



## CMS Snapshot

**February 3-10, 2022**

Delivered to you by the Partner Relations Group in the Office of Communications

All releases below are from 2pm Thursday, February 3 through 2pm Thursday, February 10, 2022.

### News Releases

\*February 3- [HHS Announces New Reports and Grant Program Addressing the Health Needs of Pregnant Women and Children Affected by Substance Use](#). A new series of reports from the Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) on substance-exposed pregnancies highlights how pregnant and postpartum women who use substances and their children can benefit from evidence-based prevention and treatment strategies. The reports, which were produced by researchers in HHS's Office of the Assistant Secretary for Planning and Evaluation (ASPE), identify strategies that can reduce the negative health and well-being impacts of substance use (including alcohol use) on families based on a review of existing research and consultation with experts in managing these conditions.

\*February 3- [HHS Announces Availability of \\$19.2 million to Expand Training of Primary Care Residents in Rural and Underserved Communities](#). The U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS), through the Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA), is announcing the availability of \$19.2 million in American Rescue Plan funding to support and expand community-based primary care residency programs. Awardees will use this funding to train residents to provide quality care to diverse populations and communities, particularly in underserved and rural areas.

\*February 3- [Readout: Vice President Harris, HHS Secretary Becerra Swear In Members of President Biden's Advisory Commission on Asian Americans, Native Hawaiians, and Pacific Islanders](#). On February 3, 2022, Vice President Kamala Harris and Health and Human Services (HHS) Secretary Xavier Becerra swore in 23 members of President Joe Biden's Advisory Commission on Asian Americans, Native Hawaiians, and Pacific Islanders. They were joined by U.S. Trade Representative Ambassador Katherine Tai, who serves as Commission Co-Chair alongside Secretary Becerra and delivered congratulatory remarks.

\*February 4- [HHS Issues New Guidance for Health Care Providers on Civil Rights Protections for People with Disabilities](#). Today, the Department of Health & Human Services (HHS) issued

guidance to health care providers on civil rights protections for people with disabilities. The guidance, issued by HHS' Office for Civil Rights, makes clear that in light of the continuing public health emergency, when resources can be scarce, it is vital that individuals with disabilities are not prevented from receiving needed health care benefits and services as this violates federal civil rights laws.

\*February 8- [HHS Provides \\$66.5 Million to Expand Community-Based Outreach Efforts to Increase COVID-19 Vaccinations](#). The U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS), through the Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA), today is providing \$66.5 million in American Rescue Plan funding to eight grantees to expand outreach efforts in 38 states and the District of Columbia to increase COVID-19 vaccine confidence and vaccinations.

\*February 8- [Remarks by Secretary Xavier Becerra at the Health Affairs Journal Virtual Symposium on Racism and Health](#). *As Prepared for Delivery*- Good afternoon, everyone. Let me start by thanking: Alan Weil, Editor-in-Chief of Health Affairs; Richard E. Besser, President and CEO, Robert Wood Johnson Foundation; Rachel Hardeman of the University of Minnesota; and José Figueroa of Harvard University. It's great to join you here today alongside so many partners fighting to realize Cesar Chavez and Dr. King's dreams of a more just society.

\*February 8- [Biden Administration Continues to Prioritize Response to the 2022 Hunga Tonga Volcano Eruption and Tsunami](#). The Biden Administration continues to prioritize its response to the 2022 Hunga Tonga volcano eruption and tsunami. On January 14, 2022, Tonga's Hunga Tonga-Hunga Ha'apai volcano erupted and triggered tsunami waves that reached Tonga and many other Pacific Island countries. The natural disaster has affected Tonga's housing, public infrastructure, and air and water quality. The Biden Administration has increased its assistance through several coordinated efforts. Read the U.S. Department of State's statement [here](#).

\*February 9- [Statement by HHS Secretary Xavier Becerra and ONDCP Director Rahul Gupta](#). Today, on the heels of organizations applying for grant money for harm reduction efforts, Health and Human Services Secretary Xavier Becerra and the Office of National Drug Control Policy Director Dr. Rahul Gupta released the following statement.

\*February 9- [Remarks by Secretary Xavier Becerra at the University of Minnesota Child Development Lab School](#). *The Secretary joined First Lady Jill Biden at the school for a press conference and listening sessions focused on American Rescue Plan investments in child care. As Prepared for Delivery*- Good afternoon, everyone. Give it up one more time for our amazing First Lady! Dr. Biden, thank you for your leadership. Thank you for your inspiration. And thank you for your commitment to ensuring quality child care and affordable health care are within reach of every American family.

\*February 9- [CMS Makes Nursing Home COVID-19 Booster Vaccination Data Available Online, Increasing Transparency for Consumers](#). As part of its commitment to improve transparency and help families and caregivers find the best nursing home care for their loved ones, the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) is now posting data on COVID-19 vaccine

booster shots administered to nursing home residents and staff on the [Medicare.gov Care Compare website](#). The data will show resident and staff booster rates at the facility level and will include national and state averages.

\*February 10- [HHS Announces Winners of National Challenge to Increase Pediatric Vaccinations and Well-Child Visits](#). *Responding to COVID-19-related Declines in Routine Childhood Vaccinations and Care, Challenge Generated 52,000 Pediatric Well-Child Visits and 23,000 Immunizations.* The U.S. Department of Health & Human Services (HHS), through the Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA), announced 20 winners of the *Promoting Pediatric Primary Prevention (P4) Challenge*, a nationwide competition to increase pediatric vaccination rates and well-child visits.

\*February 10- [New HHS Report Highlights How Antipoverty Efforts from the Administration Reduced Poverty in 2021](#). Today, the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) released a new report that highlights the economic impact of the American Rescue Plan (ARP), specifically the role ARP played in reducing poverty. The report, which was produced by researchers in HHS's Office of the Assistant Secretary for Planning and Evaluation (ASPE), projects that economic relief efforts—including economic impact payments, unemployment compensation and expanded unemployment compensation (includes federal supplemental benefits), and the monthly Advance Child Tax Credit payments—kept 20.1 million people out of poverty, including 7.8 million children.

\*February 10- [Remarks by Secretary Xavier Becerra at the Germanna Community College](#). *The Secretary joined President Biden at the community college for a press conference focused on lowering health care costs for families. As Prepared for Delivery-* Good afternoon, everyone. It's great to be here at Germanna Community college with President Biden, your Congresswoman Abigail Spanberger, and all of you! A little more than a year ago, President Biden stood not far from here at the U.S. Capitol and promised to make health care more secure and more affordable for all Americans.

## Blog

\*February 10- [How to use your new Marketplace insurance](#). Congratulations on getting covered for 2022. At [HealthCare.gov](#), we're here to help you understand how to use your new coverage. Get answers to common health insurance questions.

*CMS has developed a [Virtual Toolkit](#) to help you stay informed on CMS and HHS materials available on the COVID-19. Please share these materials, bookmark the page, and check back often for the most up-to-date information. For more information, please email [partnership@cms.hhs.gov](mailto:partnership@cms.hhs.gov)*