

Columbia County: Monday, January 10, 2022 Community Advisory Council Approved Minutes

3:30-5:00 pm (January CAC virtual)

Meeting opened at 3:37, welcomed guests and introductions. Minutes were not voted on due to no quorum. Reviewed housekeeping slides regarding live interpretation in Spanish! Meeting was conducted in an informal manner. We reviewed some procedures using interpretation in the meeting, then started interpretation.

Innovator Agent (IA): Joell Archibald

COVID cases have increased by 226% and hospitalizations increased by 78% in the last two weeks. Oregon had over 10,000 on a single day record. There were 256 cases reported in Columbia County during the week of January 3-7. Four deaths were reported just last week, all 4 were people with underlying conditions. COVID vaccinated coverage in Columbia county has increased, 65.7% have had first dose, 60.7% have completed both doses and 27.6% have completed booster doses. In Oregon, officials are estimating that cases and hospitalizations will peak around the end of the month (hospitalizations usually increase after case spikes). The state has created crisis standards of care in preparation for the surge peak to help triage beds and supplies which is not something we'd like to see be used.

Oregon has been working on the waiver and will use feedback to submit final version by the end of February and begin negotiations. CCO's have submitted information regarding behavioral health changes and improvements, and this will be shared with communities. CCO's also submitted Traditional Health Worker (THW) plans.

CPCCO VACCINE and COVID Updates:

As of last week almost 50% of our members are vaccinated. Numbers have increase among ages 5–11-years old. We have been monitoring vaccination rates on race and ethnicity groups, our numbers have increased as well. There are some zip codes in our area where vaccination rates are very low. We need to increase the numbers being vaccinated in zip codes with low vaccination rates. Boosters and vaccinations are being done at the Columbia County Fairgrounds. They will be available until January 16,2022.

Equity Theme Survey Results and Next Steps

These are three recommendations that the CAC decided to focus on in their recommendations to CPCCO board of directors, staff, and community partners:

1. Work on finding ways to get healthcare to people (physically, geographically, and culturally responsive) and address transportation issues.
2. Create more policies that give more back in a bigger way to historically marginalized groups, such as hiring, making things more inclusive (more accommodations), restitution and giving back.
3. Educate all healthcare workers on critical race theory, American Ethnic Studies, structural racism, etc.

Next steps include sharing the recommendations with our Board of Directors (BOD) and BOD equity subcommittee, incorporating the recommendations into our health equity plan update and internal workgroups, and having this ground the CAC and staff as we start to plan our next regional health needs assessment.

Yesenia was very happy that we have interpreters available for our Spanish speakers, the translation went smooth, and we look forward to having more guests.

Meeting adjourned at 5:00 pm.

Next meeting: February 7, 2022 via Zoom