

## The BCCHP Connection

Issue 18

October 2020

Hi all-  
Hope this newsletter finds everyone doing okay during the very unusual time we are living in. The current state, at least for the time being, appears to be the new normal. The BCCHP staff continue to work from home, as Public Health—Seattle and King County extended their remote working policy to January 9th, 2021. While we miss seeing everyone, technology has helped us stay in touch with our partners and contractors. But it isn't the same.

BCCHP new contract year started July 1. During the last quarter of 2019-2020, we saw a dramatic decrease in numbers of clients receiving BCCHP services. That was certainly not unexpected. As clinics adapted to the pandemic, visits have increased and BCCHP numbers are going up too, but we are definitely playing catch up.

One major change to the program is that we no longer have the colon screening funding.... I'll talk about the impact later in this newsletter.

While we have not met as a group since January—we are planning a ZOOM BCCHP meeting on November, 12th. We look forward to connecting soon.

Stay well!

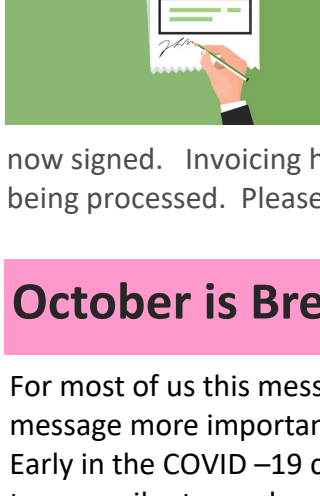
Amy, Heather, Jodi and Lisa



The sign of the times...

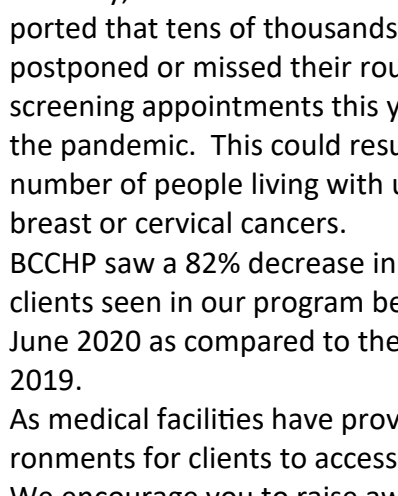
Amy Duarte, 206-263-8309 – Heather Fluegel, 206-263-8176 – Jodi Olson, 206-263-8200 – Lisa Sokanoff, 206-477-8216

### Important Dates and Reminders!



- New fiscal year started July 1, 2020
- Subscribe to Public Health blog [www.publichealthinsider.com](http://www.publichealthinsider.com)
- BCCHP Contractor ZOOM meeting- November 12, 1 p.m.
- October is Breast Cancer Awareness Month
- VOTE - November 3rd Election Day!

## BCCHP Contracts & Invoicing



The pandemic caused some delays in BCCHP contracting. Since 2019, our contracting department at Public Health—Seattle & King County requires that we do a **Request For Application (RFA)** process each year. That was completed in the summer. Contracts went out and most are now signed. Invoicing has also been delayed. You should start seeing invoices being processed. Please reach out to Jodi if you have any questions.

## October is Breast Cancer Awareness Month

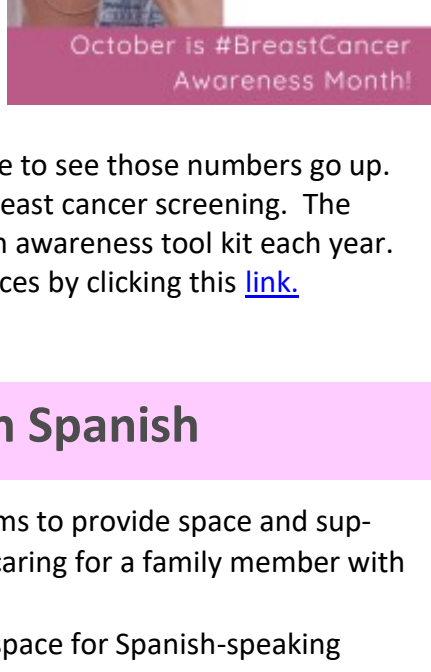
For most of us this message is very familiar, but the pandemic has made this message more important than ever.

Early in the COVID-19 crisis, many facilities out of an abundance of caution, temporarily stopped seeing clients for screening mammograms and routine Pap tests. Those were prudent measures and needed to happen. As restrictions have lifted, people are starting to reschedule their medical appointments and seeing their providers for routine annual screenings. But....we are still playing catch up.

Recently, some cancer advocacy groups reported that tens of thousands of women have postponed or missed their routine cancer screening appointments this year as a result of the pandemic. This could result in a higher number of people living with undetected breast or cervical cancers.

BCCHP saw a 82% decrease in the number of clients seen in our program between April and June 2020 as compared to the same time in 2019.

As medical facilities have provided safer environments for clients to access services, we hope to see those numbers go up. We encourage you to raise awareness about breast cancer screening. The George Washington University puts together an awareness tool kit each year. Check out the 2020 toolkit for ideas and resources by clicking this [link](#).



## Cancer Support Group Led in Spanish

Viviendo Con Cáncer is a support group that aims to provide space and support for Spanish-speaking individuals who are caring for a family member with a cancer diagnosis. The group focuses on:

1. Providing a safe and comfortable space for Spanish-speaking caregivers to build community based on trust, understanding and unity.
2. Providing support that is culturally and linguistically tailored to Latinos/Hispanics.
3. Providing culturally-sensitive and Spanish-based education/information and related classes and workshops.
4. Gathering data for the development of other Spanish-speaking cancer support groups.



The goal of the facilitator is to build a sense of solidarity for the Latino/x communities, to ensure that that community is receiving the adequate services they deserve. Please help in dispersing this information to individuals who would benefit from being part of this support group.

**This support group will be held via zoom the 1<sup>st</sup> Saturday of each month from 11:00am to 1:00pm.**

In order to register and receive the zoom link, interested participants can visit: <https://cancerlifeline.org/viviendo-con-cancer/>

See below the flyer used to promote Viviendo Con Cáncer. Please review and share it with your colleagues and with your families.

# CancerLifeline

## Viviendo con Cáncer

### Grupo de Apoyo en Español para cuidadores

Viviendo Con Cáncer, es un grupo creado con el propósito de apoyar a las personas que están encargadas del cuidado de un ser familiar luchando contra el cáncer. Este grupo virtual se llevará a cabo una vez al mes, por dos horas. Será un tiempo dedicado para compartir experiencias de cada miembro y tocaremos temas que ayudarán a navegar lo que significa estar a cargo del cuidado de un ser querido con cáncer. Incluyendo salud mental propia, cuidados esenciales mutuos y educación sobre los servicios/recursos disponibles.

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**El Primer Sábado de Cada Mes | 11:00am - 1:00pm**

Próxima reunión: Noviembre 7, 2020 @ 11:00 am-1:00pm

**\*\*Ubicación:** Grupo virtual (a través de la aplicación Zoom)

Vaya a [cancerlifeline.org/viviendo-con-cancer](https://cancerlifeline.org/viviendo-con-cancer) para registrarse.

Para más información, por favor llame a

**Kenia Ramirez**

Tel: (206) 832-1279

Email: [ayudarenespanol@cancerlifeline.org](mailto:ayudarenespanol@cancerlifeline.org)

Para más información o para registrarse en las clases, llame a Lifeline al (206) 297-2500 o visite [cancerlifeline.org](http://cancerlifeline.org)

## Reducing Cancer Risk Survey

In early October, a survey was sent to BCCHP partners/contractors to collect input about how we work in the community to raise awareness about cancer risk and cancer screenings. The survey results will help us understand how we can be more supportive in reaching and reducing cancer risk among vulnerable populations, including those in the workforce. Our partners at the UW –Health Promotion Research Center helped create the survey. It will take only a few minutes to complete and the information you provide will be used by the BCCHP program to enhance support for your efforts in both cancer education and screening opportunities. The survey will remain open through Nov. 10th.

We recognize how busy you are during this challenging time, so we have streamlined this survey to ensure that we only ask questions that are most vital to our efforts to support your extremely important work. If you already completed the survey, thank you. If not, please go to this link to complete survey.

[https://redcap.link/BCCHP\\_Worksite\\_Survey](https://redcap.link/BCCHP_Worksite_Survey)

Thank you in advance for your help!

## Colon Cancer Screening Program

As mentioned earlier, the CDC **did not** fund Washington State for the colon screening program. We were very disappointed with that decision. We worked over 13 years to build the program and create awareness about the importance of regular colon cancer screening to help combat this silent cancer.

We encourage clinics to continue to educate clients of the importance of colon testing and share information about FIT and it's cost to clients without health insurance.

The BCCHP office created some posters and reminder postcards earlier this year.

The postcard can be used as a reminder that colon screening starts at 50. These are available in five languages and we can send the file for you to print it in your office.

We also created and printed a poster with a similar call to action that we have available. If you are interested in the poster or postcard, please call Jodi and we can arrange for those to be sent to your office.



## Flu vaccine - More important than ever!

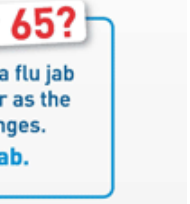
It's more important than ever to get a flu vaccine this year.

We may not have a vaccine yet for COVID-19, but we DO have a vaccine for flu.

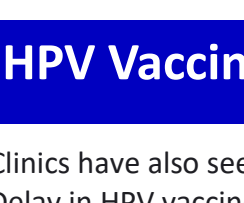
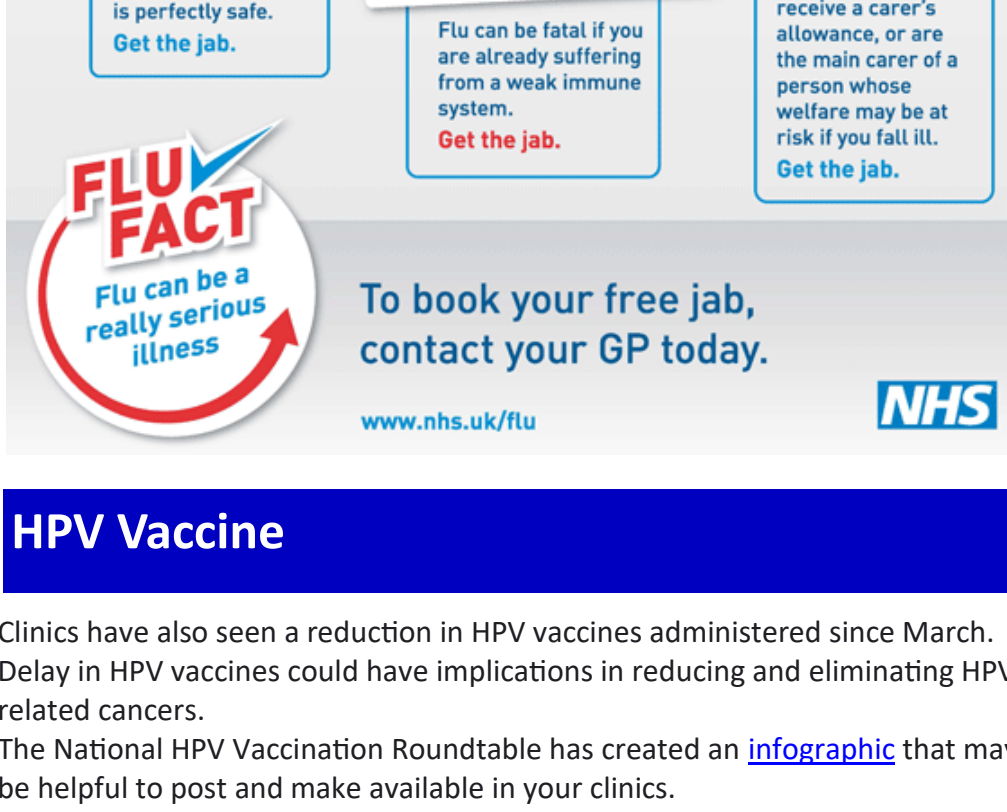
The flu vaccine can keep you from getting sick with flu during the [COVID-19 pandemic](#).

We can all do our part to prevent illness and hospitalizations caused by flu. This will help save healthcare resources for COVID-19 response in our communities.

Click this [link](#) for a comprehensive list of locations to get the flu vaccine and more information about the 2020-21 flu vaccination season!

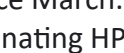


# Everything you need to know about the flu jab!



To book your free jab, contact your GP today.

[www.nhs.uk/flu](http://www.nhs.uk/flu)



## HPV Vaccine

Clinics have also seen a reduction in HPV vaccines administered since March. Delay in HPV vaccines could have implications in reducing and eliminating HPV related cancers.

The National HPV Vaccination Roundtable has created an [infographic](#) that may be helpful to post and make available in your clinics.

Thought you'd be interested....

## PROTECTING IMMIGRANT FAMILIES

Washington State

spread the word—applications now being accepted

## Two COVID-19 Relief Funds Now Open to Undocumented Residents in WA

### Washington Immigrant Relief Fund

This \$40-million fund is the product of *months of advocacy* by a coalition of immigrant organizations, and led by the coalition with support from DSHS and the Governor's office.

**Who's eligible?** Washington State residents who have experienced hardship due to the pandemic and were ineligible for federal CARES Act economic impact payments because of immigration status.

**Applications Accepted:** Wednesday, October 21, 2020 to Sunday, December 6, 2020, 12:00 a.m.

Individuals and families can apply at [www.immigrantreliefwa.org/](http://www.immigrantreliefwa.org/) in 3 languages

For help applying over the phone in multiple languages, call the WAISN hotline at 1-844-724-3737

### Seattle COVID-19 Disaster Relief Fund

This \$7.9-million fund is a part of a joint \$45 million COVID-19 relief package announced by the mayor and Seattle City Council in August 2020.

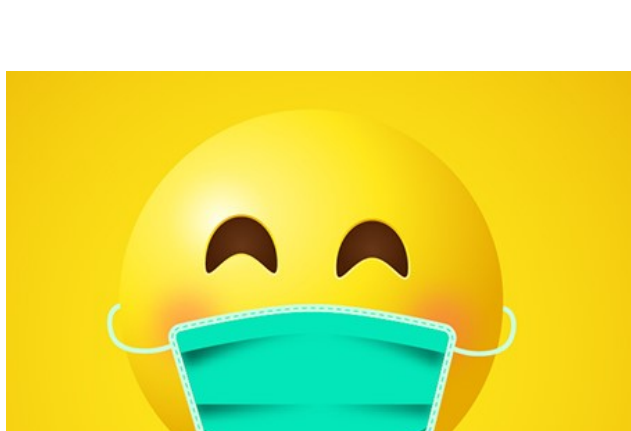
**Who's eligible?** Applicants must live, work, or attend school within the Seattle city boundaries. Applicants must also be low-income and have been ineligible for federal CARES Act Economic Impact Payments because of immigration status.

**Applications accepted:** Thursday, October 15, 2020, 9:00 p.m. to November 5, 2020, 11:59 p.m.

Individuals and families can apply online at [seattlecovidfund.org](http://seattlecovidfund.org) (info available in 7 languages)

- 20 organizations are available to help applicants apply over the phone in 41 languages!

The review process is NOT first-come, first-served. To support those with the most need, the program is prioritizing applicants based on a set of vulnerability criteria.



For any questions, comments, or to remove yourself from this list, please call 206-263-8200 or email Jodi Olson at [Jodi.Olson@kingcounty.gov](mailto:Jodi.Olson@kingcounty.gov) \*Please send any information, articles, or resources you would like to include in the next issue by replying directly to this message\*



As previously announced, the 2019 –2020 fiscal year is the 5th and final year of the current colon screening grant.

**Important reminders regarding the CRC program:**

- All colorectal screening service dates done via FIT and covered by BCCHP must occur by January 31, 2020.
- All follow up colonoscopies must be complete by June 1, 2020.
- Contact your prime contractor directly with questions.

While we don't have an update on funding for clinical services. We encourage all clinics to please look for opportunities to educate and encourage all clients that are due for screening to complete a FIT. During our fall King County BCCHP meeting attendees provided input on materials that support timely and regular colon cancer screening. See the two items created. A postcard is intended to send out to those who just turned 50 as a reminder to start colon screening. The poster provides a visual reminder for your clinic lobby and exam rooms. These were created to be used beyond the grant period. The messaging is relevant to all clients.

The postcard is available electronically and can be modified. The poster was printed and is available by calling the BCCHP office.

These are available in English, Spanish, Chinese, Vietnamese and Korean.

We will be sending out an evaluation soon to measure your use of these materials.

It's uncertain at this point what the CDC colon grant will include past July 1. We will keep you updated on the colon grant as we learn more information.

For those that want to start planning, March is Colon Cancer Awareness month and Washington State Dress in Blue Day: Colorectal Cancer Awareness Kick Off Event is **March 6, 2020**