

# **Governor Baker Awards Additional \$4.5 Million for COVID-19 Vaccine Equity Efforts**

The Baker-Polito Administration today announced an additional \$4.5 million in grants to organizations working in communities hardest hit by the COVID-19 pandemic. This funding is a component of the Massachusetts Vaccine Equity Initiative to increase awareness and access to the COVID-19 vaccine and mitigate the impacts of the pandemic. The latest grants are part of the Administration's investments of over \$51 million to promote vaccine access and confidence, primarily in communities of color.

The grants are the result of a major funding award from the US Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) to the Commonwealth, building on the state's investment to increase vaccine awareness and acceptance. These funds support community organizations and community health centers to continue the work of reducing barriers to vaccine access and promoting vaccines and boosters for communities and populations most disproportionately impacted by COVID-19.

"These trusted community-based organizations know their communities best," said Public Health Commissioner Margret Cooke. "They use their knowledge and relationships to expand the efforts of our Vaccine Equity Initiative by helping address the unique health equity needs of the communities and populations they serve – needs that have been exacerbated by COVID-19."

This additional \$4.5 million includes:

\$1.1 million in new grants to 26 community- and faith-based

organizations, including Tribal and Indigenous People-serving organizations, in partnership with Health Resources in Action (HRiA). Along with 50 other community organizations currently funded, these organizations will provide culturally appropriate outreach and education on COVID-19 vaccination and mitigation as well as host and promote vaccine clinics for priority populations most impacted by COVID-19. Funded organizations will engage families and children for pediatric vaccinations and boosters.

\$3.1 million for the Massachusetts League of Community Health Centers to support 42 community health centers for critical workforce and equipment needs and outreach, education, and navigation support towards COVID-19 vaccination. This funding is in addition to \$5 million being distributed to community health centers for walk-in vaccination services.

\$300,000 to three community organizations to expand the COVID-19 vaccine equity work in rural communities, in partnership with the New England Rural Health Association. With the addition of these grants, the program now funds vaccine equity work serving 143 rural towns.

#### Award Recipients:

Community Outreach and Education (HRiA) (\$1.1 million)

Grant size: \$15,000 – \$50,000 per organization

African Cultural Services, Inc.

BRIDGE (Berkshire Resources for the Integration of Diverse Groups through Education)

Centro de Apoyo Familiar (CAF)

Chappaquiddick Tribe of the Wampanoag Indian Nation Corporation

Chinese Culture Connection, Inc.

Coalition for a Better Acre

DEAF, Inc.

Dwelling House of Hope, Inc.

Extreme Kid, Inc.

Haitian Community Partners

Haitian Health Institute  
Leaving the Streets Ministries, Inc  
Love Your Menses  
Massachusetts Coalition for Occupational Safety & Health  
(MassCOSH)  
Metrowest Worker Center (Casa do Trabalhador/Casa del  
Trabajador)  
MOCHA  
Next Leadership Development Corporation  
Nigerian American Multi-Service Association (NAMSA)  
People Affecting Community Change (PACC Global)  
Pioneer Valley Workers Center  
South Asian Workers' Center  
Springfield Boys and Girls Club  
The Black Literacy and Arts Collaborative Project, Inc.  
UHAI for Health Inc.  
Women Encouraging Empowerment Inc.  
YMCA of Greater Boston

Community Health Centers (\$3.1 million)

Boston Health Care for the Homeless Program  
Bowdoin Street Health Center  
Brockton Neighborhood Health Center  
Brookside Community Health Center  
Cambridge Health Alliance  
Caring Health Center, Inc.  
Charles River Community Health Center  
Codman Square Health Center  
Community Health Center of Cape Cod  
Community Health Center of Franklin County  
Community Health Connections Family Health Center  
Community Health Programs  
The Dimock Center  
DotHouse Health  
Duffy Health Center  
East Boston Neighborhood Health Center

Edward M. Kennedy Community Health Center (Framingham)  
Family Health Center of Worcester  
Fenway Community Health Center  
Greater Lawrence Family Health Center  
Greater New Bedford Community Health Center  
Greater Roslindale Medical and Dental Center  
Harbor Health Services Incorporated  
Harvard Street Neighborhood Health Center  
HealthFirst Family Care Center  
Hilltown Community Health Center  
Holyoke Health Center, Inc.  
Island Health Care  
Lowell Community Health Center  
Lynn Community Health Center  
Manet Community Health Center  
Mattapan Community Health Center  
North End Waterfront Health  
North Shore Community Health Center  
Outer Cape Health Services  
South Boston Community Health Center  
South Cove Community Health Center  
Southern Jamaica Plain Health Center  
Springfield Health Services for the Homeless  
SSTAR Family Healthcare Center  
Upham's Corner Health Center  
Whittier Street Health Center

Rural Vaccine Program (\$300,000)

Hilltown CDC

Franklin Regional Council of Governments

Nantucket Board of Health/ Health Imperatives/ Community  
Foundation for Nantucket