

## State Examples of Innovative Approaches to Vaccine Access



#### **Innovative Approach to Vaccine Access**



**District of Columbia's** mayoral office worked closely with the DC Office of Aging and Community Living, the DC Department of Health, and community-based organizations (CBOs) to use available data to identify communities where there had traditionally been low access and low information about healthcare. They targeted those communities through a proactive door knocking campaign called Senior Vaccine Buddies. Trained staff knock on doors and share information about the vaccine, schedule appointments in real time, arrange transportation, and call with appointment reminders.

#### **Addressing Racial Equity**

**North Carolina's** rural counties have fewer providers, are historically marginalized, and will be targeted under this grant. They are also collaborating with United Way 2-1-1 and Lyft to offer vouchers for transportation support.





**Kentucky's** ADRCs will conduct targeted outreach to the aging population with special emphasis on rural, minority populations, with lower incomes and limited English.

Massachusetts's Executive Office of Health and Human Services has launched a Vaccine Equity Initiative to increase awareness and acceptance of the vaccine and access to vaccination sites in the 20 communities hardest hit by the virus, with a focus on Black, indigenous, and Latinx populations, as well as people with limited English capacity, people with disabilities or mental illness, and people who are homeless or lack access to transportation.



#### **Partnering with Faith-based Organization**

**Arkansas** recognized that some cultural groups have lower confidence in the vaccine. The state plans to reach out to faith-based organizations to capitalize on the trust they have with their communities, especially African Americans, to spread vaccination awareness.





**Oregon** ADRCs contract with local community and faith-based organizations to provide direct services, increasing the number of vaccinated individuals and the impact of existing resources available.

### **Providing In-home Vaccinations**

**Arizona** plans to provide transportation access and in-home vaccinations for some of the 20% of seniors residing in rural communities across their state.





**Ohio's** Regional Rapid Response Assistance Program (R3AP) leverages partnerships with local partners to build upon existing service delivery structures and teams of regional experts to provide vaccine access. They have worked across these partnerships to offer homebound vaccination visits and developed Ohio's Homebound Vaccination Playbook to plan vaccinations for those who need additional support.

# **Leveraging Innovative Transportation Approaches**

**Michigan** has coordinated with AAAs and the Department of Health to provide a mobile unit to provide vaccinations to individuals who are earmarked for vaccinations, but lack access to transportation. They have had 150 older adults sign up to receive their vaccine at the mobile site.





**Georgia's** ADRC/NWD partners are working with the coordinated transportation partners and other fee-for-service transportation providers to ensure that LTSS recipients have transportation to and from vaccine sites.

If you want to learn more from your ADRC COVID Grant Peers, check out this resource of NWD State/Territory Leads.