

# Maximizing COVID-19 Vaccination among People Experiencing Homelessness: Federal Technical Assistance Resources

Oregon Statewide Unhoused Response & Recovery Network Meeting

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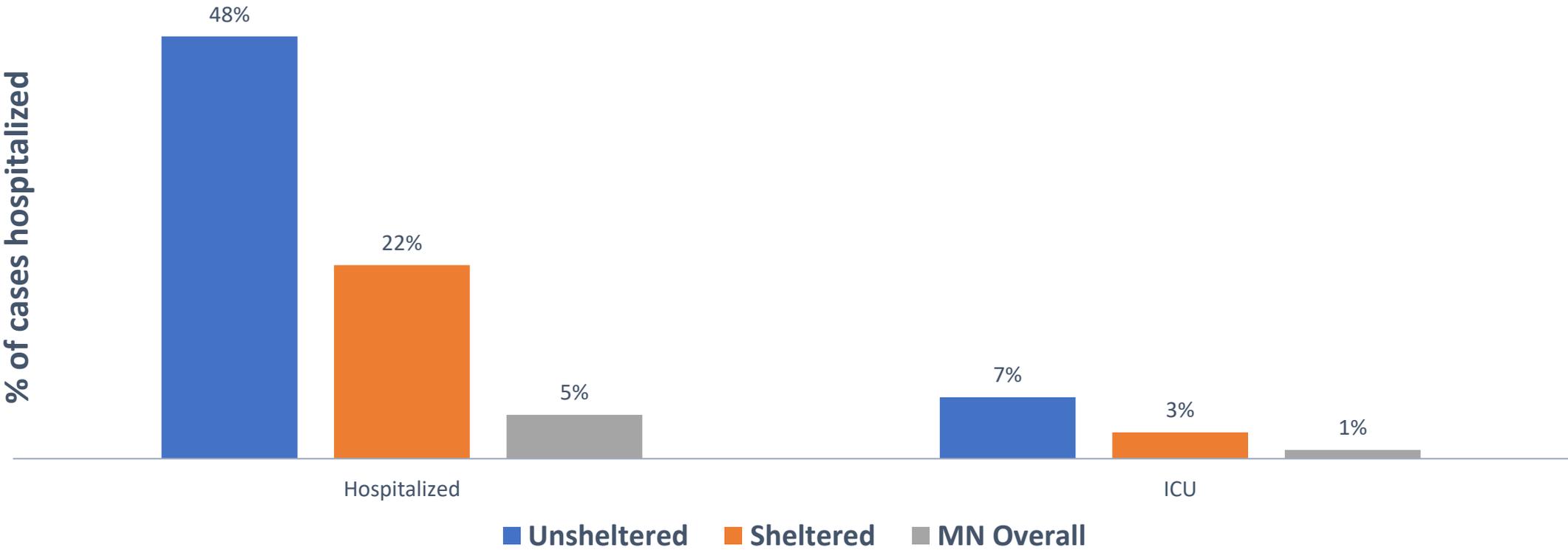
Gilvar Consulting

# Preparing now to maximize COVID-19 vaccination among people experiencing homelessness (PEH)

- Common challenges for states and local communities
  - Overall distribution plans are very fluid
  - Public health dept bandwidth constraints for coordinating with CoCs and shelter providers
  - Bottlenecks
  - Confusion about prioritization policies and distribution schedules
  - Vaccine hesitancy, particularly within Black and other historically disenfranchised communities
- Need for proactive and coordinated planning
  - Community distribution planning should account for a range of risks and barriers for PEH
  - Short runway to conduct intensive logistics planning for service providers
  - Accelerating vaccination coverage while guarding against service denial for people who have not been vaccinated

# PEH are hospitalized at a much higher rate than all Minnesotans.

COVID-Related Hospitalizations through January 21, 2021



# Steps communities can take now

- Review [HUD](#) and [CDC](#) guidance specifically addressing vaccination strategies
- Use HUD guidance checklists to organize planning agendas and meetings that include:
  - Local homeless services leaders
  - Public health officials
  - Community health providers (HCH and other FQHCs)
  - Pharmacies and other agencies critical to rapid vaccine distribution
- Create plans that specifically address challenges around:
  - Barriers experienced by PEH in accessing vaccination and other healthcare services
  - Logistics
  - Communication, especially around vaccine confidence
  - Prioritization policies

# HUD technical assistance document examples

- Brief guidance documents and checklists:
  - [Questions to Assist CoCs and Public Health Authorities to Plan and Prepare for Vaccine Distribution](#)
  - [Vaccination in Congregate Settings: Event Types and Considerations](#)
    - Includes transportation and other logistics planning for expediting vaccination of clients at a clinic, pharmacy, or mass vax site
  - [Preparing Staff for the COVID-19 Vaccine: Communication and Confidence Checklist](#)
  - [COVID-19 Vaccination Conversation Tips for Homeless Service Providers](#)
  - [Initial Vaccine Planning Data Considerations for Homeless Systems](#)
  - [Vaccine Ambassador Program and Job Description](#)
- Flyers:
  - [Why Get Vaccinated?](#) (PDF)
  - [Vaccinations are Just One Piece of Controlling the Virus](#) (PDF)
  - [People Experiencing Homelessness: Three Reasons Why You Were Given Top Priority to Be Vaccinated Against COVID-19](#) (PDF)
  - [Front Line Workers: Three Reasons Why You Were Given Top Priority to Be Vaccinated Against COVID-19](#) (PDF)
- Coming soon:
  - Bringing vaccinations to people living unsheltered