

TB EDUCATION & TESTING IN THE PACIFIC ISLANDER COMMUNITY IN ARKANSAS

ARKANSAS COALITION OF MARSHALLESE



ORGANIZATIONAL BACKGROUND "INCREASE QUALITY OF LIVES-EDUCATION, HEALTH, LEADERSHIP AND CULTURAL INTEGRITY"

- 67 Nuclear bombs Testing in the Marshall Islands for over a 12-year period impacted the socioeconomics of the country including health impacts such as cancers, hypertension, Hansen's disease and high incidence of TB. The Marshallese migrate to the United States through the Compact of Free Association (COFA) allowing them to stay in the United State without limitations under a special immigration
- Marshallese were barred from accessing health programs until December 2020, mostly because the COVID impact
 pressure. In December 2020, the Medicaid Program was restored and extended to the community. Diabetes and
 other chronic diseases remain prominent in the community.
- Marshall Islands reported an incidence rate of about 160 new cases of TB per 100,000 persons over a 5-year period (2014-2018)
- ACOM's strength has been the integration of cultural disciplines embedded into programs and services.
- Serve the highest population of Marshallese citizens living in the united states
- One-Stop-Shop provides direct service to all COFA citizens living in Arkansas
- Over 700-1000 visits to the office for services a month. Facebook has a far-reaching audience, over 1000 visitors a month.
- Two nurses/board members with over 25 years of experience work in the PI and LTBI/TB





GOALS/OBJECTIVES

- Increase TB Awareness/Education and testing
- Virtual health education raising awareness about TB in turn increase the number of tests being done in the JBC. In addition, COVID education will integrated in the TB sessions.
 - Recruitment to big events
 - Referrals to the JBC
- Three nurses, one administrative staff and the Executive Director. Nurse Philmar will focus on COVID and other diseases for the health education events.
 - Challenge: Nurse Philmar's fund ran out so we really had one nurse instead of 3.

Activities	Current	ACOM's Practice
Virtual Facebook Events with JBC (at least 5)	3.5K first event 3 TB sessions with Nurse Ruby Total of 6K visitor	Online Drawings Surveys
Two Large Scale Events I.TB DAY 2. Mini- conference	TB DAY 3/26/20 -Sharing Data with audience	Connect to a broader audience including professionals
TB Education Translated Materials	Largest group Marshallese, Chuukese, Kilibatese	Recruit Translators in three languages





Marshallese are poised to regain health benefits

by DOUG THOMPSON NWA DEMOCRAT-GAZETTE | December 22, 2020 at 1:00 a.m.



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Nurse Ruby Lewis (from left) administers a covid-19 test to Laling Riklon of Springdale, Saturday, May 23, 2020 at the Center for Nonprofits parking lot in Springdale. The Arkansas Department of Health partnered with the Arkansas Coalition of Marshallese to host a drivethru covid-19 testing site. Volunteers also distributed groceries and masks to those waiting in line. (NWA Democrat-Gazette/Charlie Kaijo)

SPRINGDALE — The proposed restoration of Medicaid benefits to Marshall Islanders living in the United States would boost overall health in Northwest Arkansas, said lawmakers, health

PARTNER IN THIS PROJECT: JOE BATES CLINIC

TB Program

- 100 tests
- Preventative Treatment
- Treatment

Other Partnership, COVID IMPACT (ACOM, JBC)

- COVID TESTING (Over 120)
- COVID VACCINE/Boosters
 - Two nurses contracted with ACOM
 - ADH is providing the Vaccines
 - Flu Vaccines
- QUARANTINE

YEAR I



YEAR 2

- Activities "normal" outreach
- Used Incentives
- Partner with ADH's & Board members who are nurses
- Conferences (Women's Health Day)
- Health Fair events
- Translators for three languages (Marshallese, Chuukese and Kiribati)
- TB was added to COVID Topic via Facebook

- More Creative grassroot work like Movie Night,
 Manit Celebration, Coffee Morning
- Incentives
- Partner with AenEmmaan for Transportation
- Hire our own contract nurse
- Separate TB into its own Facebook Show
- Consider the scheduler of CDC to deliver sample.
- Wrap Around services (Food basket, Rent/Bill assistance)

TB TEST & COVID VACCINE/BOOSTER IN YEAR 2—IT IS A MUST





THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

August 23, 2021

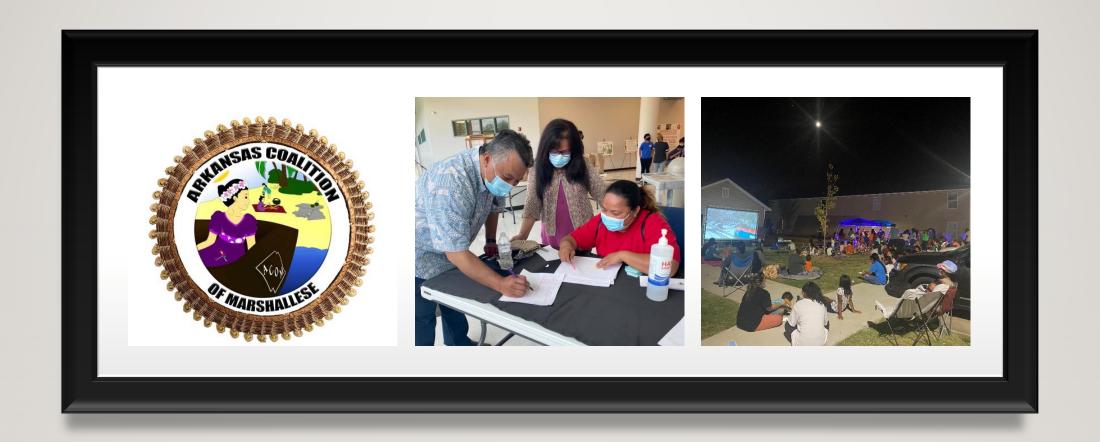
Arkansas Coalition of Marshallese Springdale, Arkansas

Dear Friends.

Thank you for your contributions during our Month of Action to get our friends, neighbors, and loved ones vaccinated and protected against the deadly coronavirus. Together, we are making progress in our collective fight against COVID-19 and getting our Nation back on track—but there is still a lot work ahead of us.

This past year has been one of the most painful years in American history. With more than 628,000 American lives lost due to COVID-19, helping get more people vaccinated is among the most important things any of us can do right now. We need your continued support more than ever. Your efforts are not just saving lives—they are helping us get our lives back. United as one Nation, we can get through this pandemic and usher in a healthier and more hopeful future.

Keep the faith.



THANK YOU!! KOMMOOL TATA