

PROGRAM SUMMARY

CDC COVID-19 Health Disparities Grant

Key Impacts:



This program successfully identified elements that constitute barriers for specific populations and communities when accessing health information and redesigned materials based on recommendations from both subject matter and design experts to remove these impediments. Advanced Care Planning documents are now available to Arizonans in multiple formats, following accessibility best practices. These include materials in “easy-to-read and plain” language, braille, recorded audio, and recorded video in American Sign Language with closed captioning options in Diné, Spanish, and English.



Advance Care Planning

Program Description:

This program revised AzHHA’s advance care planning (ACP) program documents to ensure that they are accessible as well as culturally and linguistically appropriate for use in educating underserved communities in rural Arizona, particularly those with chronic health conditions who experience acute or long-term effects of COVID-19 and who may be at high risk for COVID-19 complications, morbidity, and mortality

Program Goals:

- ▶ Increase awareness of Advanced Care Planning (ACP).
- ▶ Increase the successful access and utilization of ACP forms.
- ▶ Increase the submission of completed ACP forms to Contexture, administrator for the Arizona Healthcare Directives Registry (azhdr.org)



CDC COVID-19 Health Disparities Grant Strategies:

Strategy 1: Expand existing and/or develop new mitigation and prevention resources and services to reduce COVID-19-related disparities among populations at higher risk and that are underserved.

Strategy 4: Mobilize partners and collaborators to advance health equity and address social determinants of health as they relate to COVID-19 health disparities among populations at higher risk and that are underserved.



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Milestones:

- ▶ Collaborated with the Foundation for Blind Children to create templates for several braille documents related to advance care planning: Prehospital Medical Directive “DNR”; AZ Living Will and MPOA/MHOA Short Form; National POLST Form (AZ Version).
- ▶ Redesigned and updated AzHHA documents to better incorporate accessibility design principles: ACP: Advance Care Planning – 5 Steps and ACP: Questions for Your Provider.
- ▶ Contracted with a healthcare attorney group and partnered with Contexture to create a sample ACP policy for Arizona hospitals.
- ▶ 211 community members received accessible ACP educational materials directly; these were then accessed by countless others via multiple dissemination methods including social media, webpages, and radio.



Stepping into the future:

Recognizing challenges in disseminating critical resources across some tribal areas within the state, AzHHA will continue to collaborate with the Arizona Attorney General’s Office to identify and implement effective approaches to ensure that ACP forms and education reach all Arizona tribal populations.



Partnerships developed or strengthened:



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Arizona Advisory Council Indian Health Care (AACIHC)
 Arizona Attorney General’s Office
 Arizona Center for Rural Health
 Arizona Commission for the Deaf and the Hard of Hearing
 Arizona Community Health Workers Association (AzCHOW)
 Arizona Coalition to Transform Serious Illness Care

Arizona End of Life Care Partnership
 Coalition to Transform Advanced Care
 Contexture
 Direct Advocacy and Resource Center
 Foundation for Blind Children
 Governor’s Council on Blindness and Visual Impairment (GCBVI)
 Recorded Recreational Reading for the Blind

Primary



Health Equity SDOH Primary Area of Impact:

Secondary



Education
 Employment
Health Systems and Services

Physical Environment
 Public Safety
Social Environment
 Transportation

Tertiary



Housing
 Income and Wealth



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