Reflections on the COVID Response

Who attended the Arizona Rural Health conference?

- **290**
- **312 total**

- 22 or 7% attendees were from out of state

**Types of Agencies Represented at the 2022 Arizona Rural Health Conference**

- **STATE (30%)**
- **MEDICAL (22%)**
- **EDUCATION (20%)**
- **NGOS (14%)**
- **TRIBAL (7%)**
- **OTHER (6%)**
- **FEDERAL (1%)**

2022 Arizona Rural Health Conference Representation by County

THE UNIVERSITY OF ARIZONA
MEL & ENID ZUCKERMAN COLLEGE OF PUBLIC HEALTH
Center for Rural Health
Strengths, Improvements, and Recommendations for COVID-19 Response across Rural Arizona

**Collaboration 21%**

Both intra- and inter-agency collaboration seen as a strength of the COVID-19 response across rural AZ.

**Individuals/Groups 19%**

Specific individuals or groups of individuals played a crucial role in pandemic response.

**Human Factors 14%**

Various human factors seen as a strength during pandemic response across rural Arizona.

**Communication 12%**

Communication as the fourth highest strength for pandemic response. Participants shared generally but also information sharing.

**Strengths - 243 comments**

- Community Partnerships
- Teamwork
- Support Groups
- Medical Personnel
- Community Health Workers
- Family
- Culture
- Positive attitudes
- Adaptation
- Resilience
- Innovation
- Information sharing
- Communication
Strengths, Improvements, and Recommendations for COVID-19 Response across Rural Arizona

**Recommendations - 117 comments**

- **Streamline funding and make spending less restrictive. Increased availability of trainings in preparedness.**
- **Build relationships and trust with community members and a more supportive leadership. Cultural competency needed among leaders.**
- **Reduce misinformation, improve delivery of health information, consistent and continuous messaging throughout the pandemic.**
- **Establish emergency protocols & a chain of command system for pandemic preparedness and response. Require emergency preparedness trainings for medical personnel.**

**Resources 37%**

- Trainings
- Funding
- Streamlined process

**Human Factors 13%**

- Trust building
- Cultural competency

**Communication 12%**

- Delivery of health information
- Continuous Messaging

**Policy 10%**

- Emergency protocols
- Chain of Command
- Emergency preparedness training
Strengths, Improvements, and Recommendations for COVID-19 Response across Rural Arizona

**Improvements - 170 comments**

- **Resources 24%**
  - Improve availability of resources for future pandemic responses

- **Communication 22%**
  - Improve communication efforts during the pandemic response and beyond

- **Policy 14%**
  - Improve policies regarding pandemic preparedness

- **Accessibility 11%**
  - Improve accessibility of services and resources during the pandemic for underserved