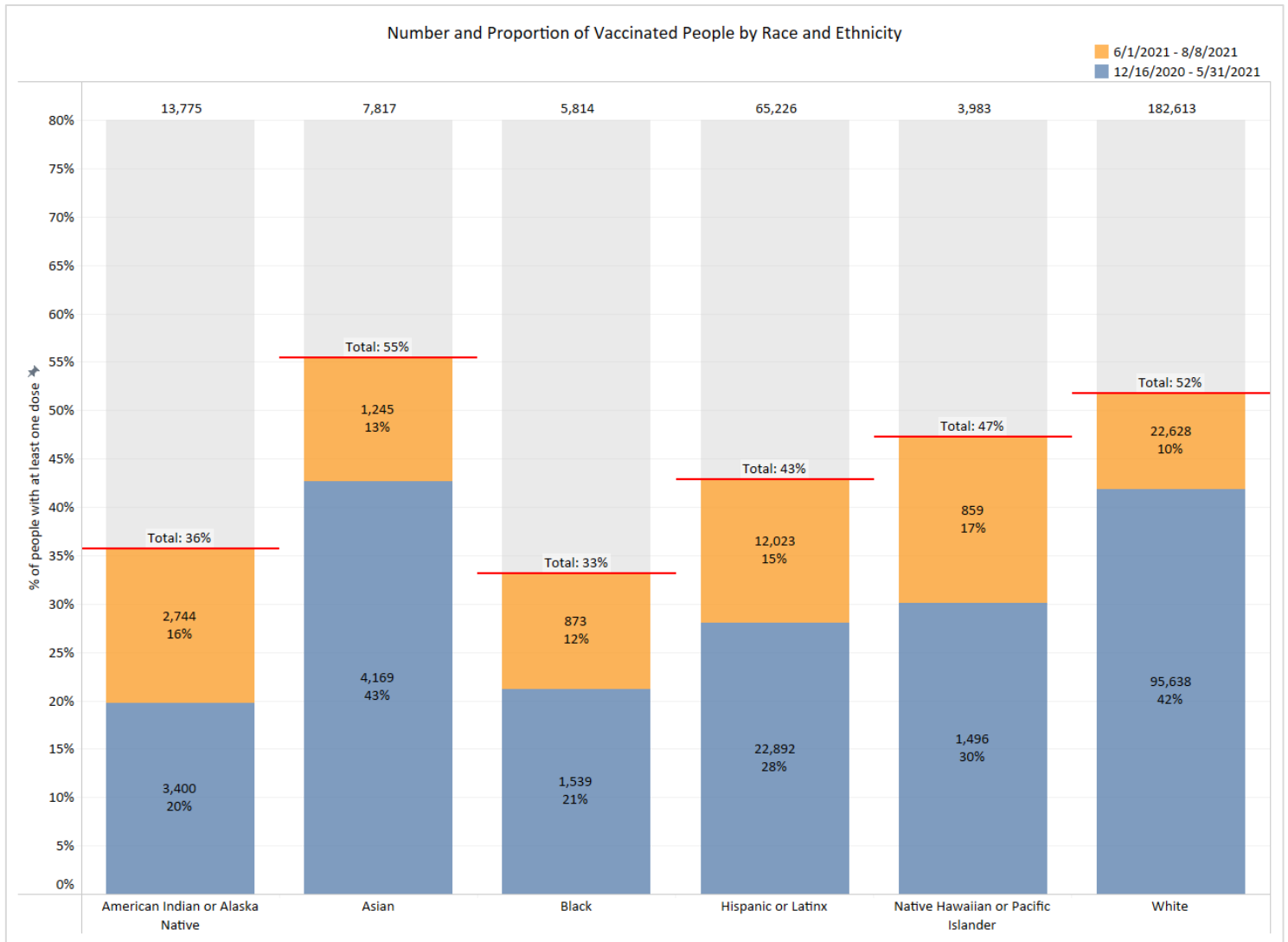




Marion County Health & Human Services Equity Plan Update 8/31/21

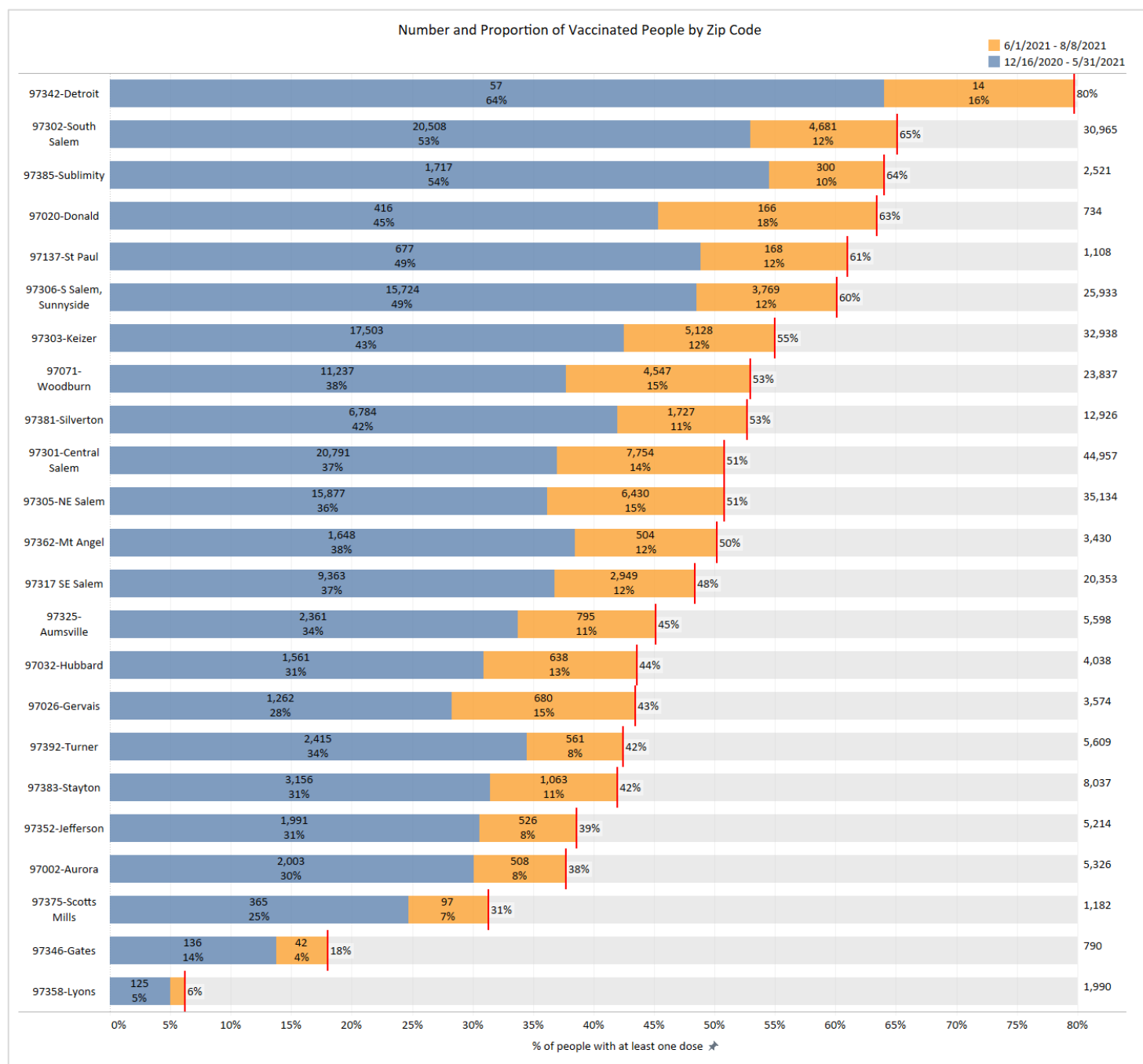
1. Please review the jurisdiction's response to questions #1 and #2 in the accepted equity documentation, as well as recent race/ethnicity data. Provide a status update on the progress the LPHA and its partners have made to eliminate vaccine access barriers and implement plans to close vaccine equity gaps among specific racial and ethnic populations. Please be specific, provide an example of work about which the LPHA and its partners are particularly proud, and describe any tangible impacts in the community.



Update to Question 1: Marion County has been working to eliminate vaccine access barriers. The chart above shows the increase in vaccine administration by race and ethnicity, with the red bar showing progress since the implementation of the Equity Plan. Every category realized an increase in vaccine administration, with significant gains in American Indian or Alaska Native and Native Hawaiian or Pacific Islander categories. Efforts to increase vaccination rates and close equity gaps are ongoing.

As part of closing the equity gap, Marion County LPHA also monitors vaccination rates by zip code, especially in areas that have been disproportionately impacted by Covid-19. Since June 1, 2021, impacted areas have seen steady

progress toward vaccine administration. Specifically, 97071 Woodburn, 97301 Central Salem, and 97305 NE Salem had some of the largest gains among zip code areas.



Success has been achieved by engaging a number of community sectors, including health care providers, community-based organizations, faith organizations and employers. By making vaccine available in a variety of settings at locations, days, and times that are convenient, we have been able to improve vaccine access to impacted populations. In collaboration with mobile vaccine providers and community-based organizations, vaccine clinics have been held on evenings and/or weekends at these locations:

- Farmworker housing complexes
- Churches serving Spanish-speaking families
- Community food bank in high Latinx population zip code
- City park in high Latinx population zip code
- Local schools

- Chemeketa Community College
- Grocery stores in areas with low vaccine rates and high Latinx population
- Multi-community soccer tournament
- City park in Zip Code with low vaccination rates and high Latinx and Pacific Islander populations
- Agriculture employers
- Other summer events, such as a Latinx focused youth art show
- Vaccine education and outreach to Marion County Housing Authority residents
- Local pharmacy vaccine events targeted to BIPOC individuals

Marion County LPHA partnered with FEMA, OHA and Yakima Valley Farmworkers Clinic FQHC to bring the FEMA Mobile Vaccine Unit (MVU) to Marion County. The MVU is located at Gervais High School for a period of 4 weeks. The site offers 7 day/week walk-in appointments on evenings and weekends, a mobile unit serving farmworkers, local events and other venues as needed, and Peace Corps volunteers conducting door to door outreach in disproportionately impacted communities to improve vaccine confidence and promote the MVU clinic.

Marion County LPHA provides bi-weekly COVID-19 updates on Radio Poder, a popular local Spanish radio station, in partnership with the City of Woodburn. Additionally, the county has partnered with local CBOs and Polk County to run a regional immunization campaign in Spanish through Univision.

Although providing vaccines at smaller venues and events can be more labor intensive than mass vaccination clinics, we have been able to reach individuals experiencing barriers and/or vaccine hesitancy. For example, Marion County partnered with Falck Ambulance and Catholic Community Services to offer vaccines at Fun Friday in the Park, a family event in Northgate Park in Salem. This event highlighted the importance of making vaccines available at convenient locations and times. The smaller venue allowed individuals to have questions answered and improve vaccine confidence, resulting in vaccination. During this event, several individuals indicated they decided to get vaccinated because they saw how easy and convenient it was. One individual got vaccinated because there was an interpreter available. A group of young people in their early 20s learned more about the vaccine and decided to get vaccinated.

Update to Question 2: Marion County and its partners remain committed to addressing vaccine inequities and gaps in the community. In addition to the targeted vaccine clinics highlighted in Question 1, and ongoing collaboration with community-based organizations, faith groups, medical providers and other entities to bring vaccine to the individuals they serve, Marion County has recently contracted with 6 organizations that will provide the following services:

- Phone outreach to Latinx households'
- Door-to-door outreach to those unable to be reached by phone;
- Outreach, marketing and education for Latinx families and minority-owned businesses;
- Communication materials to promote Covid-19 vaccines and vaccine events;
- Transportation to and from vaccine sites, including accessible transportation;
- Culturally responsive, low-barrier access to vaccination with an emphasis on reaching populations experiencing inequity; and
- Assistance with health system navigation.

Efforts to ensure vaccine access to homebound individuals is ongoing. When the LPHA learns of a homebound individual in need of vaccine through Northwest Senior and Disability Services, DHS Aging and People with Disabilities (APD) or other means, we work to connect them with a provider who can come to their home and administer the vaccine. We also work as needed to connect recently incarcerated adults with boost doses when they are released from the correctional system.

2. *Please review the jurisdiction's response to question #6 and provide an update on the LPHA and its partners' work to address the vaccine needs of migrant and seasonal farmworkers in the jurisdiction and share the outcomes of these efforts.*

Update: Marion County LPHA continues to coordinate worksite vaccine clinics for agriculture employers, including those who employ migrant and seasonal farmworkers. A number of vaccine clinics have been held at farmworker housing and in coordination with organizations such as PCUN and Mano a Mano that serve farmworkers and their families. LPHA has also worked with providers to offer vaccines with farm labor contracting businesses. When possible, single dose vaccine has been used. When a 2-dose vaccine is used, the provider follows up with boost doses at the appropriate interval. The FEMA Mobile Vaccine Unit is located in Gervais from mid-July to Mid-August and has been available for newly arriving migrant and seasonal farmworkers coming to work on mid-summer harvests.

In addition to this ongoing work, LPHA has a process for employers to request a worksite vaccine clinic, which is promoted through CBOs, business groups and other community partners.

3. *The pandemic has demonstrated and elevated the structural barriers that perpetuate health inequities. To dismantle those structural barriers in the long-term so that health equity can be achieved across all populations statewide, transforming how public health works with communities to engage in multi-directional communication and dialogue with, share power with and center in decision making communities most affected by those inequities is essential.*
 - a. *Please provide an example of feedback the LPHA and its partners received from a community experiencing vaccine inequities, how the LPHA and its partners worked collaboratively with the community to address the feedback and then shared back with the community the outcome or resolution.*
 - i. After several months of weekly vaccine clinics at Centennial Park in Woodburn, a community with a high Latinx population, the number of individuals accessing the park for vaccines began to slow. Leaders from Latinx serving CBOs suggested offering vaccines outside of the Mega Foods grocery store in Woodburn, where many Latinx families in the community shop. A vaccine event was held there, and at Mega Foods in Salem. Events were promoted to the communities and held on Sunday afternoons, with both events having good response.
 - ii. In the Spring, members of the Marion County Covid-19 Response Team held a listening session with local leaders representing the African American community. We learned that their community was experiencing barriers to accessing vaccine at the mass vaccination sites. The result was a block party offering vaccines, hosted by Seeds of Faith Ministry in Salem, targeting the African American community and individuals in the 97301 Zip Code.
 - b. *Please provide an example of how the LPHA and its partners have shared power with and centered the communities experiencing inequities in decision making to determine strategies to increase vaccine access for communities.*
 - i. Throughout the pandemic, the LPHA has been gathering feedback and collaborating with community partners that serve populations and geographical areas experiencing inequities, in order to increase vaccine access for communities.

1. For example, Marion County has been working in partnership with two organizations that serve the Asian Pacific Islander communities. Leadership from those organizations helped to coordinate events, translated written materials, and worked along side LPHA and vaccine providers to ensure events were culturally appropriate and allowed for easy vaccine access for members of their community. Back to school events offering vaccine are scheduled for August and September.

Marion County Mobile Vaccine Clinics, June-August 2021

Vaccines administered by various mobile providers

Date	Location	Populations Served (All individuals eligible to receive vaccine with appropriate parent/guardian consent when applicable)	Zip Code
3-Jun	Woodburn Centennial Park Drive	Latinx	97071
3-Jun	Recovery Outreach Community Center	Individuals in recovery; Individuals displaced by wildfire	97360
4-Jun	Swegle Elementary	Families; Latinx	97301
4-Jun	Salem Family Building Blocks	Families	All County
5-Jun	Truitt Bros, Salem	Agriculture employees	97301+
6-Jun	Mega Foods- Woodburn	Latinx	97301
7-Jun	Washington School- Woodburn	Latinx	97301
8-Jun	McNary High School	Keizer	97303
8-Jun	Valor School- Woodburn	Latinx	97301
8-Jun	AWARE Food Bank	Latinx	97301
9-Jun	Salem Spanish Seventh Day Adventist Church	Salem Area; Latinx	97305+
9-Jun	Heritage School- Woodburn	Latinx	97301
10-Jun	Woodburn Centennial Park	Latinx	97301
11-Jun	Four Corners Elementary School	Families	97301
11-Jun	Hallman Elementary NE Salem	Families	97301; 97305
11-Jun	Middlegrove Elementary	Families	97305+
12-Jun	Free Methodist Church - NE Salem	Latinx	97305
12-Jun	Keizer Pride Fair	LGBTQ	97303
13-Jun	Mega Foods- Woodburn	Latinx	97071
14-Jun	Luz de Valle Church	Latinx	97303
15-Jun	Gervais High School	Latinx	97026
17-Jun	Woodburn Centennial Park Drive	Latinx	97071
17-Jun	Aumsville Food Pantry	Individuals displaced by wildfire	97325
17-Jun	Woodburn Downtown Plaza	Latinx	97071
18-Jun	Hoover Elementary - NE Salem	Families	97301
18-Jun	Hayesville Elementary - NE Salem	Families	97305
18-Jun	Salem Pride Celebration	LGBTQ+; Salem area residents	97301+
19-Jun	State Street Soccer Fields - SE Salem	Latinx	97301
19-Jun	Woodburn Presbyterian Church	General; Latinx	97071
19-Jun	Chemeketa, Salem	General; Latinx	97301; 97305
19-Jun	Nuevo Amanicer	Farmworkers and Families	97071+
19-Jun	Juneteenth	African American	97301+
23-Jun	Stayton Farmer's Market	General	97383
24-Jun	Woodburn Centennial Park	Latinx	97071
25-Jun	Swegle Elementary	Families	97301
25-Jun	Lamb Elementary School	Families	97301; 97305
25-Jun	Blanchet School	Families	97301; 97305
26-Jun	State Street Soccer Fields	Latinx	97301

26-Jun	East Salem Community Center	Families	97301; 97305
27-Jun	Mega Foods- Woodburn	Latinx	97071
29-Jun	McNary High School	Keizer	97303
29-Jun	HOME Youth Shelter	Greater Salem Area Homeless youth	97301+
1-Jul	Woodburn Centennial Park	Latinx	97071
2-Jul	Hallman Elementary School	Families	97301;97305
2-Jul	Washington Elementary School	Families	97301
6-Jul	Gervais High School	Families	97026
7-Jul	1st Free Methodist Church	Latinx	97305
9-Jul	Hayesville Elementary School	Families	97305
9-Jul	Houck Elementary Schookl	Families	97301
10-Jul	Woodburn Presbyterian Church	General; Latinx	97071
10-Jul	Mega Foods- Salem	Latinx	97305
10-Jul	Recovery Outreach Community Center	Individuals in recovery; Individuals displaced by wildfire	97360
16-Jul	Lamb Elementary School	Families	97301; 97305
16-Jul	Chavez Elementary School	Families	97301; 97305
16-Jul	Northgate Park	Families	97301
17-Jul	Mega Foods Salem	Latinx	97301; 97305
23-Jul	Washington Elementary School	Families	97301
23-Jul	North Salem High School	Families	97301
24-Jul	Mega Foods- Salem	Latinx	97301; 97305
30-Jul	Houck Elementary School	Families	97301
30-Jul	Washington Elementary School	Families	97301
30-Jul	North Salem High School	Families	97301
31-Jul	Mega Foods- Salem	Latinx	97301; 97305
31-Jul	LUS Art Fair Salem	Latinx; Salem-Keizer Area	97301+
3-Aug	Marion County Housing Authority, National Night Out--provided education	Housing Authority Residents	97071; 97352
6-Aug	Chavez Elementary School	Families	97305; 97301
6-Aug	Washington Elementary School	Families	97301
6-Aug	North Salem High School	Families	97301
7-Aug	Hoopla Basketball Tournament	Event participants and spectators	All County
7-Aug	Mega Foods- Salem	Latinx	97301;97305
7-Aug	Fiesta Mexicana	Latinx	97301
9-Aug	Stayton High School	Families	97383
12-Aug	Jefferson School District	Families	97352
13-Aug	Washington Elementary School	Families	97301
13-Aug	North Salem High School	Families	97301
14-Aug	Mega Foods- Salem	Latinx	97301; 97305
17-Aug	Integrated Supports for Living, Inc.	Employee clinic. Staff provides congregate care and support to individuals with disabilities	All County
18-Aug	First Free Methodist Church	Latinx	97305
20-Aug	Washington Elementary School	Families; Latinx	97301

20-Aug	North Salem High School	Families	97301
21-Aug	Mega Foods- Salem	Latinx	97301; 97305
21-Aug	Micronesian Islander Back to School event	Micronesian Pacific Islander	All County
28-Aug	Santiam Hospital	Individuals displaced by wildfires	97383
28-Aug	Marion County Jail Transitiion Center	Adults in custody	All County
11-Jun to 23- July	Marion County Health Department	Boost dose clinic for general public; Recently incarcerated adults	97301+
14-Jul to 18-Aug	FEMA Mobile Vaccine Unit	Community near Gervais also provided mobile teams to attend events and provide vaccine for migrant seasonal farmworkders	97326
28-Aug	Wildfire Benefit Event- Stayton	Individuals displaced by wildfires	97383
Ongoing	Medical Teams International	Provides vaccines along with other services in Salem and Woodburn	97071; 97301
Ongoing	Homebound Individuals	Homebound Individuals	All County