



COVID-19 Update & Announcements

March 20, 2020

Vidyo Licenses

LPHA has a limited number of free licenses and are starting to get more requests to have access to Vidyo. We are working on a process to make sure every agency has at least one Vidyo license to use, to start with. We will send an email very soon with details about the finalized process to make sure each agency has at least one.

Resource Sharing

LPHA has received several requests related to tools, documents and information sharing between local health departments related to COVID-19. LPHA is currently working on creating a tool for members to share documents/resources and enable easier connections between members. Please expect an update within the next several days on what this might look like.

We are also looking at how we can open a phone/video line so communities impacted can discuss and share their strategies for response and for those who haven't been impacted yet, can listen in, ask questions and gain insight. We have purchased access to a GoToMeeting account to accommodate a larger group of participants and allow for both video and phone participation for those who need it. We hope using another tool will also avoid over taxing the Vidyo network which is regularly being used for telemedicine services.

Tracking COVID-19 Costs

We are encouraging all local agencies to closely track, and document expenses related to their COVID-19 response. Having detailed documentation could enable your LHD to have access to any current and future monies available for response costs. As you continue to respond, please consider sharing any costs incurred related to COVID-19 with Kari. Any shared data will be used to illustrate local health department needs for response funding.

NACCHO COVID-19 Virtual Community

If you are a member of the National Association of City and County Health Officials (NACCHO), a COVID-19 virtual community/message board has been opened. The community is currently accessible to health administrators/local health officials from across the country. This is a great place to share, ask questions and access resources from other agencies.

AMC COVID-19 Updates

AMC will continue to send out regular updates on COVID-19. The update includes local, state and national information. Please check this update for the latest information, legislation, and resources available to local governments. If you're not receiving these updates, please let Kari know as soon as possible and you will be added to the list.

LPHA April General Membership Meeting

MCIT has cancelled all meetings through April 17th to adhere with state and national guidance on group gatherings and protect health. As a result, **LPHA's April 16th General Membership meeting will not be held in-person.** We are currently exploring options for digital meetings that can accommodate all interested LPHA members. Please watch for updates in the coming weeks.

Reach out to your legislators

Your legislators are still working. Please continue reaching out to them to share information about how your local agency and community is preparing for and responding to COVID-19. [Find who represents you and reach out to them.](#)

Policy and Legislative Changes Needed to Enable COVID-19 Response

As you continue to respond to COVID-19, please let Kari know if there is any legislation or policy changes that could help

you better respond. We have already heard some feedback related to expanding telemedicine access, particularly allowing for other methods of delivering service, such as telephone. Additionally, we have heard of the need for flexibility in grant funding and deliverables. Please continue sharing any information or stories you have related to response.