



2020-2021 TB Community Engagement Network Mini-Grant Abstracts

Arkansas Coalition of Marshallese

Title: TB Education and Testing in the Pacific Islander Community in Arkansas

The Arkansas Coalition of Marshallese (ACOM) serves the highest population of Compact of Free Association (COFA) citizens living in the United States. For this one-year project, ACOM will partner with the John Bates Clinic under the Arkansas Health Department to provide virtual health education events to raise awareness about tuberculosis (TB) and promote TB testing. ACOM will also translate TB education materials that are culturally and linguistically appropriate for the Pacific Islander community in Arkansas.

Asian American Community Services

Title: Reaching the hard to reach: A Community-based photovoice to increase tuberculosis education and awareness

Asian American Community Services will implement a one-year project to utilize Photovoice among members of the Asian American Community in Central Ohio, to share their perspectives and experiences on tuberculosis through photographs, narratives and reflections. The goal is to empower the community and raise awareness for tuberculosis (TB) prevention and care, and to promote culturally relevant TB education and screening.

Asian American Health Coalition of the Greater Houston Area dba HOPE Clinic

Title: Bridging the Tuberculosis Education Gap in AA/NHPI Communities

Background:

HOPE Clinic currently takes referrals from Harris County Public Health's Refugee Screening program for persons identified as tuberculosis (TB) positive and provides treatment for those who meet program criteria. HOPE Clinic also collaborates with the Houston Health Department to provide latent TB infection (LTBI) treatment in high-risk communities, especially to bridge accessible care to low income and the uninsured. As a community safety net, HOPE Clinic is dedicated to educating and delivering the 12-dose regimen to treat LTBI. Through this collaboration, HOPE Clinic offers affordable therapy to patients onsite resulting in a completion rate above 80% improving TB treatment outcomes for vulnerable populations.

Activities: For this one-year project, HOPE Clinic will expand this model of care to all sites, training HOPE Clinic providers and clinical staff. Education on TB will be provided to resident physicians and other new hires, many of whom speak Asian American Pacific Islander (AAPI) languages. HOPE Clinic will also provide education for local independent practitioners and the local health authority, who also serve AAPIs. To support linguistic needs for provider and community education, HOPE Clinic will create a variety of in-language educational materials for both providers and patients.

Asian Services in Action, Inc.

Title: TB Education and Screening in AAPI communities in NE Ohio

For this one-year project, Asian Services In Action, Inc. (ASIA) will increase the number of community based tuberculosis (TB)-focused outreach and education events held within local Asian American Pacific Islander (AAPI) communities. Over the project period, ASIA will provide linguistically-appropriate outreach and education about TB and Latent TB Infection (LTBI) to 200 individuals, with a focus on Chinese, Bhutanese, Burmese/Karen, Congolese, Indian and Afghani communities, resulting in 40 TB screenings. These efforts will occur in-person or virtually, as dictated by public health guidelines to achieve the following goals:

1. Increase knowledge, within the refugee population, about TB/LTBI risk factors and help patients with TB/LTBI understand their diagnosis and proper follow-up.
2. Connect refugees at risk for TB/LTBI infection to the International Community Health Center (IHC) for screenings and primary medical care.

This project will be guided by a Certified Nurse Practitioner (CNP) and will utilize in-language Community Health Workers (CHWs) to staff awareness and education events.

Center for Pan Asian Community Services Inc.**Title: Health Equity Through Testing and Education (HETTE)**

For this one-year project, Center for Pan Asian Community Services Inc. (CPACS) will implement projects targeted at Asian American Pacific Islander (AAPI) populations to:

1. Create culturally and linguistically appropriate latent TB infection (LTBI) and tuberculosis (TB) education and training activities that resonate with AAPI communities
2. Encourage and educate providers to test and treat LTBI among at-risk and AAPI populations
 - o Activities will be accomplished through the completion of up to three virtual educational/training sessions for providers and/or community members
3. Provide up to eighty (80) drive-thru TB health screenings with the support of COSMO Health Center and the Georgia Department of Public Health

Colorado Department of Public Health and Environment**Title: Building a Sustainable System for the Provision of TB Infection Services in the Primary Care Setting**

For this one-year project, Colorado Department of Public Health and Environment will partner with the Colorado Alliance for Health Equity and Practice (CAHEP), a non-profit organization with approximately 70% of their patient population being Asian American (AA) and Native Hawaiian and Pacific Islander (NHPI). Currently, screening, testing, and treatment for latent tuberculosis infection (LTBI) are only performed when a patient has had direct contact with an individual with tuberculosis (TB) disease (TBD) or has other significant risk factors for progression to TBD. Under this project, Colorado Department of Public Health and Environment will create a sustainable system that will enable CAHEP to provide ongoing screening, testing, and treatment for those with one or more risk factors, including those with compromised immune systems and persons immigrating from areas with high rates of TB. The Colorado State TB program will provide training and technical support for CAHEP providers and patient navigators. Topics for training and support include, but are not limited to, modification of the clinical workflow, IGRA testing and interpretation of results, TBI treatment options, when to suspect TBD and refer to public health, and common misconceptions about TB. As an additional partner, the Denver Metro

TB Clinic will be available for consultation, to test and treat persons who are not insured, and as a referral network for individuals suspected of having active TB disease.

Fort Bend County Clinical Health Services

Title: Fort Bend County Asian American TB Awareness Project

For this one-year project, Fort Bend County will raise awareness and provide culturally relevant education of tuberculosis (TB) to the residents of Fort Bend County from India/of Indian descent. Decreasing the stigma by dispelling the misinformation related to TB through partnerships with community organizations, healthcare providers and religious leaders will lead to increased acceptance of screening and treatment of TB infection and disease. The Fort Bend County Asian American TB Awareness project will engage in outreach activities quarterly by providing education to the community. Furthermore, based on the identified needs, screening, testing and treatment offered at outreach activity. The Fort Bend County Clinical Services Department TB program seeks to decrease the burden of current infection and future disease through these ongoing efforts by increasing screening, treatment and completion of treatment in Fort Bend County residents from India/of Indian descent.

North East Medical Services

Title: North East Medical Services' (NEMS) TB Elimination Program

For this one-year project, North East Medical Services (NEMS) will improve tuberculosis (TB) testing and treatment of at-risk patients through provider education and quality improvement of its electronic health record (EHR) and clinical workflows. NEMS will simplify its TB risk assessment form in the EHR to reflect California Department of Public Health's simplified risk assessment, integrate travel history into routine clinic intake procedures, work with its onsite pharmacy to ensure that preferred shorter treatment regimens are easy to order and readily available to patients, and work with the San Francisco Department of Public Health to educate providers on the preferred shorter treatment regimens recommended by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention.

San Diego County Medical Society Foundation, dba Champions for Health

Title: Collaboration for **Action** to achieve **Results** toward the **Elimination of TB, CARE TB** in the San Diego County Asian-Pacific Islander (API) Communities.

CARE TB is a private-public partnership consisting of two San Diego-based agencies, Champions for Health (CFH) and the San Diego County TB and Refugee Health Branch (TBCRHB), supported by the work of TB Free California (CA), a partnership among the California Department of Public Health (CDPH), community clinics and health departments throughout California to eliminate TB. Our agencies each have a well-documented history of outreach and education to high-burden communities challenged by health disparities. Together, we are a comprehensive, engaged response committed to reducing TB's burden in local API communities, specifically Filipino and Vietnamese. The core of CARE TB will be its advisory committee, consisting of API community members representing diverse organizations, including healthcare systems, service agencies, schools, LTBI/TB patients, and business organizations. The advisory committee is responsible for forming the LTBI/TB outreach agenda and reviewing and approving all educational resource recommendations, activities, and, eventually, the CARE TB Plan. Supporting the development of this plan is the County of San Diego TB Elimination Initiative (TBEI.) TBEI is responsible for developing San Diego County's overall TB elimination plan. TBEI has more than 45 participants at its current development stage, representing 27 agencies, with 35 of its members

outside the SD County government. With the development of the plan, the CARE TB advisory committee members and its program will become part of TBEI to facilitate its sustainability and expansion.

UCSF Benioff Children's Hospital Oakland

Title: Pediatric Latent TB Infection in Alameda County: Increasing Screening, Diagnosis and Treatment through Education and Enhancing the Electronic Medical Record

For this one-year project, UCSF Benioff Children's Hospital Oakland (BCHO) will:

1. Develop and pilot an latent tuberculosis infection (LTBI)-specific workflow in the Electronic Medical Record (EMR) to expand LTBI screening, diagnosis, and treatment among children of Asian-American, Native Hawaiian, and Pacific Islander (AA/NHPI) background.
2. Provide educational sessions to providers, patients and families to raise awareness about the risk of LTBI in children and the AA/NHPI community, to promote provider use of the EMR workflow, and to increase acceptance of LTBI care among patients and families.

To achieve these goals, expertise will be leveraged across BCHO, general pediatricians, pediatric infectious diseases specialists, local and state public health partners, and community representatives. BCHO will develop the EMR LTBI workflow at the BCHO Primary Care Clinic, and pilot the workflow and information sessions over 9 months with the goal to achieve at least a 25% increase in screening, diagnosis and treatment of pediatric LTBI.