

Collaborating with Partners

December 10, 2025



Association of
Immunization
Managers

Agenda

- Introductions
- Presentations
 - Ron Balajadia, MS
 - Deepa Mavani, MPH
 - Kaitlin Roberts, MPH
- Q&A



Ron Balajadia, MS

Program Manager
Hawaii State Department
of Health



Deepa Mavani, MPH

Program Manager
Connecticut Department of
Public Health



Kaitlin Roberts, MPH

Health Program Associate
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Working with Partners in Hawaii

2025 AIM Leadership in Action Conference



Ronald Balajadia, MS
Immunization Program Manager
Hawaii Department of Health

“Show me the Money!”
or better yet
“Where is the Money?”



- Most have gotten cuts to the Core CoAg
- COVID-19 Funds were taken back
- Current Fiscal Funding environment is not so stable
- Attacks on Public Health, Immunizations in particular keep increasing



Going back to our Public Health Roots!



Public Health traditionally has various programs where community work/outreach is integral for their operations



Look into your health department to find these programs:

- Local Health Departments
- Public Health Nurses
- Maternal and Child Health programs
- Mental Health programs
- Environmental Health programs
- STI programs
- Etc.



Through the COVID-19 pandemic, we learned to
establish and/or re-establish relationships with
other partners in our community outside of
Public Health



Non-profit and For-Profit organizations doing the work in our communities:

- Healthy Mothers Health Babies
- We are Oceania
- Papa Ola Lokahi
- Project Vision
- Private Physician Offices
- FQHCs
- Hospitals/Health Systems



Again, with no to very little funds.....

Healthy Hawaii Partners Program (HHPP) established

- State coordinated, community-powered initiative
- Developing partnerships by connecting schools, healthcare providers and communities
 - Expanding access to essential health services through school-based clinics



- HHPP bridges formal healthcare systems, re-engaging individuals fallen out of care systems, and reconnecting uninsured and underserved families to a medical home



Important take aways!

- Meeting people where they are at
- Providing access to not only immunizations but other services to gain trust (being a trusted messenger)
- Trying to improve school requirements
- Creating long lasting relationships
- Trying to be creative to continue Public Health's mission



Mahalo!





Collaborating Creatively: Maximizing Impact with Limited Funding

Deepa Mavani and Kaitlin Roberts
2025 AIM Leadership in Action Conference

Connecticut Immunization Program Overview

Population¹

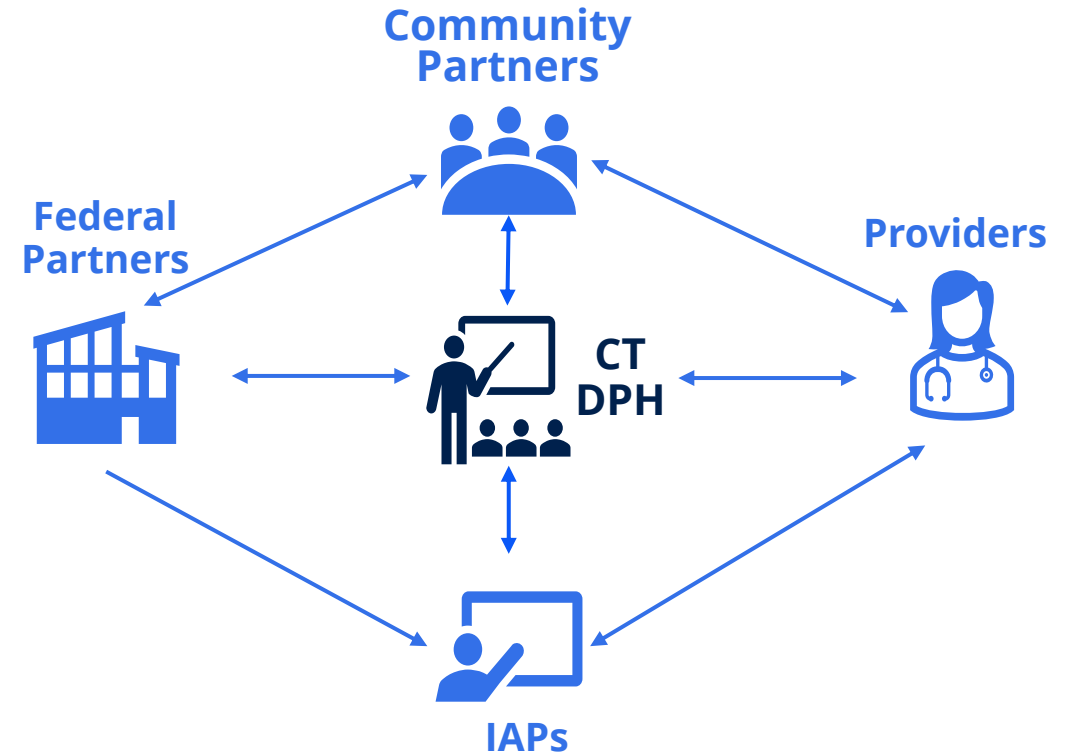
- Population: 3,598,348
- Median Household Income: \$93,760 | Poverty Rate: 10%
- Large socioeconomic diversity

Vaccine Programs

- CT Vaccine Program (CVP)
- CT Vaccines for Adults (CVFA)

Key Strengths

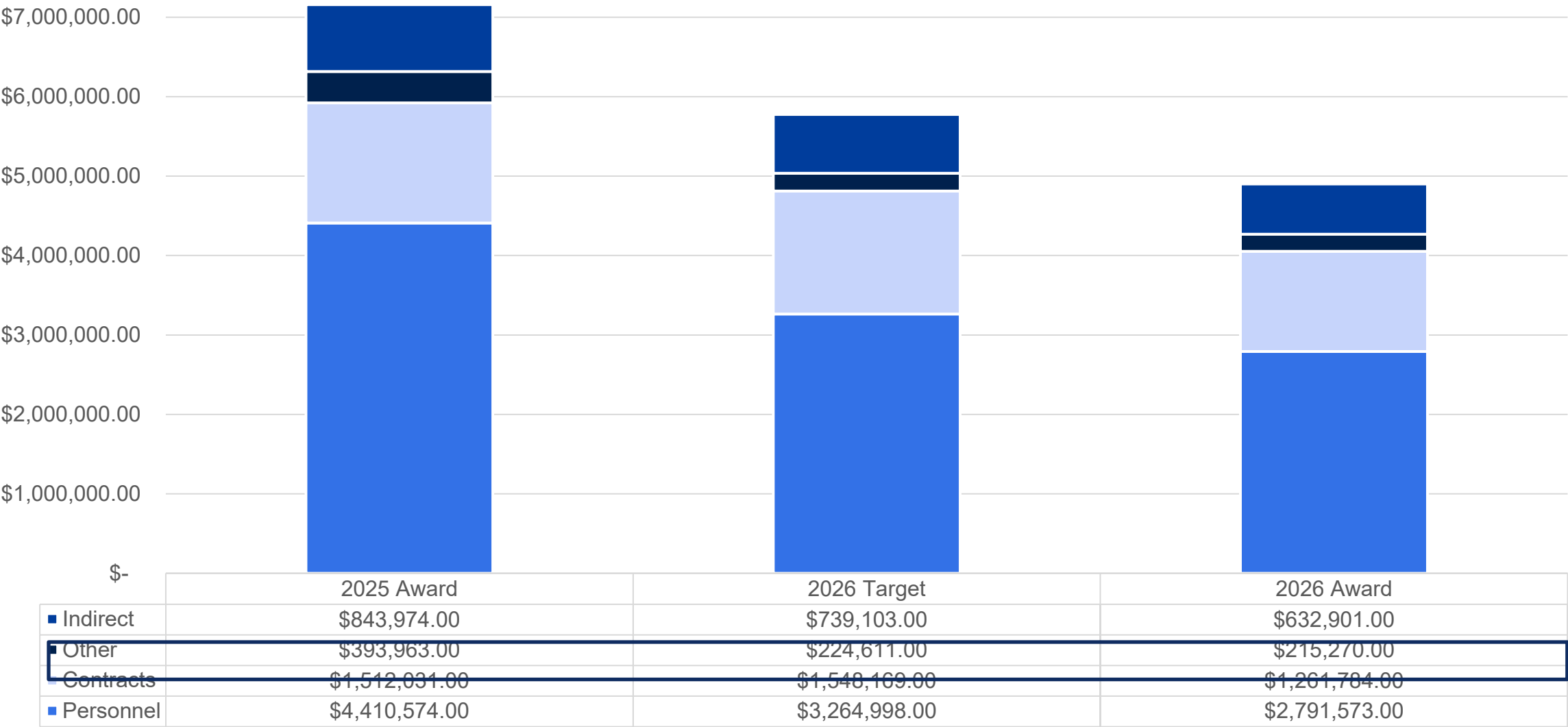
- High vaccination coverage among children and adults
- Strong, supportive state vaccine laws ensuring broad compliance
- Partnerships critical to maintain access and outreach across communities



Core Federal Funding Cuts



Core Funding Cuts Breakdown



Sustaining Contracted Partnerships Amid Funding Challenges



CT Immunization Coalition (CIC)

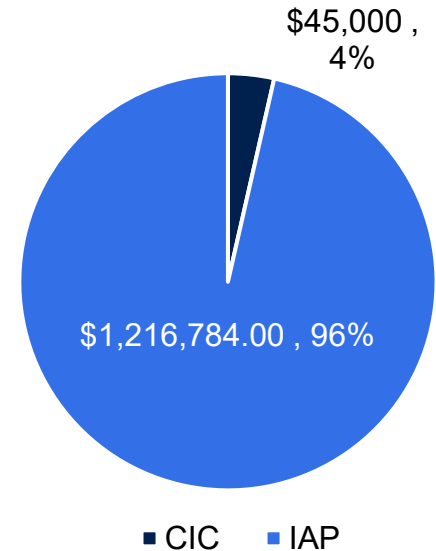
- Active for nearly two decades
- Long standing contract with the American Lung Association (ALA)
- Level-funded at \$45,000/year



Immunization Action Plan (IAP)

- Established in 1993
- Contracts with Local Health Depts & non-profit orgs
- Locations selected based on demonstrated areas of need
- Eight contracts ranging \$81,000 - \$242,000/year

Contracts



Connecticut Immunization Coalition

Mission: Empower, educate, promote awareness, and remove barriers to encourage vaccination across Connecticut communities.

Goals & Initiatives:

- Improve access to adult immunizations
- Increase adult immunization rates statewide



About the Coalition:

- Diverse membership (151) representing a broad cross-section of Connecticut stakeholders: state/local health departments, community organizations, nursing and pharmacy associations, and pharmaceutical industry.

Coalition Activities:

- Monthly member meetings
- Social media outreach and education
- Annual Conference and Spring Workshop



Sustaining Annual Events

- **Annual Immunization Conference**
 - Continuing event despite reduced funding
 - Slight increase to vendor and attendee fees in 2025
- **Annual Spring Workshop**
 - Hosted at no-cost locations to reduce expenses



American Lung Association
CONNECTICUT IMMUNIZATION COALITION

Immunizations & Respiratory Viral Disease Update

September 24, 2025 8:30 a.m. – 3:30 p.m.
Woodwinds | 29 Schoolground Road | Branford, CT

Event Agenda

Registration is \$60
Register today!
On.Lung.org/ImmunizationUpdate2025

For additional information, contact:
Michelle Caul
860-838-4370
CTCoalition@Lung.org

The flyer features a blue header with the American Lung Association and Connecticut Immunization Coalition logos. The main title is 'Immunizations & Respiratory Viral Disease Update'. The date and time are 'September 24, 2025 8:30 a.m. – 3:30 p.m.' and the location is 'Woodwinds | 29 Schoolground Road | Branford, CT'. There is a QR code for registration, which is \$60. A contact person, Michelle Caul, is listed with her phone number and email. The bottom of the flyer shows a photo of people at a meeting.



PAST CONFERENCES AND WEBINARS

[VIEW ALL Past Conferences and Webinars >](#)

American Lung Association
CONNECTICUT IMMUNIZATION COALITION

Why Are We Still Talking About Pertussis?

April 22, 2025

Why Are We Still Talking About Pertussis

[LEARN MORE](#)

American Lung Association
CONNECTICUT IMMUNIZATION COALITION

How Vaccines Work: The Immunology Underlying Commonly Used Vaccines

February 28, 2025

How Vaccines Work

[LEARN MORE](#)

American Lung Association
CONNECTICUT IMMUNIZATION COALITION

Improving the Vaccination Experience: Accessible Vaccination for Neurodiverse People at Any Age

July 20, 2023

Improving the Vaccination Experience

[LEARN MORE](#)

The section displays three past events. Each event card includes the American Lung Association and Connecticut Immunization Coalition logos, the event title, date, a brief description, and a 'LEARN MORE' link. The events are: 'Why Are We Still Talking About Pertussis?' (April 22, 2025), 'How Vaccines Work: The Immunology Underlying Commonly Used Vaccines' (February 28, 2025), and 'Improving the Vaccination Experience: Accessible Vaccination for Neurodiverse People at Any Age' (July 20, 2023). A link to 'VIEW ALL Past Conferences and Webinars' is provided at the top right.

Resource Sharing

- Annual local health flu clinic list
- Evergreen materials (posters, videos)
- [Social media](#) content and messaging
- [Coalition website](#) providing centralized access

EDUCATIONAL VIDEOS

PSA: Are you at increased risk for severe flu illness?


Vaccines Prevent Respiratory Diseases

Chickenpox

COVID-19

Hepatitis B

Influenza

 **American Lung Association.**


CONNECTICUT IMMUNIZATION COALITION

Pneumococcal pneumonia vaccination is recommended for adults 19-49 with certain underlying health conditions such as:

- Chronic lung disease
- Chronic heart disease
- Diabetes
- Chronic liver disease

Pneumococcal pneumonia vaccination is recommended for all adults 50+.

For more information visit Lung.org/pneumonia

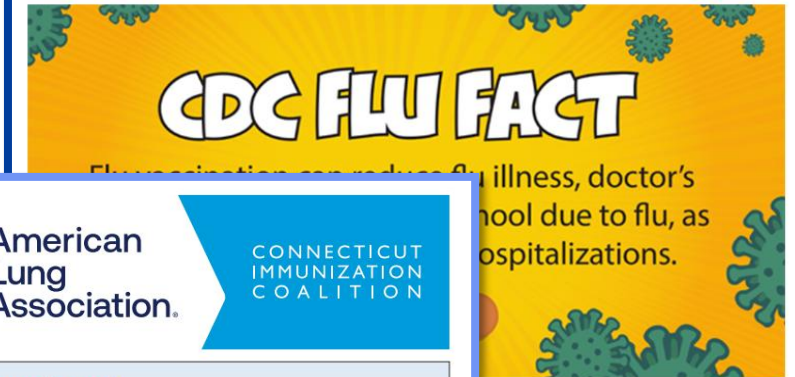


1-800-LUNGUSA | Lung.org

2025-26 CT Influenza Vaccination Clinics

Date: October 15, 2025

Read time: 2 minutes



 **American Lung Association.**

CONNECTICUT IMMUNIZATION COALITION

Did you know?

Pertussis, also known as whooping cough, is highly contagious and can cause serious illness in people of all ages.

It is spread from person to person through close contact with someone who is infected via secretions from coughing and sneezing.

Vaccination for pertussis is recommended for persons of all ages.

Talk to your healthcare provider to more about pertussis vaccination.

For more information visit Lung.org/pertussis



1-800-LUNGUSA | Lung.org

Current IAP Contracts

Goals:

- Raise immunization rates
- Strengthen vaccine confidence
- Provide local support for providers

Structure:

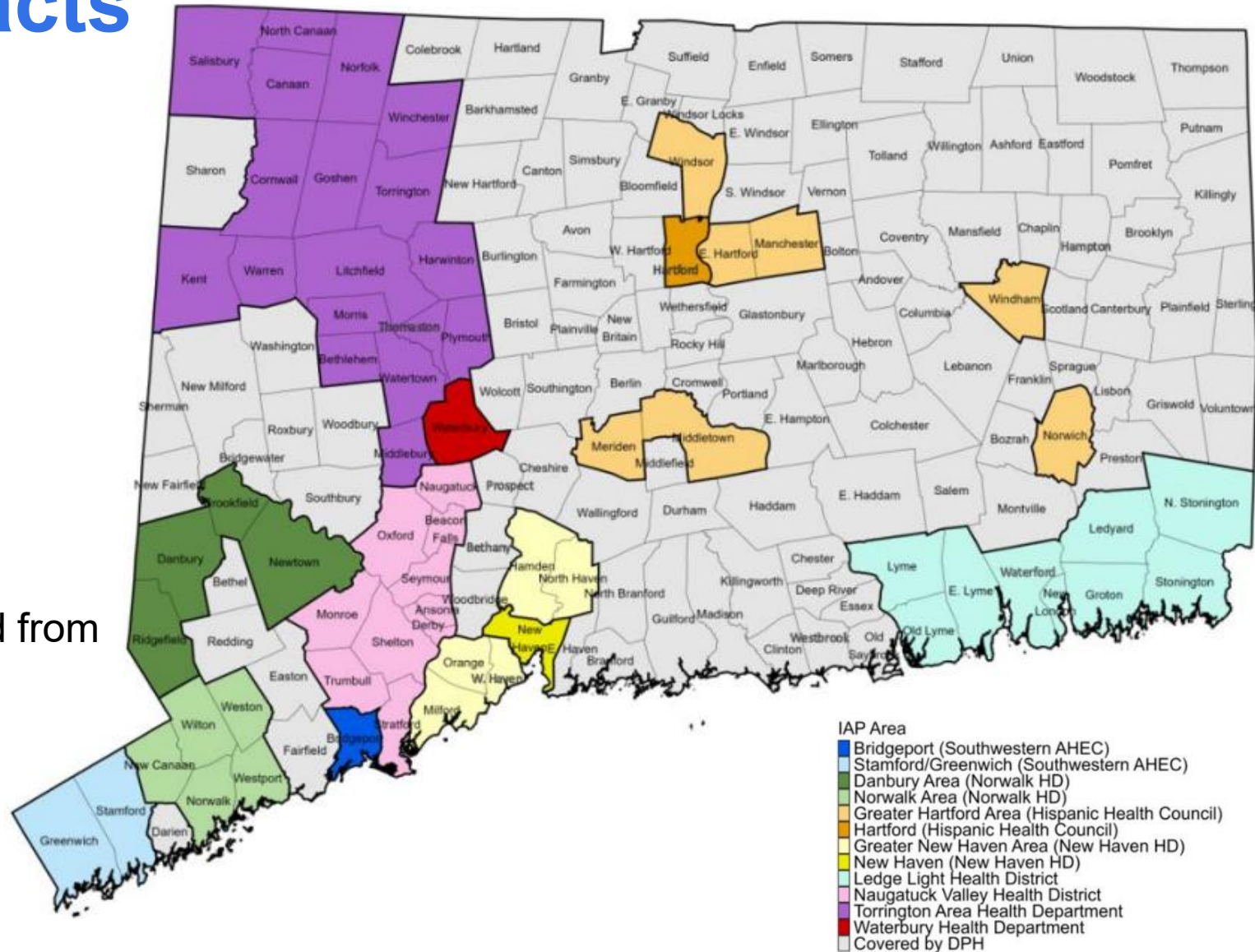
- IAP Coordinator(s)
- Outreach/Community Health Worker(s)

Funding Changes:

- Reduced # of contracts
- Communications and supplies removed from budgets

Effectiveness¹:

- Coordinators improved vaccination rates in low-SES areas
- Presence significantly lowered under-immunization risk.



IAP Strategies

Engage providers, community organizations, local health, school nurses, and other key representatives.

1. Facilitate Local Advisory Meetings



Identify under-immunized children in CT IIS and contact families to bring them up-to-date.

2. Conduct Outreach



Organize events to promote vaccination and address hesitancy

3. Community Education



Use social media and other media to dispel myths and misinformation.

4. Promote Vaccine Confidence



Collaborate with local trusted messengers to strengthen confidence in vaccines.

5. Strengthen Partnerships with Trusted Messengers



Train providers and conduct site visits for compliance and quality improvement

6. Improve Vaccine Delivery.

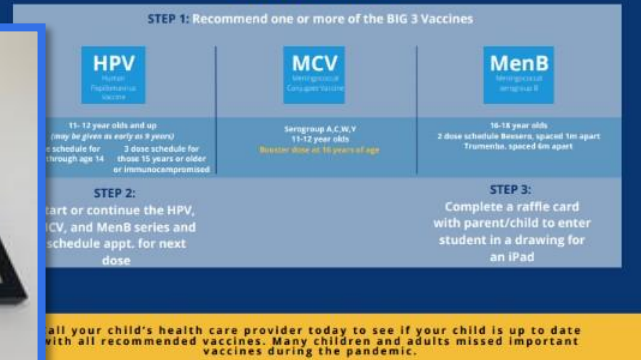
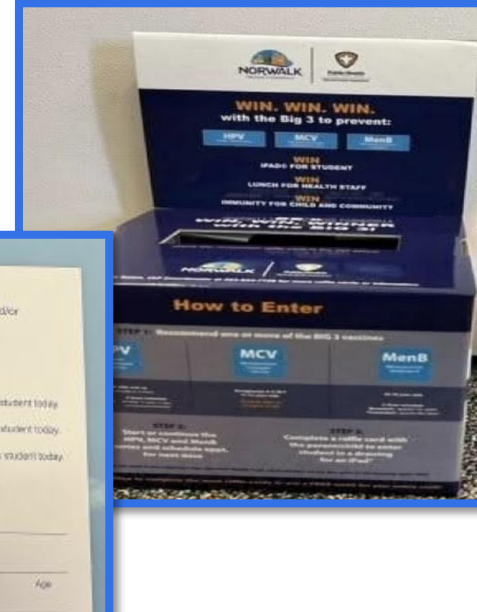


Innovative Approaches

Win/Win/Win With the Big 3

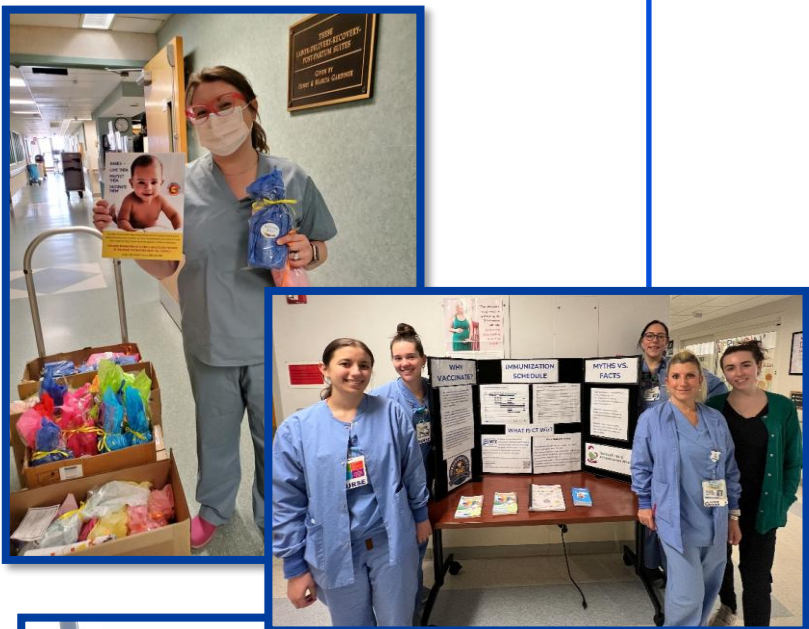
2024 Campaign results:

- 25 provider offices participated
- 2,935 children entered
- 3,228 vaccines administered
 - ✓ HPV = 1,225
 - ✓ Men ACWY = 1,050
 - ✓ Men B = 953



Local Partnerships in Action

Birthing Hospitals



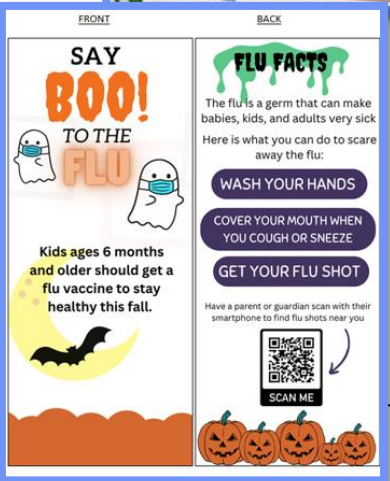
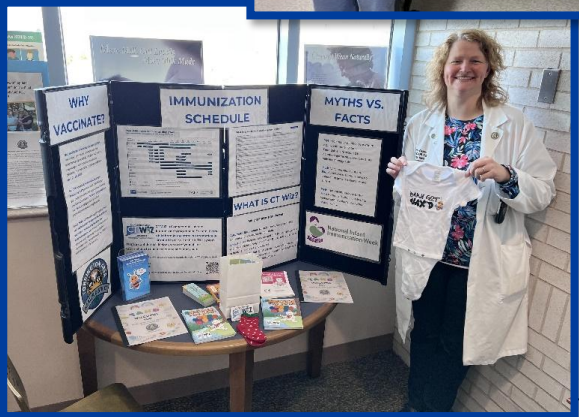
Restaurants



Community Events



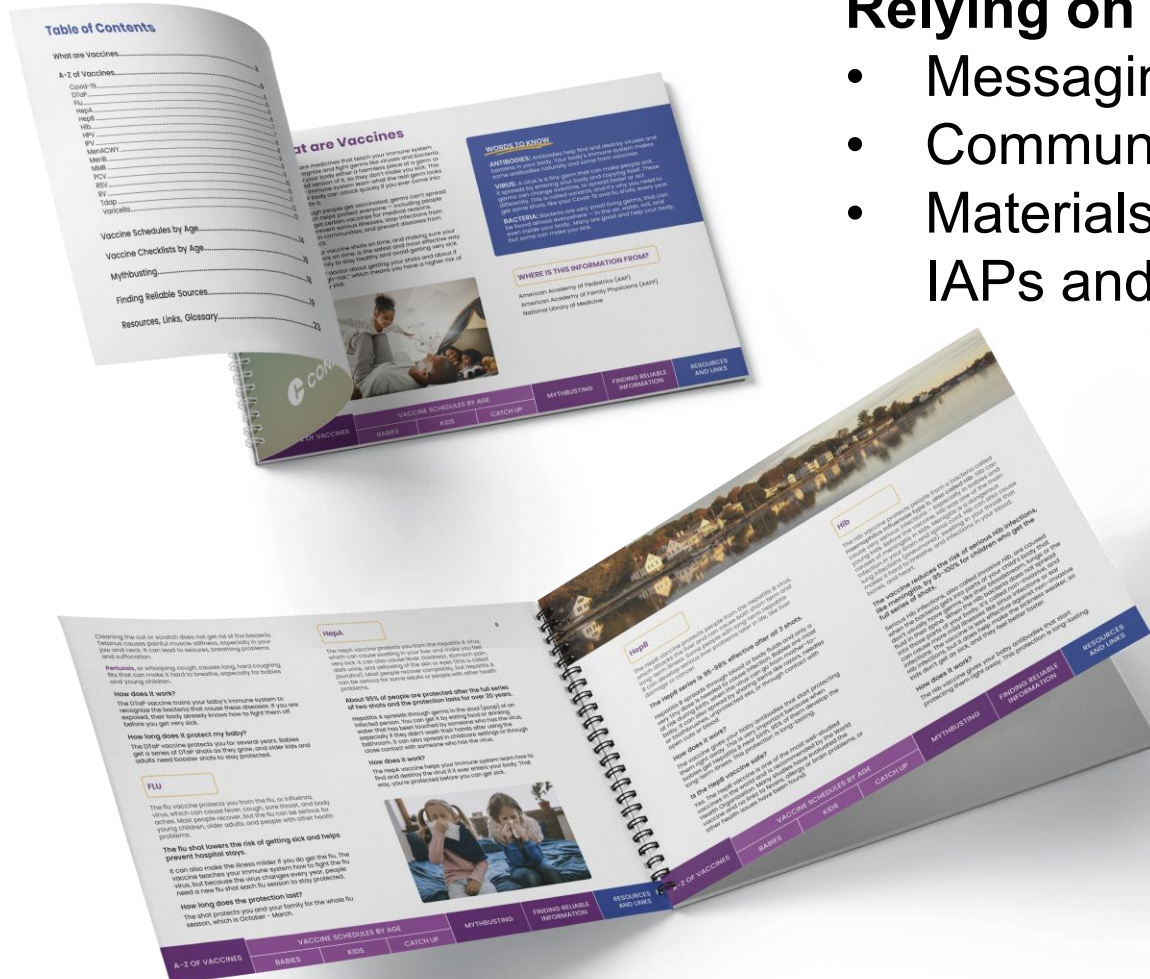
Libraries



Cut the Budget, Not the Conversation

Relying on In-Kind Resources

- Messaging matters now more than ever
- Communications removed from contract budgets
- Materials produced at the state level and shared locally by IAPs and partners



Next Steps: Strengthening Partnerships with Limited Resources

IAPs

- Emphasized trusted messenger engagement
- CoAg Strategy 3: Evaluate IAP effectiveness
- Explore new methods and data-driven targeting for outreach

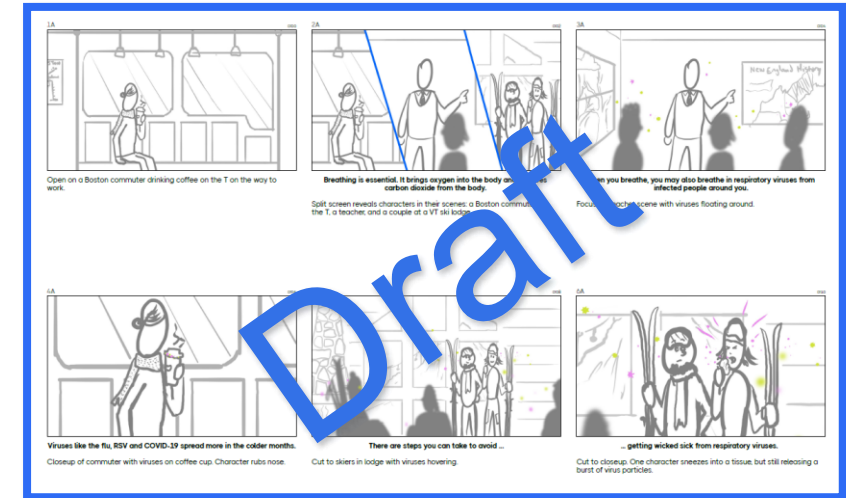


Coalition

- ALA seeking alternate funding to enhance coalition work
- Secured 1-year funding for a New England regional campaign

Other Partners

- Engage additional partners to support vaccine confidence efforts (e.g., AAP, Yale PRC, and universities and students)





Thank you!

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Q&A



immunizationmanagers.org



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Managers



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AIM Resources



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Immunization Coalition Toolkit

- Explore AIM's [Immunization Coalition Toolkit](#), a comprehensive resource that provides background on the structure and scope of current immunization coalitions. The toolkit includes examples, case studies, strategies, and tools that state/jurisdictional immunization programs can use to build, improve, or support immunization coalitions.
- The toolkit includes:
 - Reports
 - Steps to Success
 - Tip Sheets
 - Case Studies
 - Operational Examples
 - Coalition Map



AIM Adult Immunization Resources

- Explore AIM's [Adult Immunization Toolkit](#), featuring resources to support activities and strategies that immunization programs have employed to improve the delivery of adult immunizations.
- The toolkit includes:
 - 9-Chapter Resource Guide
 - Webinars
 - Regional reports

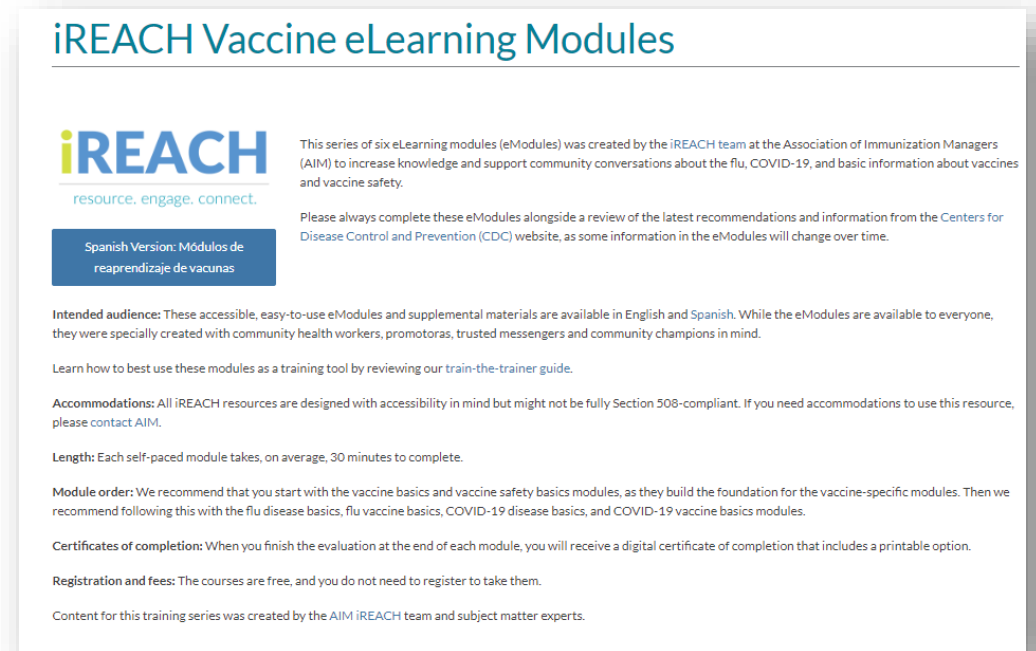


[Visit AIM's Adult Immunization Toolkit](#)



iREACH Vaccine eLearning Modules

- Series of six (6) publicly accessible eLearning modules to increase knowledge and support community conversations about the flu, COVID-19, and basic information about vaccines and vaccine safety.
- Created with community health workers, trusted messengers, and community champions in mind
- The eModules and supplemental materials are accessible, easy-to-use, and available in English and Spanish



The screenshot shows the landing page for the iREACH Vaccine eLearning Modules. At the top, the title "iREACH Vaccine eLearning Modules" is displayed. Below it is the iREACH logo with the tagline "resource. engage. connect." and a button for the "Spanish Version: Módulos de reaprendizaje de vacunas". The main text describes the series of six eModules created by the iREACH team at the Association of Immunization Managers (AIM) to increase knowledge and support community conversations about the flu, COVID-19, and basic information about vaccines and vaccine safety. It includes instructions to always complete these eModules alongside a review of the latest recommendations and information from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) website. The page also provides information on the intended audience, how to use the modules as a training tool, accommodations, module order, certificates of completion, registration and fees, and content creation.

iREACH Vaccine eLearning Modules

iREACH
resource. engage. connect.

Spanish Version: Módulos de reaprendizaje de vacunas

This series of six eLearning modules (eModules) was created by the iREACH team at the Association of Immunization Managers (AIM) to increase knowledge and support community conversations about the flu, COVID-19, and basic information about vaccines and vaccine safety.

Please always complete these eModules alongside a review of the latest recommendations and information from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) website, as some information in the eModules will change over time.

Intended audience: These accessible, easy-to-use eModules and supplemental materials are available in English and Spanish. While the eModules are available to everyone, they were specially created with community health workers, promotoras, trusted messengers and community champions in mind.

Learn how to best use these modules as a training tool by reviewing our train-the-trainer guide.

Accommodations: All iREACH resources are designed with accessibility in mind but might not be fully Section 508-compliant. If you need accommodations to use this resource, please contact AIM.

Length: Each self-paced module takes, on average, 30 minutes to complete.

Module order: We recommend that you start with the vaccine basics and vaccine safety basics modules, as they build the foundation for the vaccine-specific modules. Then we recommend following this with the flu disease basics, flu vaccine basics, COVID-19 disease basics, and COVID-19 vaccine basics modules.

Certificates of completion: When you finish the evaluation at the end of each module, you will receive a digital certificate of completion that includes a printable option.

Registration and fees: The courses are free, and you do not need to register to take them.

Content for this training series was created by the AIM iREACH team and subject matter experts.

Access [HERE](#)
AIM Homepage → Resource library → iREACH Hub



Please Complete: Evaluation

- The AIM Leadership in Action conference aims to serve our members and partners by facilitating idea sharing, leadership training, and connection.
- Please complete the session specific evaluation in the conference app now and be sure to complete the full conference survey on Thursday.
- Our goal is to make next year's conference even better. Thank you!

Complete the
evaluation for this
session in the
conference app.



Thank you!



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