

# COVID-19 Vaccine Outreach

MONTHLY NEWSLETTER



## LEARNING OPPORTUNITIES

### Webinars:

Improve Care for People with Disabilities  
(Earn free CE.)

[Learn more and register here.](#)

Date: March 13, 2023  
1:00-2:00 p.m. ET

Cultivating Gen Z as Partners for  
Healthier Communities

[Learn more and register here.](#)

Date: March 21, 2023  
2:00-3:00 p.m. ET

Healthy People 2030: The Importance of  
Preventive Services and Lessons  
Learned from the Pandemic

[Learn more and register here.](#)

## The Impact of COVID-19 on People with Disabilities

The COVID-19 pandemic and efforts to slow its spread have brought several social, economic, and overall health impacts for communities nationwide. [Early in the pandemic, people from disabled communities faced challenges such as increased barriers to healthcare, information, and support systems.](#) The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention ([CDC](#)) [states](#), "most people with disabilities are not more likely to become infected with or have a severe illness from COVID-19. However, some people with disabilities might be more likely to get infected or have a severe illness because of underlying medical conditions, congregate living settings, or systemic health and social inequities."

Over time, [COVID-19 continues to highlight gaps in accessibility for people with disabilities.](#) As states ease vaccine requirements and mask mandates, companies phase out flexible work policies, and federal funding for pandemic-response measures wane, millions of people who are vulnerable to COVID-19 due to a disability, are urging government officials to make permanent systematic changes to help make employment, healthcare, housing, social environments, and schooling more accessible for all. For example, according to a 2022 "Data For Progress" [survey](#), 57% of disabled people believe masks should be required on public transportation, and 64% think masks should be required on planes.

**"All we're really asking for is for a masking policy that will allow us to be able to go to the store, to go to the doctor, go get the mail, without risking our health. One-way masking does not work, and no one seems to care outside of our community " - [Jay Justice, Director of LGBT HQ](#)**

Researchers predict that the number of disabled people in the U.S. will increase as more people get infected with the virus. According to a [2022 study released by the CDC](#), one in five adults under 65 who had COVID is experiencing at least one health condition that could be considered long COVID. In addition, as the number of people infected with the virus increases, so will the number of survivors coping with post-COVID conditions. If you or someone you care for are at [higher risk](#) of getting very sick from COVID-19, [take steps to prevent getting sick.](#)

### Additional Resources

- [COVID-19 Resources & Information for People with Disabilities](#)
- [Disability considerations during the COVID-19 outbreak](#)
- [Guidance for Direct Service Providers](#)
- [List of COVID-19 Resources for People with Disabilities](#)

Visit [Vaccines.gov](#) to find out where to get the nearest vaccine and booster. For information on the COVID-19 vaccine, testing, guidance, and resources visit [swflvaccine.org](#).

March 2023

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HPC HEALTH PLANNING COUNCIL OF SOUTHWEST FLORIDA  
HEALTH FOCUSED COMMUNITY DRIVEN



## LEARNING OPPORTUNITIES

### Interactive Workshop:

Date: March 30, 2023  
8:45 a.m.- 12 p.m. ET

Program Planning Basics: Laying the Foundation for Success

[Learn more and register here.](#)

Marketing Public Health

[Learn more and watch here.](#)

STAY  
HEALTHY,  
SUNSHINE

COVID VACCINE. YOUR BRIGHTEST BET.

## Resources

### COVID-19 Vaccination

#### Clinical Resources

- [CDC Report](#): Racial and Ethnic Differences in COVID-19 Vaccination Coverage Among Children and Adolescents Ages 5-17 Years and Parental Intent to Vaccinate Their Children
- [ProviderBridge.org](#) provides up-to-date information on emergency regulation and licensing by state as well as a provider portal to connect volunteer health care professionals to state agencies and health care entities.
- [Rural Health Clinic Vaccine Distribution \(RHCVD\) Program](#). Under the program, Medicare-certified RHCs will receive direct COVID-19 vaccines in addition to their normal jurisdictions' weekly allocation.
- [One Stop Online for COVID Prevention and Treatment in Every County](#). Visitors to the site can enter their county and map nearby locations for masks, respirators, vaccines, boosters, and all testing and treatment options.

#### Promotion/Patient education materials

- Health Planning Council of Southwest Florida [COVID-19 Resource](#) website
- Health Council of Southeast Florida [Stay Healthy Sunshine Campaign](#) website
- **\*Updated\*** "We Can Do This" [communications materials](#)
- **\*NEW\*** [The Public Health Learning Agenda Toolkit](#): Facilitate deeper, more robust stages of learning that can increasingly impact systems change
- [National Resource Center](#) for Refugees, Immigrants and Migrants creates COVID-19 communications materials in 40+ languages.
- [Reaching Farm Communities for Vaccine Confidence](#) provides information and training on injury and disease related to agriculture. Their health professionals and educators created a social media toolkit that aims to provide clear messages about COVID-19 vaccination for agriculture, forestry, and fishing workers.
- [Talking Health: A New Way to Communicate About Public Health](#) provides new research-based tools to help health professionals communicate more effectively about public health, strengthen community partnerships, and improve health outcomes.