

Describing Best Practices to Identify and Provide Immunizations for Uninsured Adults

Association of State and Territorial Health Officials (ASTHO)
March 2016



Project Description: Best Practices to Deliver Vaccines to Uninsured Adults

- The Association of State and Territorial Health Officials (ASTHO), in coordination with CDC, are working to identify current promising practices among immunization programs that provide vaccines to uninsured adults using Section 317 and/or state funding.



Project Need

- Vaccination rates among adults for ACIP recommended vaccines are low.
- And, vaccine coverage among adults is lower among Hispanic and African-American populations compared to non-Hispanic Whites, and is lower among uninsured persons.
- Many immunization programs have limited resources for adult immunizations and, in some cases, limited numbers of partnerships to vaccinate adults, including those that are uninsured.
- CDC funded ASTHO to lead a project to identify best practices for identifying and vaccinating uninsured adults. This information will be disseminated to help interested U.S. immunization programs in improving outreach to uninsured adults regarding immunizations.



Project Outcome

- Through this project, we hope to obtain information from immunization programs and their partners about:
 - The role the health agency and their partners play in providing vaccines to uninsured adults,
 - Approaches to identifying uninsured adult populations within the community,
 - Methods used to fund vaccine purchase, vaccine administration services, or both,
 - Successes and challenges,
 - Recommendations for other health agencies that are considering starting or changing their adult immunization program.



Project Steps

- We have reached out to 12 selected states and local jurisdictions to set up times for an interview.
- We will also reach out to state/local-recommended partners (e.g., correctional facilities, STD clinics, family practice clinics, etc.) to gain their viewpoints.



Interview Questions for Immunization Programs and Partners

- We are asking health agencies and their partners to tell us about:
 - How does the agency/organization/program provide vaccines and vaccination services to uninsured adults?
 - Who are the community partners that they utilize to assist in providing vaccines to uninsured adults?
 - How do they identify the uninsured adult populations within their community?
 - How do they monitor vaccination rates among uninsured adults?
 - How do they fund programs that provide services to uninsured adults?
 - What are the challenges and successes they have had in providing vaccinations for uninsured adults?



Next Steps

- Best practices and results from the interviews will be written up in a story format.
- Health agencies will have the opportunity to review their story prior to publication.
- The catalog of promising practices will be placed on the ASTHO website for other state health agencies to consider as they work to implement similar strategies.



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