



Community Voices: How State Policymakers Can Advance Health Equity

May 12, 2022

Agenda

- Welcome & Housekeeping
- Background
- Community Leaders: Recommendations & Lessons Learned
- Q&A

Zoom Webinar Participant Controls

Chat Box: Open *Chat* to send messages to the host, panelists, and attendees.



You can choose to chat only the panelists, or all panelists and attendees.

To: All panelists ▾

Your

- ✓ All panelists
- All panelists and attendees

Raise Hand: Press *Raise Hand* to indicate you have a question and would like to ask out loud.



Question & Answer Box: Open the Q&A window to ask questions to the hosts and panelists. We'll either reply back to you directly or answer your question live.



Background

- Methods for [Community Voices: Recommendations to State Policymakers for Advancing Health Equity](#):
 - Structured interviews with leaders from 50 state- and community based nonprofit organizations
 - Literature review
- We asked:
 - What are the top equity issues impacting communities of color in America?
 - What are possible solutions to address those issues within health policy?

Community Voices

“People writing the policy are so far removed from the needs of those facing inequity.”

“...we have seen shortages of service providers across the Indian Health Service and tribal and urban Indian Health organizations that have left people without timely care”

“A lot of people who do the health care work have anti-Blackness built into them. It’s the culture.”

“The last administration caused a lot of stress and many [immigrants] do not want to visit the clinic or apply for public benefits.”

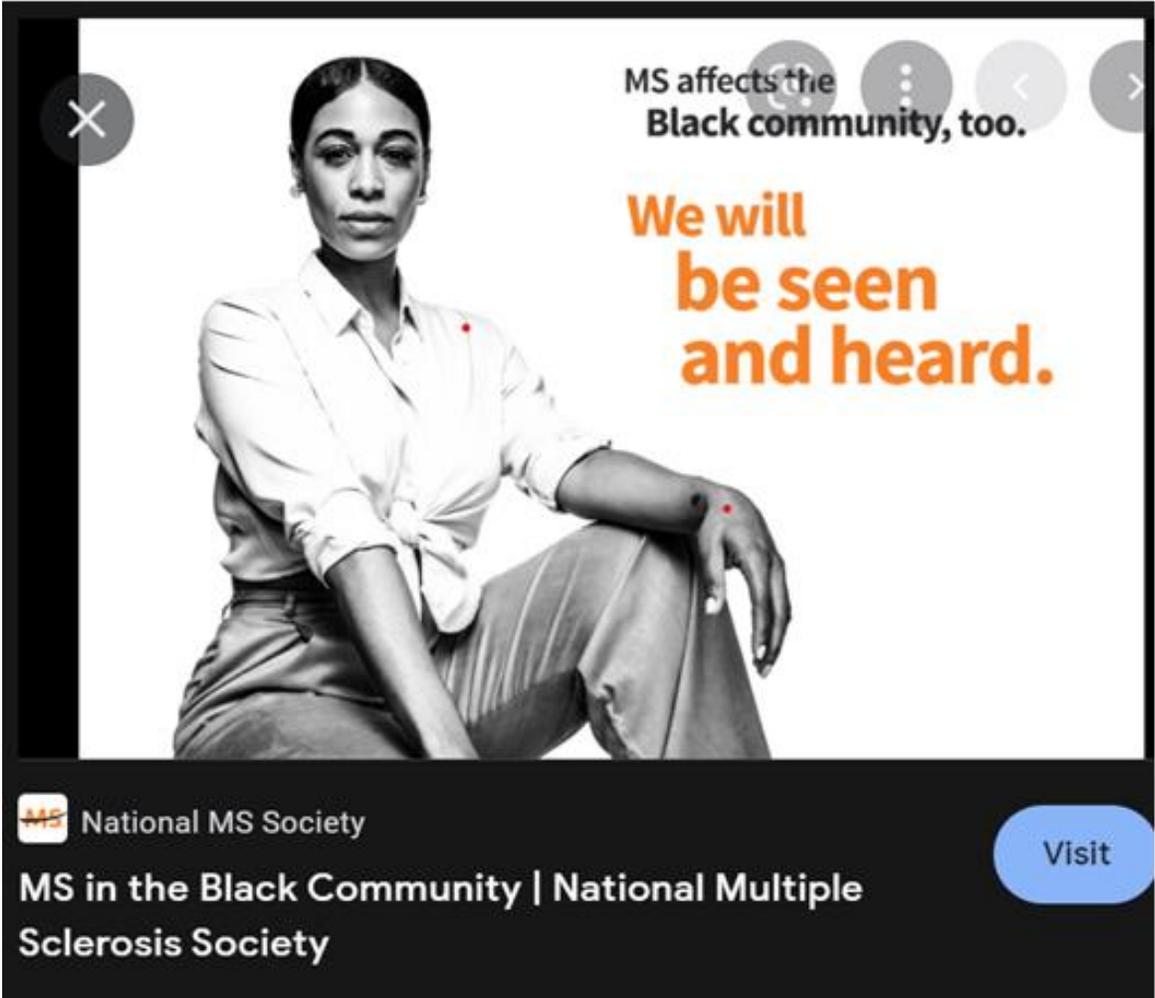
“People lost loved ones who seemed healthy days before. Loved ones were ill and passed without anyone being there to comfort them.”

“Kids have no access to inpatient mental health care because these facilities aren’t equipped to handle these kids, and they are coming out worse than how they went in.”

Key Themes

- 1. Equip community organizations to work for equity.**
- 2. Mobilize to fight racism and bias.**
- 3. Address disparities through research and measurement.**
- 4. Provide equitable access to coverage.**
- 5. Provide equitable access to care.**
- 6. Implement and expand culturally competent behavioral health care.**
- 7. End inequities generated by health systems that have ramifications beyond health.**

Mobilize to fight racism and bias: Be proactive in efforts to combat racial myths that undermine health care.



MS affects the Black community, too.

We will be seen and heard.

National MS Society

MS in the Black Community | National Multiple Sclerosis Society

Visit

Theme: Mobilize to Fight Racism and Bias:

States should fully integrate community health workers (CHWs) into care teams

Gabriella Barbosa, The Children's Partnership

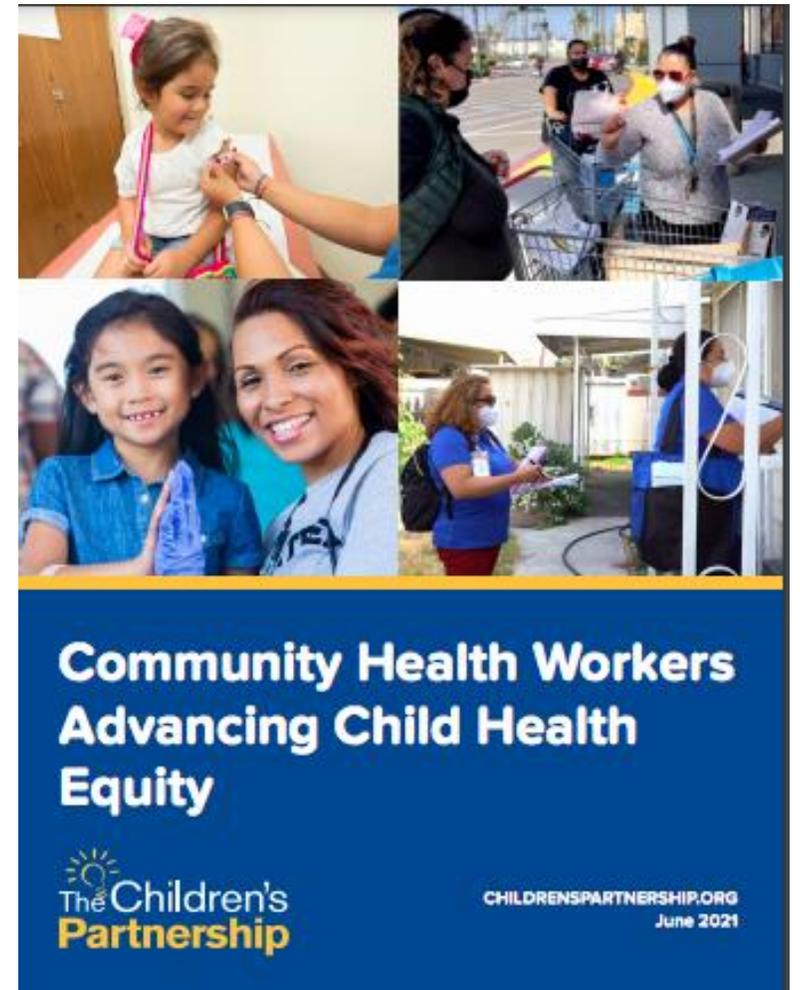
Child Health Equity



All children—regardless of their race, ethnicity or place of birth—should have the resources and opportunities they need to grow up healthy and thrive

Policy Brief Key Takeaways & Recommendations

- CHW/Ps play a critical role in protecting and improving the health of children, and provide various services and care that support their physical, mental, and social-emotional health.
- CBOs are an integral component of the CHW/P workforce and integration into children's primary care.
- All children and families enrolled in Medi-Cal should have access to a range of CHW/P services across various social, emotional, physical and mental health issues.



CHW/P statewide policy successes

[California Department of Health Care Services Comprehensive Quality Strategy](#)

[Medi-Cal's Strategy to Support Health and Opportunity for Children and Families](#)

[California Community Health Worker Preventive Services State Plan Amendment](#)



CHW SPA Draft Language

Incorporation of child-focused language –

- **Definition** - Broad definition of individuals who can be served by the new benefit
- **Supervision** - Supervision includes community-based organizations
- **Child-focused services** - Language includes services specific to child health and development
- **Services can be provided anywhere** - Services can be provided outside of clinical setting – schools, homes, early learning and care spaces
- **Includes a wide range of services for children and families**- including accessing the health care system, connecting to community resources, creating care plans, conducting screenings, helping enroll in government programs, and providing individual support and advocacy.

Continued CHW/P advocacy

- CHW Preventive Services SPA Provider Manual
- CHW training and recruitment stakeholder workgroup
- current \$350 million General Fund budget allocation in this year's budget to recruit, train, and certify 25,000 new community health workers by 2025 in areas such as climate health, homelessness, and dementia - missing child health and development
- Future legislation focused on CHWs & children's primary care

Theme 4: Provide Equitable Access to Coverage – WA victory
Lee Che Leong, NOHLA

WA's Health Equity for Immigrants Campaign

Multi-year campaign of community leaders, health care providers and advocates who have come together to work to improve access to affordable health care and coverage for all Washingtonians.

Guided by a community-informed approach, we prioritize equitable access for individuals who are uninsured and underinsured due to immigration status restrictions.



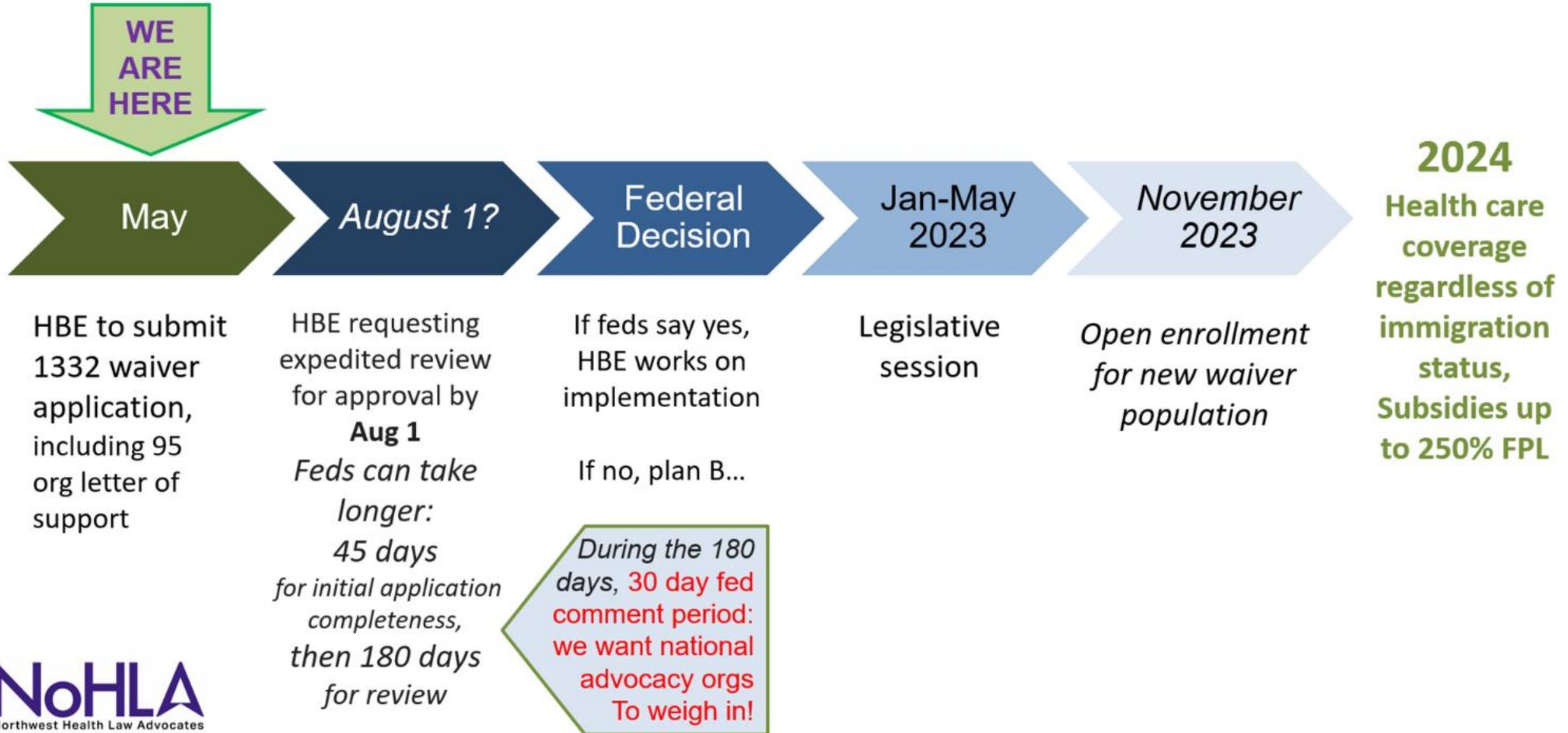
American Civil Liberties Union (ACLU) of Washington
Asian Counseling & Referral Service (ACRS)
Columbia Legal Services, Legal Voice
Washington Immigrant Solidarity Network (WAISN)

Health Coalition for Children & Youth
Health Care is a Human Right
Planned Parenthood Alliance Advocates
... and 100+ others

2022 wins: Washington programs in 2024

	“Medicaid equivalent” (HCA)	Healthplanfinder and subsidies (HBE)
<i>Income Level</i>	0-138% FPL	All can purchase <i>subsidies budgeted to 250% FPL</i>
<i>Access</i>	\$0 cost share: no premiums, no co-pays	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Premium subsidy depending on income, plan chosen, and state budget• Requires 1332 waiver

Washington Timeline



Theme: Mobilize to fight racism and bias:

States should provide reimbursement for community-based doulas, midwives and culturally centered birthing practices.

Theme: Provide Culturally Competent Behavioral Health Care
Enjolie Lafuarie, Chihuapatle Collective



Our Bundles



Dignified Full Spectrum Birth Support

Through our Collective Birth Fund, the Cihuapactli Collective will provide full spectrum birth support to families & birth workers displaced by the PIMC Labor and Delivery closure as well as, families not related to the closure. Funds will be limited and may be used for:

- Advocacy support toward the payment of medical bills associated with birthing.
- Birthing options for those that would to birth at home or in a non-hospital setting.
- Support from an Indigenous Birth Worker that may not normally be included in your birth plan.
- Postpartum goods: diapers, wipes, formula, hygiene items, feminine products, face masks, etc.
- Food items such as fresh and/or dry goods.
- Financial assistance: through direct payment to third-party payors (rent/utilities/medical bills/medical support providers).

The Cihuapactli Collective will begin taking intake forms from families affected beginning on December 21st, 2020.

Funds are limited and will be available on an individual basis.

Donations can be made via our website

<https://www.cihuapactlicollective.org/make-a-donation>.

For more information, please contact our
Community Resource Advocate, Yvonne Ballesteros at
yvonne@cihuapactlicollective.org



WE THRIVE

IN COMMUNITY



Collective Birth
Fund artwork by
Yvonne Ballesteros,
Community
Resource Advocate

Lizette's Story





Mal tiox ~ Tlazocamati ~ Gracias

Thank You ~ Salamat ~ Asante

www.cihuapactlicollective.org

Resources

- [Report, Policy Recommendations & One Pager: Community Voices: Recommendations to State Policymakers for Advancing Health Equity](#)
- [Health Equity for Immigrants Campaign](#) in Washington
- [Northwest Health Law Advocates \(NoHLA\) 2022 legislative recap](#)
- [NoHLA Immigrant Know Your Rights Training](#): language access starts on slide 33
- June Black MS Experience Summit: <https://www.nationalmssociety.org/Resources-Support/Library-Education-Programs/Black-MS-Experience>
- Report coming soon: Community Voice and Equitable Policymaking: Lessons Learned from COVID-19 Vaccine Distribution
- The Children's Partnership Issue Brief: [Community Health Workers Advancing Child Health Equity](#)

Apply for the Next Health Equity Academy

- Goal of the fellowship: Cultivate a group of advocates from across the country who are equipped to pursue policy advocacy on health equity at the state, community and/or federal level over a year-long period.
- Upcoming Academy will focus on advocacy strategies to advance policies focused on the following themes from this report:
 - Diversifying the health care workforce
 - Expanding access to culturally competent behavioral health care.
- Structure:
 - Two **virtual** half-day trainings **on June 28-29**.
 - Monthly calls to maintain relationships, discuss strategies for pursuing policy advocacy on health equity in your state/community, and learn and share from one another.
- **Applications are due June 2. [Apply Here.](#)**

AAPI Heritage Month Webinar

[A Conversation with AAPI Health Advocates](#)

Tuesday, May 24, 1PM EST

In recognition of Asian American and Pacific Islander (AAPI) Heritage Month, Families USA will host a virtual roundtable inviting AAPI leaders to share their thoughts and have an open dialogue about an array of health-related topics that affect the AAPI community, including access to health services, mental health and health policy advocacy. Attendees will have an opportunity to hear from influential leaders at the local, state, and national levels who work daily to address the ongoing challenges and stigmas faced within the AAPI community. Speakers will also share resources and reflect on the strong sense of leadership, resilience and courage shown within AAPI communities, particularly during the spike in hostility towards Asian Americans with the COVID-19 pandemic.

[Register Here](#)

Thank You