HC SUB-COMMITTEE COVID19-**UPDATES: WHAT** IS A RAPID COMMUNITY **ASSESSMENT?** 

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https://www.cdc.gov/vaccines/covid-19/vaccinate-with-confidence/rcaguide/

### WHY CONDUCT A RAPID COMMUNITY ASSESSMENT?

- To identify communities at risk for low COVID-19 vaccine uptake.
- To inform future phases of the COVID-19 vaccine rollout.
- To get an early understanding of what communities are thinking about COVID-19 vaccines and plan for potential solutions to increase confidence and uptake.

### WHY CONDUCT A RAPID COMMUNITY ASSESSMENT?

- To identify community leaders, trusted messengers, and other important channels through which you can reach communities.
- To identify areas of intervention and prioritize potential intervention strategies to increase confidence in and uptake of COVID-19 vaccine.

# **HOW LONG DOES IT TAKE?**

• The rapid community assessment consists of five steps. Given the urgency of the COVID-19 pandemic, the suggested time frame is three weeks.

# WHAT ARE THE 5 STEPS?

- Step 1: Identify main objectives and your community(ies) of focus.
- Step 2: Plan for the assessment
- Step 3: Collect & Analyze Data
- Step 4: Report Findings & Identify Solutions
- Step 5: Evaluate your Efforts

# SAMPLE TIMELINE

• Preparatory Phase: Prior to starting a rapid community assessment, get buy-in from the leadership of your health department, coalition, or organization for conducting the assessment and creating a plan for action. Early awareness and support from leadership makes it more likely findings will be put to good use in planning and guiding vaccination efforts.

#### • Week 1: Planning and Buy-In

- Identify main objectives and your community(ies) of focus.
- Identify and form assessment team.
- Review existing data.

### SAMPLE TIMELINE

#### • Week 2: Implementation and Analysis

- Use decision tool to identify data collection methods.
- Conduct data collection.
- Synthesize key findings across different tools—identify interventions for prioritization.

#### • Week 3: Report Findings and Plan for Action

- Write report (narrative, one-page summary, slide presentation).
- Share/report out assessment results with the assessment team and wider community (e.g., department of health officials, healthcare providers, and other stakeholders).
- Prioritize solutions and develop implementation plans.
- Evaluate your efforts and plan for future community engagement.



# STAY SAFE-CONTINUE TO MITIGATE!!