Vaccine Hesitancy in People Living with Disabilities

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Defining Disability

ASTHO uses the CDC’s definition of disability:

A disability is any condition of the body or mind (impairment) that makes it more difficult for the person with the condition to do certain activities (activity limitation) and interact with the world around them (participation limitation)
Factors Contributing to Hesitancy

- Vaccine misinformation
- Lack of accessibility
- Previous trauma
- Unknown interactions with health conditions
Accessibility - Web

• Assess baseline website accessibility
• Eliminate administrative barriers to scheduling vaccination appointments
• Strive to achieve existing standards for website accessibility
• Field-test web pages with people living with disabilities, disability advocates, and organizations representing people living with disabilities
• Provide effective communications and alternative ways to access essential information
• For additional resources on web accessibility: https://cidi.gatech.edu/
## Accessibility – Points of Distribution

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<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Listen</strong></td>
<td>Listen to, know, and partner with the community</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Provide</strong></td>
<td>Provide disability training to vaccination site staff</td>
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<td><strong>Plan</strong></td>
<td>Plan for all scenarios at each stage in the vaccination process</td>
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<td><strong>Create</strong></td>
<td>Create workarounds to get the job done</td>
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# Building Trust

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<th>Establish strategic partnerships</th>
<th>Share personal stories</th>
<th>Offer one-on-one conversations</th>
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<tr>
<td>Work transparently</td>
<td>Provide home-based vaccinations</td>
<td>Elevate community leaders</td>
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Why I Got the Vaccine: A PSA Series

The reason we got vaccinated
Additional Resources

- ASTHO Brief: Reducing Vaccine Hesitancy for People Living With Disabilities
- ASTHO Brief: Website Accessibility: Enhancing Access to COVID-19 Vaccine Registration and Beyond
- ASTHO Brief: Expanding Vaccination Site Accessibility
- Why I Got the Vaccine: A PSA Series on Vaccination for People Living with Disabilities and Their Caregivers
- COVID-19 Vaccines: Barriers, Motivators, and Trusted Sources of Information for Individuals with Disabilities in the State of Alaska
Discussion Questions

• What challenges related to vaccine hesitancy have you experienced in your community?
• What partners or resources can you leverage to address these challenges?
• How can you tell a story of vaccine confidence in your community?
• How can you use vaccine hesitancy data to drive your approach? What other data would be useful for you to have?