

# Resuming and Sustaining Screening Efforts in the Late Pandemic

## Vietnamese American Cancer Foundation



### Organization

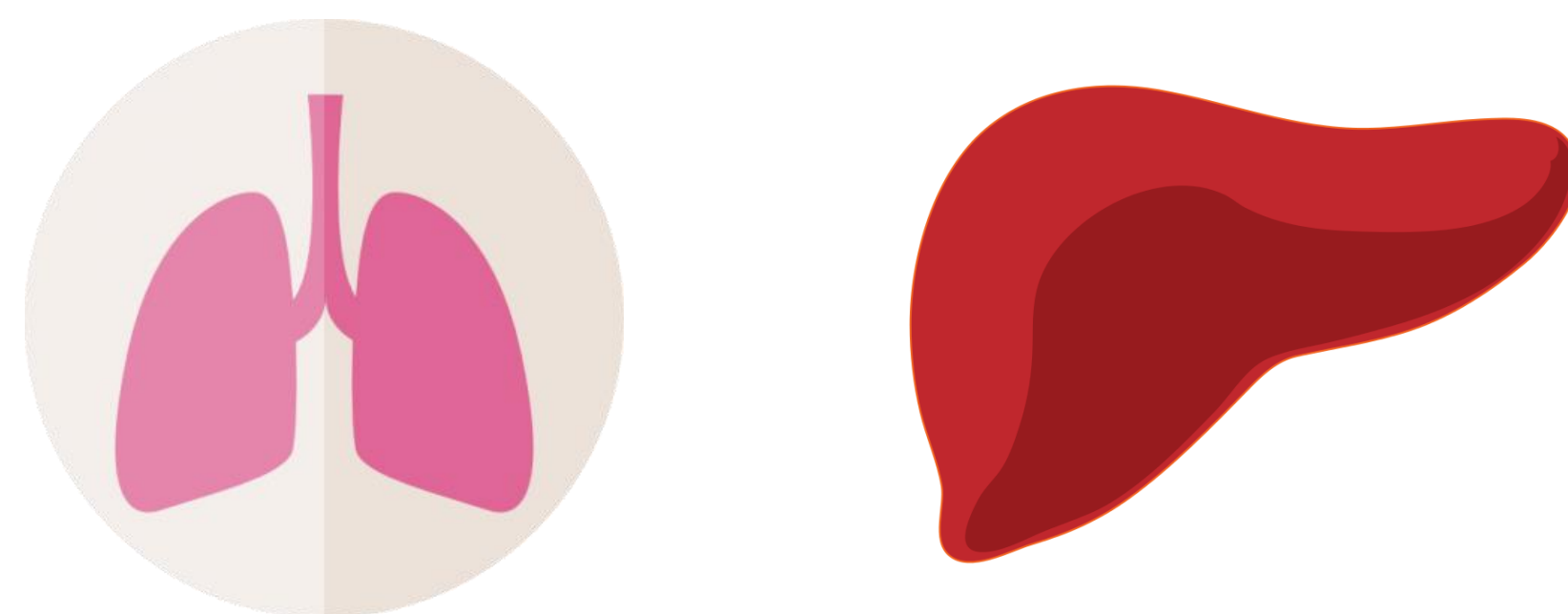


Vietnamese American Cancer Foundation (VACF) was founded by a group of cancer survivors and local physicians in 1998 to address the high rate of cancer deaths in the Vietnamese community through **culturally sensitive and linguistically appropriate** health care resources.

- VACF maintains hepatitis (Hep) and tuberculosis (TB) programs
- Implemented due to **disproportionate prevalence** of these diseases among Vietnamese Americans (VA) which increases the risk for **liver and lung cancer**.
- Provide** preventive education, screenings, case management, navigation to vaccination, and follow-up care.

### Background

#### LEADING CANCER CAUSES OF DEATH AMONG ASIAN AMERICANS (AA)



**TB** increases primary lung cancer risk by **two-fold**  
 AA's TB prevalence **33x higher** than non-Hispanic Whites  
 People with **chronic hep B** are **100x more likely**  
 to develop liver cancer than uninfected people.

AA account for **58%** chronic Hep B cases

#### Vietnamese Americans' Hepatitis B and TB Burden

Account for **47.5%** of all foreign-born persons with TB

**Highest rates of lung cancer**  
**One of the highest HBV prevalence**

**10x more likely** to be diagnosed with liver cancer

**2<sup>nd</sup>** **3<sup>rd</sup>** highest incidence rates of liver cancer

### Event Activities

#### Community Health Fair 8/21/21

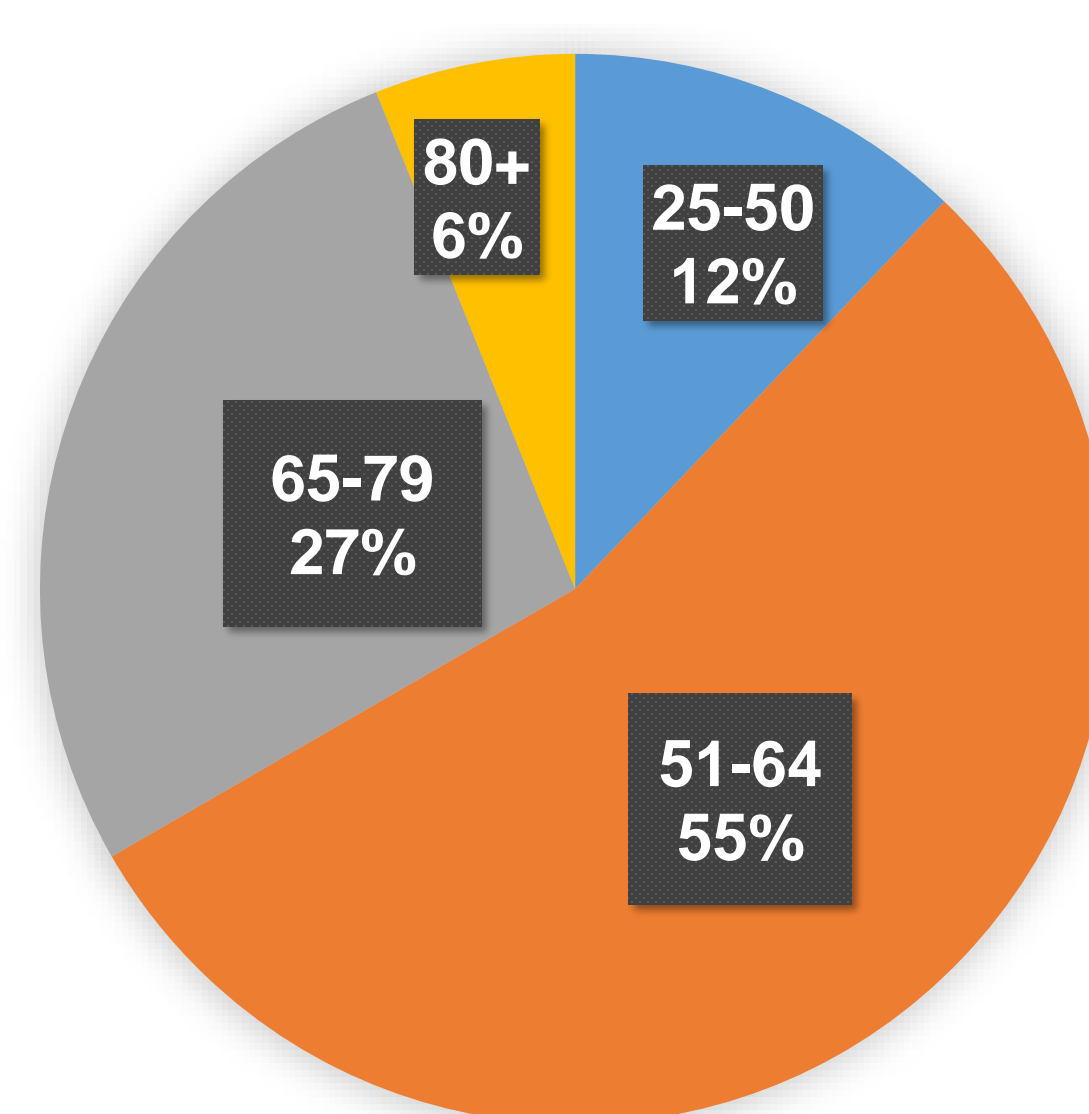
- Location: Điều Ngự Temple
- Services and screenings provided: Hep B & C, TB, COVID-19 vaccine, cholesterol and blood pressure measurement
- Over 500 attendees**



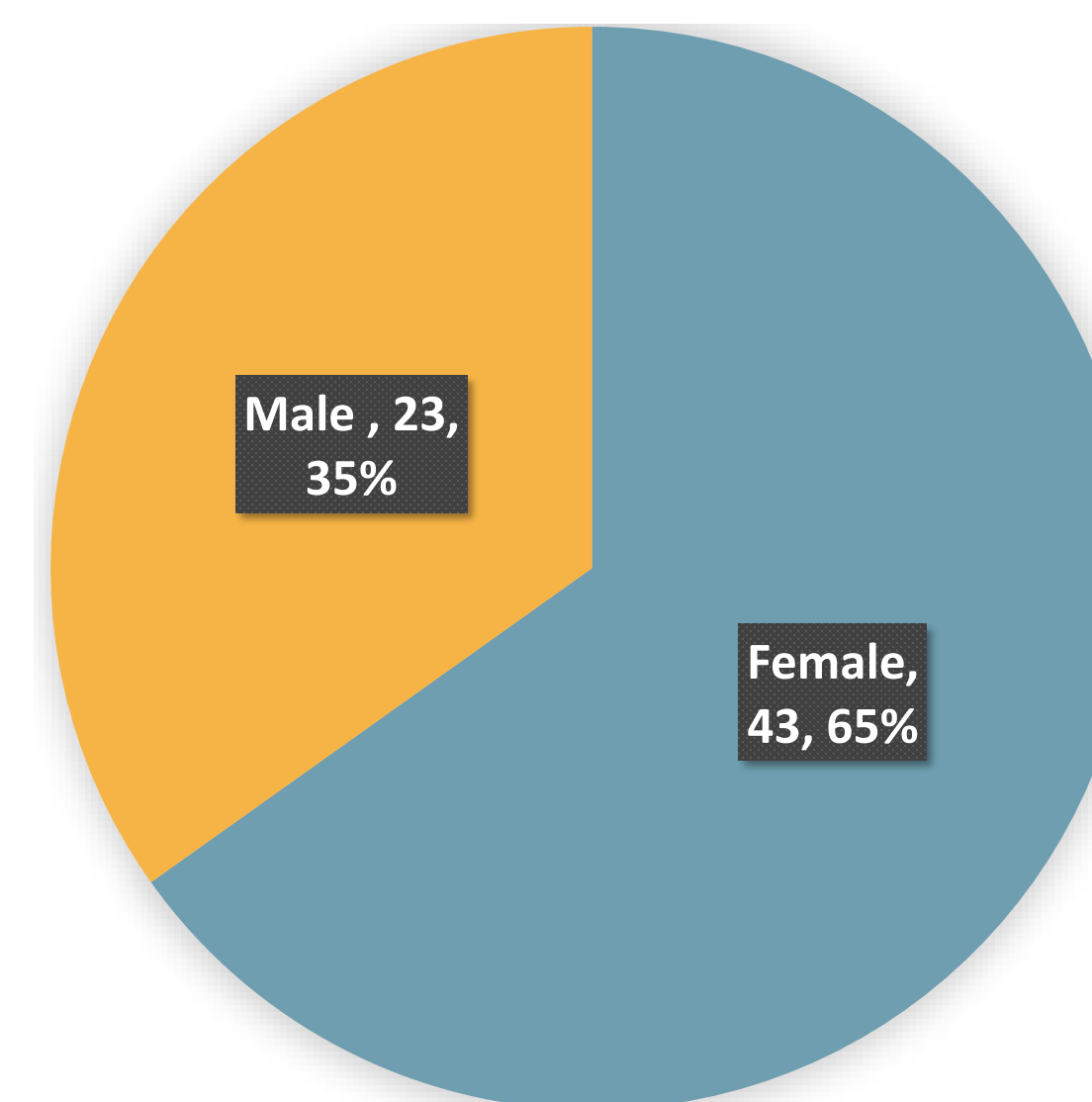
### Methodology

- One-on-one or small group education
- Lab form assistance
- Blood drawn
- Results mailed home with informational fact sheet
- Phone call follow-up to initiate patient navigation
- Support and referral assistance to community resources

### Screening Demographics



**Figure 1.** Age distribution of participants at Điều Ngự Temple Health Fair.



**Figure 2.** Gender of participants at Điều Ngự Temple Health Fair.

### Results

#### Hepatitis B & C

- 59** individuals screened
- 2 HBsAg positive** cases, provided with navigation
- 28** cases were HBV immune due to **natural infection**
- 14** cases were HBV immune due to **vaccination**
- No HCV-antibody positive** cases

#### Tuberculosis

- 51** individuals screened
- 3 positive** cases, all were provided with navigation
- 1** cases **successfully** linked to care thus far

### Discussion

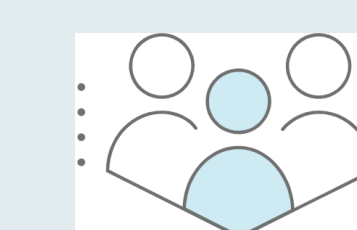
#### Moving Forward



With the COVID-19 pandemic still ongoing, the amount of people actively being screened could significantly improve as we proceed to normalcy.

- VACF continues to announce events on weekly radio show, Facebook, VACF website, email and various community outreach
- VACF continues to provide ongoing community screening for Hep B, TB, colorectal screening, COVID-19 testing and vaccination
- COVID-19 vaccine clinics occur bi-weekly at the office
- Clients can register on our website or via phone to participate in workshops and webinars available throughout each month

Services provided by VACF:



Community outreach



Testing



Linkage to Care

### References

- <https://www.cdc.gov/hepatitis/populations/Born-Outside-United-States.htm>
- <https://www.cancer.org/research/cancer-facts-statistics/all-cancer-facts-figures/cancer-facts-figures-2016.html>
- <https://www.ochealthinfo.com/sites/hca/files/2021-04/TB%20in%20Orange%20County%202020%20-%20Infographic.pdf>
- <https://www.hepb.org/research-and-programs/liver/risk-factors-for-liver-cancer/chronic-viral-hepatitis/>
- <https://journals.plos.org/plosone/article?id=10.1371/journal.pone.0250531>