



CMS Snapshot

August 4-11, 2022

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

All releases below are from 2pm Thursday, August 4 through 2pm Thursday, August 11, 2022

News Releases

*August 4- [Biden-Harris Administration Bolsters Monkeypox Response; HHS Secretary Becerra Declares Public Health Emergency](#). U.S. Department of Health and Human Services Secretary Xavier Becerra announced today that he will declare the ongoing spread of monkeypox virus in the United States a Public Health Emergency (PHE). This action will further strengthen and accelerate the Biden-Harris Administration's response in recognition of the continued rapid transmission of monkeypox in the U.S. and globally, and to signal the seriousness and urgency with which the Administration is responding. The announcement comes on the heels of President Biden appointing Robert Fenton of the Federal Emergency Management Agency as White House National Monkeypox Response Coordinator and Dr. Demetre Daskalakis of the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention as White House National Monkeypox Response Deputy Coordinator.

*August 5- [Statement by HHS Secretary Xavier Becerra, CMS Administrator Chiquita Brooks-LaSure on the 25th Anniversary of the Children's Health Insurance Program \(CHIP\)](#). Today, U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) Secretary Xavier Becerra and Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) Administrator Chiquita Brooks-LaSure released the following statements to mark the 25th anniversary of the Children's Health Insurance Program (CHIP) on August 5, 2022.

*August 5- [Joint Statement by HHS Secretary Becerra and Ambassador Tai on the Tenth Anniversary of the Oak Creek Shooting](#). *The 2012 shooting was the deadliest attack on Sikh Americans in U.S. history.* Today, Health and Human Services Secretary Xavier Becerra and U.S. Trade Representative Ambassador Katherine Tai – Co-Chairs of both the White House Initiative and the President's Advisory Commission on Asian Americans, Native Hawaiians, and Pacific Islanders – issued a joint statement on the tenth anniversary of the mass shooting at a Sikh Gurdwara in Oak Creek, Wisconsin.

*August 8- [Statement from CMS Administrator Chiquita Brooks-LaSure on Senate Passage of the Inflation Reduction Act](#). Today, the Senate passed the historic Inflation Reduction Act and Chiquita Brooks-LaSure, Administrator of the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services issued the following statement.

*August 8- [HHS Invests Nearly \\$60 Million to Strengthen Health Care Workforce and Improve Access to Care in Rural Communities](#). *Investment includes nearly \$46 million from President Biden's American Rescue Plan to expand health care capacity in rural and tribal communities.* Today, the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS), through the Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA), announced investments of nearly \$60 million to grow the health workforce and increase access to quality health care in rural communities, including nearly \$46 million in funding from President Biden's American Rescue Plan. The Biden-Harris Administration is committed to improving health outcomes and promoting health equity in rural America. In 2021, thanks to President Biden's American Rescue Plan, the Department of Health and Human Services invested over \$16 billion to [strengthen rural health - PDF](#).

*August 8- [Two Operation Fly Formula Flights Scheduled for Week of August 8](#). *By August 14, Operation Fly Formula will have transported more than 69 million 8-ounce bottle equivalents to the U.S.* There are two Operation Fly Formula flights currently scheduled for the week of August 8, projected to import more than 5 million 8-ounce bottle equivalents of infant formula to the United States. By August 14, Operation Fly Formula flights will have completed 56 flights and imported more than 69 million 8-ounce bottle equivalents of infant formula.

*August 8- [HHS Awards Nearly \\$90 Million to Community Health Centers to Advance Health Equity through Better Data](#). *Funding from President Biden's American Rescue Plan will help improve care for the more than 30 million people served by community health centers.* Today, during National Health Center Week, the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS), through the Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA), awarded nearly \$90 million in American Rescue Plan funding to nearly 1,400 community health centers across the country to advance health equity through better data collection and reporting. On Friday, August 5, President Biden issued a [proclamation on National Health Center Week](#) to recognize the vital role health centers play in safeguarding the well-being of Americans and honor the heroic staff who keep these facilities running.

*August 9- [HHS Secretary Becerra issues 564 determination, paving way for emergency use authorization of monkeypox vaccines](#). U.S. Health and Human Services (HHS) Secretary Xavier Becerra today took action that will allow the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) Commissioner to grant emergency use authorizations (EUA) for monkeypox vaccines, following the Aug. 4 declaration of a [public health emergency](#) for monkeypox. Specifically, the Secretary issued a [determination](#) under Section 564 of the Federal Food, Drug and Cosmetic Act (FD&C) that circumstances justify emergency use authorization of vaccines.

*August 10- [Federal Health Agencies Unveil National Tool to Measure Health Impacts of Environmental Burdens](#). *New Environmental Justice Index addresses cumulative impacts on health and health equity.* (Atlanta) – Today, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) and the Agency for Toxic Substances and Disease Registry (ATSDR), in partnership with the Department of Health and Human Services’ Office of Environmental Justice, announce the release of the [Environmental Justice Index \(EJI\)](#). The EJI builds off existing environmental justice indexes to provide a single environmental justice score for local communities across the United States so that public health officials can identify and map areas most at risk for the health impacts of environmental burden.

*August 11- [KidneyX Launches New Artificial Kidney Prize with \\$10.5 Million in Funding](#). Today, the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) and the American Society of Nephrology (ASN) announced a new prize competition from the Kidney Innovation Accelerator (KidneyX) that seeks to further the development of a fully functional bioartificial kidney.

Blog

*August 8- [Lessons from Five Years of CMS’ Accountable Health Communities Model](#). Kate Johnson, Christine Ogbue, Katherine Verlander and Natalia Barolin. *Note: This blog was originally posted on HealthAffairs.org on August 8, 2022.* Excerpt: Providers and payers are increasingly addressing the health-related social needs (HRSNs) of their patients to improve outcomes, reduce costs, and address health disparities. As this practice takes hold in the field, the landmark Accountable Health Communities (AHC) Model test that launched in 2017 has now ended. AHC was the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services’ (CMS’) first model test focused on evaluating HRSN screening, referral, and navigation. It was built on emerging interventions in Accountable Care Organizations (ACOs), Medicaid Managed Care, Medicaid health homes, and home and community-based services programs.

*August 10- [Inflation Reduction Act Tax Credits Improve Coverage Affordability for Middle-Income Americans](#). Chiquita Brooks-LaSure, CMS Administrator and Dr. Ellen Montz, Deputy Administrator and Director of the Center for Consumer Information and Insurance Oversight (CCIIO). Americans shouldn’t have to worry about not being able to afford prescriptions, or that a bill from the doctor could send them into bankruptcy. That’s why the Biden-Harris Administration has made it a priority to make sure more Americans have access to affordable, high quality health insurance by strengthening the Affordable Care Act (ACA) and reducing health insurance premiums for millions of people.

*August 11- [How & why to report application changes ASAP](#). Did you recently get a new job or have a baby? Changes to your expected income for 2022 or your household size may impact your health coverage options or amount of savings you qualify for. It’s important to let the

Marketplace know immediately after you experience a change so you don't miss out on new, better options or owe money when you file next year's taxes.

For more information, please email partnership@cms.hhs.gov