



COVID-19 Resources

Does Your Non-Profit Need PPE?

If you are a non-profit, you can get discounted Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) through an agreement initiated by the PPE Working Group of the National Network of Public Health Institutes (NNPHI), facilitated by our very own Karen A. Reitan.

[Public Health Solutions \(PHS\)](#), found by NNPHI to be reputable and consistent, has established a group purchasing contract with W.B. Mason to provide partners with competitive, negotiated rates and access to PPE. W.B. Mason will manage sourcing, supplier negotiations and logistics, and quality assurance for PPE, allowing you to focus on your services and operations.

How to get started:

1. [Click here](#) to register an account.
2. Enter the PHS Member Code S00326-PHS and click Submit.
3. Enter your organization's information and set up your account details.
4. After successfully registering, you will have access to your new account and are ready to place orders!

If you have any questions, please contact purchasing@healthsolutions.org.

COVID Youth Survey: Chicago

Chicago Department of Public Health (CDPH) has seen persistent high case incidence of COVID-19 in young adults (18-29) over the past few months. To help inform policy decisions and response, CDPH seeks a better understanding of individuals in this age group, including behaviors and attitudes toward COVID-19. In pursuit of this, the CDPH epidemiology team has developed an anonymous youth survey for individuals 18-29.

It takes about 15 minutes to complete, and is publicly accessible [here](#).

The survey does not request any personally identifiable information and its results will be aggregated for analysis.

If you are a young person in Chicago between the ages of 18 and 29, please consider taking this survey. Please also share this survey with your networks, to help slow the spread of COVID-19 in Chicago and keep Chicagoans safe.

Thank you.

Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion Trainings: Under Attack

You have likely heard about the executive order which bans diversity, equity, and inclusion (DEI) trainings supported by federal funds. Many organizations and individuals in the public health and non-profit sectors have spoken out against this order, PHIMC among them, in an effort to avoid rolling back progress we have collectively made.

On October 5, 2020, Nonprofit Quarterly published [How Nonprofits Can Stop Trump's Effort to Roll Back Diversity Training](#) by Tim Delaney and David L. Thompson. The article explains:

"Since the beginning of September, the White House has unleashed a barrage of orders and instructions designed to disrupt the views of mainstream America that being informed about racial and gender diversity, equity, and inclusion is essential to the healing and well-being of the country and important for high-performing organizations."

They go on to describe what the executive order covers, what's at stake, and anticipated legal challenges, and they conclude with advice on "Moving beyond Outrage to Action." [Read the full article here.](#)

We invite you to also read the statement by PHIMC President & CEO Karen A. Reitan, [To Combat Race and Sex Stereotyping, we reject this executive order](#), if you have not already. In it, she says:

"There has long been consensus in the public health community that entrenched and systemic racism is a driving force behind the majority of America's public health crises . . . Everywhere we look, we see the impact of bigotry in opportunities denied, communities neglected, potential unrealized, and lives lost."

"Teaching people not only to understand the impact of institutionalized racism and oppression, but also how to combat it is not anti-American. It is, in fact, one of the most pro-American things we can do."

For additional background on the executive order, please visit [National Council of Nonprofits](#).

Building the Public Health Workforce

Even amidst our country's chaos, the work of PHIMC and our partners marches on.

PHIMC is delighted to manage and administer the [Northeast Illinois Area Health Education Center \(AHEC\)](#), which is part of the National AHEC Organization developed by Congress in 1971 to recruit, train, and retain a health professions workforce committed to underserved populations.

Through Northeast Illinois AHEC, PHIMC and our collaborators are preparing the next generation of public health professionals to better serve low-income communities, rural communities, communities of color, and people who identify as lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, or gender-nonbinary. We are also committed to inspiring, supporting, and encouraging young people from underserved communities to consider careers in the health professions.

Illinois AHEC Centers



Collaborate with us!

- **Provide a Training:** If you have a training that can benefit individuals entering the public health workforce, [please complete this form](#).
- **Become a Mentor:** If you work in healthcare or public health and are interested in mentoring individuals entering the workforce, [please complete this form](#).
- **Build the Workforce:** If you or someone you know may be interested in entering the public health workforce, please contact Ruthie Moore at ruthie.moore@phimc.org to learn about the AHEC Scholars Program.

We are thrilled to have Ruthie Moore join our staff full-time to manage this effort. Ruthie brings to PHIMC more than a decade of programmatic experience in non-profit training and technical assistance, youth advocacy, and mitigating health disparities. Please reach out to ruthie.moore@phimc.org to learn more about AHEC and opportunities to join the AHEC scholars program.

AmeriCorps Service Term Begins

National Health Corps Chicago

PHIMC extends a mighty welcome to the [15 National Health Corps \(NHC\) Chicago members](#) who began their 2020-2021 service term in August. This year's cohort serves both in-person and remotely, as Health Educators and Outreach Coordinators to support COVID-19 prevention, education, and testing efforts, increase physical activity and improve nutrition, increase older adult quality of life to live independently, and reduce opioid and prescription misuse.

Over the course of their service term, NHC Chicago members share about themselves and their experiences in member blogs. [Visit the blog](#) to see what last term's members had to say about COVID-19 and shifting to remote service, and why some of this term's members decided to serve.

We are grateful to partner with [8 host site organizations](#) which are mentoring, supporting, and guiding members through both in-person service and teleservice: Advocate Children's Hospital, Advocate Trinity Hospital, Common Threads, Erie Family Health Center, Girls in the Game, Heartland Health Centers, Northwest Side Housing Center, and Respiratory Health Association.

Welcome 2020-2021 National Health Corps Chicago Members!



Substance Use Disorder Allies

PHIMC also extends a warm and energetic welcome to the incoming 2020-21 Substance Use Disorder (SUD) Allies AmeriCorps members. In August 2020, SUD Allies launched their new service term expanding resources to combat SUD in Illinois communities.

This year, SUD Allies has nine new members engaging individuals in education, treatment, and recovery wraparound services. We are excited to collaborate this year with new and returning host site organizations: Broadway Youth Center, Chicago Women's AIDS Project, Erie Family Health Center, Haymarket Center, Healthcare Alternative Systems, Lurie Children's Hospital, and Trilogy Behavioral Healthcare.



2020-2021 Substance Use Disorder (SUD) Allies AmeriCorps Members

Become a Member

Are you, or is someone you know, passionate about public health and interested in a year of service?

- **NHC Chicago** still seeks a candidate for one full-time Health Educator position for the 2020-2021 service term. Find the [role description here](#) and learn more [here](#) about how to apply.
- **SUD Allies** still seeks candidates for two full-time positions and one part-time position. Find out more on each position and how to apply [here](#).

Become a Host Site

Are you connected to a 501(c)(3) public or private nonprofit organization, institution of higher education, government entity within a state or territory, Indian Tribe, or a partnership/consortium?

PHIMC seeks applications from organizations interested in partnering with our National Health Corps Chicago (NHC Chicago) AmeriCorps program.

NHC Chicago host sites commit to supporting COVID-19 efforts, increasing physical activity and improving nutrition to reduce obesity and/or chronic conditions, increasing older adult quality of life to live independently, or reducing opioid and prescription misuse in our communities. Host sites also provide a cash contribution for each full-time member, which is \$14,200 for the 2020-2021 service term.

NHC Chicago AmeriCorps members increase organizational capacity to address critical needs, serve consistently for up to 11 months, and are uniquely motivated towards careers in public health and healthcare.

If you are interested in becoming a host site, you are invited to [learn more](#), complete this [Intent to Apply](#), and/or reach out to Alisha Jani, Project Manager - NHC Chicago, at alisha.jani@phimc.org for more information.

HIV Prevention in Suburban Cook County





Kenneth Young Center gets creative with "#POSE4CONDOMS," their first HIV testing event in Region 8, held on National Latinx AIDS Awareness Day - October 15, 2020

In July, PHIMC launched a new Regional Implementation Group (RIG) for Region 8 program year with [fifteen partners](#) who provide critical, high-impact HIV prevention services throughout suburban Cook County. Three new partners joined the Region 8 team this year: Chosen Family Network, Greater Elgin Family Care Center, and Kenneth Young Center. Together, they provide risk-based and routine HIV testing, evidence-based risk reduction interventions for people vulnerable to or living with HIV, and distribution of safer sex supplies in west and northwest suburban Cook County. Our returning RIG 8 partners continue to innovate and implement strategies for community engagement and high-quality service delivery during the challenging COVID-19 context.

To support Illinois Department of Public Health (IDPH) while they focused on COVID-19, PHIMC partnered with Illinois Public Health Association (IPHA) to step in and lead a virtual four-day HIV testing training for 20 participants across Illinois. The training covered how to conduct client-oriented testing sessions, manage informed consent and confidentiality, provide health education, discuss risk reduction strategies, conduct the test and deliver results, and offer guidance on follow-up plans, including relevant referrals and linkages to further prevention or treatment.

Thank you to PHIMC staff Whitney Allen and Bryan Gooding and our amazing partners at IPHA for making this happen, and a hearty congratulations to all the newly-certified HIV test counselors!

Through RIG, PHIMC works towards health equity by supporting our partners in providing and refining high-impact HIV prevention initiatives focused on underserved communities. For more information, please contact Whitney Allen at whitney.allen@phimc.org.

AIDS Run & Walk Chicago



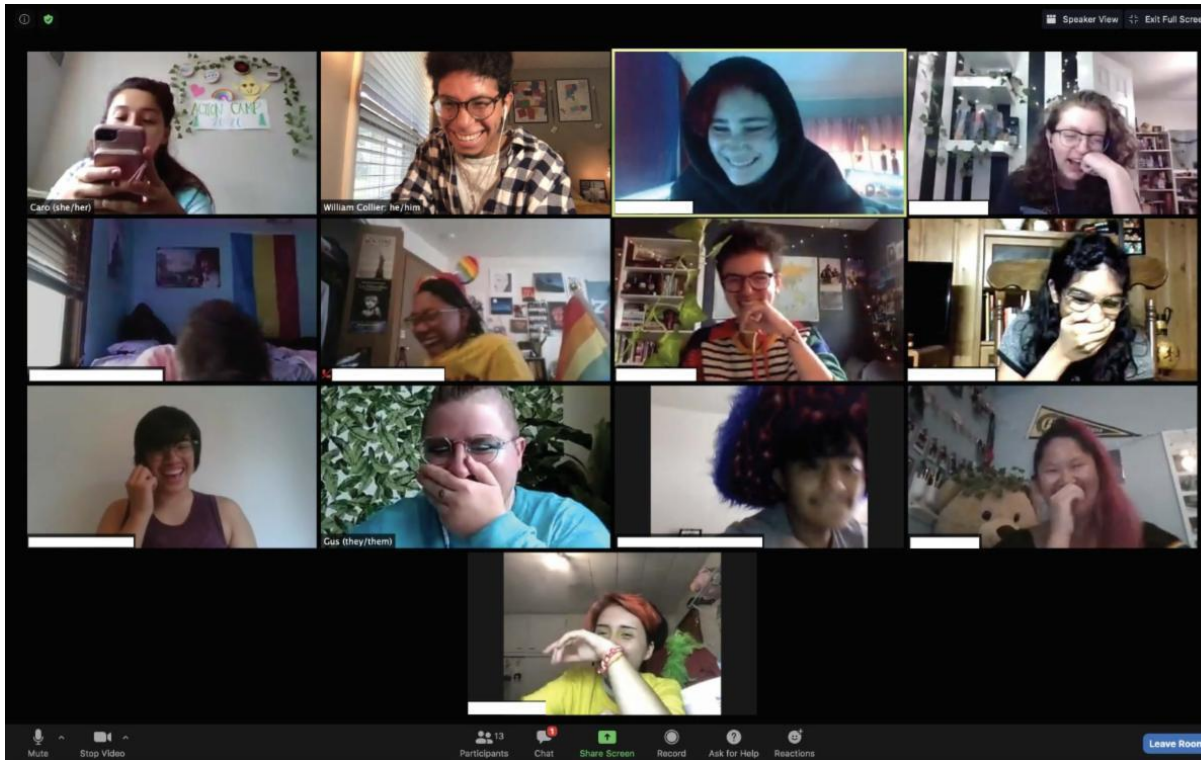
The AIDS Foundation of Chicago's (AFC) annual AIDS Run & Walk Chicago took place this fall. This year, folks celebrated Run & Walk Week virtually and across the city at six different neighborhood pop-ups. PHIMC staff participated by walking and running in their own neighborhoods with friends, family, and pets! Catch us in action on [Instagram](#).

The AIDS Run & Walk was an opportunity for PHIMC to raise funds for vital programs that ensure health access and equity while also raising awareness for AFC. We are proud to be one of AFC's

CommunityDirect partners, meaning that over 90% of money we raise goes directly to PHIMC. We are excited to announce that through our generous donors, Team PHIMC was able to raise over \$7,100.

Thank you to all who gave to our team and all who ran and walked with us.

LGBTQ+ Youth Leadership



Action Camp 2020

Although now over three months ago, Illinois Safe Schools Alliance is still flying high over the success of virtual Action Camp. Created in partnership with [Youth Services of Glenview/Northbrook's Pride Youth Program](#), Action Camp is the largest LGBTQ+ youth leadership event in Illinois and typically includes up to 65 rising 8th through 12th grade students from across the state for a five-day sleepaway camp. Although this year looked different due to COVID-19, we worked to move Action Camp into the virtual realm while ensuring that our core programming remained -- as always -- determined, developed, and facilitated by young people.

PHIMC Youth Engagement Manager, Nat Duran, and Youth Services Pride Director, Lizzy Appleby - who co-direct Action Camp - were honored by the opportunity to present about this successful program pivot at [GSA Network's](#) National Association meeting in September.

Nat is also thrilled to have started this school year off strongly with a new cohort of Youth Committee members, who inform the Alliance's youth leadership programming through peer education opportunities. They hosted their first event of the year, a National Coming Out Day webinar, for students in grades 7-12, on Sunday, October 11. Coming off of the success of Action Camp, the group

is excited to jump into the planning cycle for their first ever virtual [Youth Leadership Summit](#) in January 2021.

In the News . . .

PHIMC in the News

- [New Curriculum Brings LGBTQ History Into The Light](#), by Maureen Foertsch McKinney, aired on National Public Radio (NPR), October 22, 2020

NPR's Maureen Foertsch McKinney spoke with Springfield native Grayson Alexander, State Senator Heather Steans, eighth-grade social studies teacher Amy Biancheri, PHIMC's Policy and Advocacy Manager for Illinois Safe Schools Alliance Grecia Magdaleno, Carbondale mom Carrie Vine, and The Legacy Project's Victor Salvo about why Illinois' recently enacted Inclusive Curriculum Law is vital to our students.

PHIMC is proud to be part of the Illinois Inclusive Curriculum Advisory Council, alongside [The Legacy Project](#), and [Equality Illinois](#). Learn more [here](#).

- [Community Partner Innovation through Virtual Programming](#), by Katie Rankin, Communities In Schools (CIS) of Chicago, published on Medium, October 2, 2020

"This summer... the Illinois Safe Schools Alliance of PHIMC, a CIS of Chicago community partner, planned a five-day Action Camp. In normal years, Action Camp convenes LGBTQ+ youth leaders in a sleepaway camp setting, where they support and celebrate all identities. Action Camp went virtual this year, but the Alliance was still able to create a 'bunk' experience for students via virtual breakout rooms, workshops, evening activities, and community-building."

- [Options For Nonprofits Worried About Sustainability](#), by Donna Blackwell, PHIMC Chief Financial Officer, published by Forbes on August 12, 2020

"I'm especially aware of how nonprofits are coping during this crisis. Some nonprofit leaders may be wondering about other ways they can continue to support their staff and mission, and I believe that small nonprofits have important opportunities within their reach that bear consideration."

Other News You Can Use

- [White hospitals and Black communities must share power](#), by Lena Hatchett, published by Crain's Chicago Business on September 24, 2020 - PHIMC is thrilled to see our collaborators with Proviso Partners for Health recognized by Crain's as "an example of what can be done to stem inequities."
- [LGBTQ History is on the books in Illinois](#), by Mike Ziri, Director of Public Policy at Equality Illinois, published by Planned Parenthood of Illinois on October 13, 2020, about the LGBTQ Inclusive Curriculum Law, which is now in effect for Illinois public schools.

Corrections Discharge Planning Training

March 2-3

PHIMC is hosting a free, two-day training designed to educate and inform stakeholders in both community-based and healthcare settings, on the needs of current and formerly incarcerated individuals. Each day includes two modules which are 75 minutes each.

The next training will be held
March 2-3, 2021
[Register here.](#)

This training is funded by Illinois Department of Public Health.

Congratulations!

Meghana Menon, Program Manager for Child and Adolescent Health, and **Vince Pagán**, Development Coordinator, were accepted into the Baumhart Center's [Young Nonprofit Leaders Series](#) at Loyola School of Business. Big congratulations!

PHIMC Welcomes New Staff



Ruthie Moore (*she/her*), Education and Training Manager, now oversees the Northeast Illinois Area Health Education Center (AHEC) and leads statewide education, professional development, and training for Illinois Safe Schools Alliance.

Wonderful Watson (*he/him*), Senior Accounting Manager, prepares monthly financial statements and budget-to-actual reports for PHIMC-sponsored programs and fiscal clients, reviews entries prepared by accounting staff, analyzes general ledger details, and supports the Vice President of Finance and Chief Financial Officer with program budget revisions.



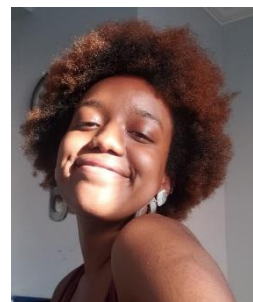
Visit our [website](#) to learn more about our new staff.

Thank You

Thank you to AmeriCorps interns Kayla Dillon and Glory Aliu, whose help this summer was invaluable in launching the current AmeriCorps term virtually for Substance Use Disorder (SUD) Allies and National Health Corps (NHC) Chicago.



Kayla Dillon
AmeriCorps Intern
for Substance Use
Disorder (SUD) Allies



Glory Aliu
AmeriCorps Intern
for National Health
Corps
(NHC)Chicago

Public Health Institute of Metropolitan Chicago (PHIMC) enhances the capacity of public health and healthcare systems to promote health equity and expand access to services. Through organizational development, systems transformation, fiscal management, and program implementation, PHIMC leads efforts to strengthen public health infrastructure in Illinois.

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