

To our Clinical Network: Proposed Budget Reductions to RH Program Funding

As many of you know, Governor Brown requested that all state agencies put forward proposed budget reduction plans to address the anticipated significant loss in state revenue as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic.

We want to assure you that our first priority is to ensure that there are no cuts to client eligibility, covered services, or payments to providers. Additionally, we do not anticipate any cuts to funding for PE 46.

However, the reduction in our budget means we will need to consider delaying or reducing expenditures for other special projects. As we know more over the coming weeks, we will share our thoughts and decisions. If you have any question or would like to discuss this further, please don't hesitate to reach out to us.

Thank you for all you do. We know that you continue to do more with less and we appreciate your ongoing commitment to ensuring that Oregonians have access to high-quality reproductive health care.

Important Reminder – National Voter Registration Act (NVRA) Requirements

While we know that these are difficult times, please remember that all RH Program agencies, including CCare-only agencies, **must** comply with National Voter Registration Act (NVRA) requirements. This includes the requirement that clinics report the number of voter registration forms mailed to a county elections office, even if that number is zero. These reports must be filed at least monthly with the Secretary of State. They are due the 15th of the following month. **If no cards were mailed, you must report zero.** We continue to hear from the Secretary of State, Elections Division that they are missing reports from many sites over many quarters. For more information about NVRA requirements, including links to associated forms, please click on the link for 'Notice of Privacy Practices, Voter Registration, and Out of State Birth Certificate Requests' here: healthoregon.org/rhclientenrollment[?].

If you are unsure of your agency's NVRA site number or have additional questions, please contact Emily Elman at emily.l.elman@dhsosha.state.or.us[?].

RH Program Staff Changes

Over the past few months three RH Program staff have moved on – Karol Almroth and Linda McCaulley to retirement and Liz Gharst to a new job opportunity.

Karol Almroth

Karol started working in the Oregon RH Program in 1993, back when it consisted of a single Family Planning Grant and a small handful of staff. She's served in a variety of roles since then, and has "grown up" with the program as a respected colleague and valuable team member. In the most recent past, she conducted program billing audits and helped manage the Title X family planning grant.

Karol retired on April 1 (a previously planned date) and is currently enjoying retirement by staying home. She does, however, hope to enjoy a variety of activities, including travel, in the future.

Linda McCaulley

Linda, one of our Reproductive Health Program's nurse consultants, retired May 1st. She plans to remain busy on her family's farm, raising Boer goats and chickens. She also hopes to do some traveling (when it is permitted ☺) and spend more time with her grandchildren.

"I have had a wonderful time working with my co-workers. They are some of the most dedicated people I have had the opportunity to work with, ensuring access to RH services. It is these individuals who I have worked alongside I will miss the most."

Liz Gharst

Liz, our former Reproductive Health Multimedia Specialist, accepted a job in the Office of the State Public Health Director as the Social Influences on Health Strategist. Part of her work is the implementation the State Health Improvement Plan (SHIP), which she helped develop. The majority of her new role is to build an agency-wide strategy to address the social determinants of health and she will take over leadership of the cross-agency Social Determinants of Health Workgroup.

Join us in wishing these wonderful colleagues the best of luck!

Health Equity

New Grant Opportunities from the Society of Family Planning Research Fund

The Society of Family Planning Research Fund is offering two new funding opportunities to support early career scholars of color and trainee scholars in producing impactful research in the field of family planning: 2020 Changemakers in Family Planning and Emerging Scholars in Family Planning.

The 2020 Changemakers in Family Planning application, due June 17, 2020, has the goal of responding to institutionalized racism in the science of family planning by providing dedicated support to scholars of color.

The Emerging Scholars in Family Planning application, also due June 17, 2020, is a grant designed to help trainees establish a family planning research portfolio.

See the [2020 Changemakers in Family Planning application](#)[↗]

See the [Emerging Scholars in Family Planning application](#)[↗]

Trainings

Free Webinar: Providing Trauma-Informed Care in Family Planning Clinics (June 2nd, 12:00-1:00)

The Family Planning National Training center is hosting a webinar focused on practical ways that family planning providers can implement trauma-informed strategies in their practice. During this webinar, Dr. Sheela Raja will provide an overview of the prevalence of traumatic events and how trauma history may impact engagement in family planning services and appointments. Dr. Raja will then discuss the benefits of a universal trauma precautions approach, as well as the benefits, limitations, and considerations associated with trauma screening in family planning settings. Dr. Raja will provide actionable tips and strategies to sensitively interact with trauma survivors.

Register [here](#)[↗]

Resources

A Look at Online Platforms for Contraceptive and STI Services during the COVID-19 Pandemic

The Kaiser Family Foundation released a new issue brief, “A Look at Online Platforms for Contraceptive and STI Services during the COVID-19 Pandemic.” It provides an overview of options available for the online management of sexual and reproductive health services during the current global pandemic and discusses the opportunities and limitations of these platforms in terms of availability and cost.

Read the [brief](#) [↗]

New RH Program Clinical Provider COVID-19 Resources Page

In an effort to be helpful while not adding to the COVID-19 noise, we created a RH Program Provider COVID-19 Resource Hub webpage. It includes our guidance on remote enrollment into RH Program coverage and service provision, links to OHA COVID-19 resources, telemedicine resources, equity resources, and resources for health centers and direct service providers.

See the [Program Provider COVID-19 Resource Hub webpage](#) [↗]

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