateful to have Senator Wyden’s support in strongly condemning hate crimes and discrimination against Asians and Pacific Islanders,” said AHSC Chief Executive Officer Holden Leung.

Following the roundtable, Senator Wyden tweeted these words of support:

Heard powerful accounts today at @ahscdpdx from local #AAPI leaders about the awful hate speech & hate crimes their communities face. The message today & every day must be no tolerance for racism and bias here in Portland, in Oregon & our entire country. #StopAsianHate 🙏

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