VAX TO BUSINESS

PROGRAM INFORMATION & APPLICATION

FUNDING PERIOD

April 4, 2022 – December 31, 2022

FUNDING AVAILABLE

DHHS expects to award grants to eligible businesses $1000 - $2000.00 per entity. A total of $300,000.00 of funding is available for the program.

CONTACT

dhhs.minorityhealth@nebraska.gov

WEBSITE

https://dhhs.ne.gov/Pages/Vax-to-Business.aspx

BACKGROUND AND GENERAL PROGRAM INFORMATION

The Nebraska Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS) in partnership with the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) is requesting applications for the purposes of increasing COVID-19 vaccinations and vaccination education among populations at high risk in underserved and rural communities.

The overall goal of the initiative is to collaborate with small businesses that are trusted messengers in the community to address COVID-19 health disparities among populations at high-risk and underserved. This program will allow local small businesses to act as advocates and help their community mitigate COVID-19 and prepare for possible future outbreaks. Small businesses rely on repeat business and trust from customers to survive. This trust puts small businesses in a unique position to promote the COVID-19 vaccine, correct misinformation, and provide resources to their clients.

Participants will assist their clients in 1) making informed COVID-19 related decisions, 2) correcting misinformation and answering frequently asked questions related to COVID-19 mitigation and COVID-19 vaccinations, and 3) reducing barriers for COVID-19 vaccination by hosting a vaccination event, and/or referring clients to the closest vaccine location.

PROGRAM REQUIREMENTS

Selected businesses must complete all requirements in A-D listed below.

A. Training: Participating business staff will complete a 2-hour online training that will give them information and resources to have conversations with clients that may be hesitant about getting the vaccine to build vaccine confidence. The training will cover the basics of COVID-19, vaccination safety, effectiveness, side effects, and practical tools and resources.

B. Provide clients with COVID-19 prevention and vaccination information for at least 3 months: Businesses will provide information about COVID-19 and COVID-19 vaccination through their place of business, answer questions, and direct clients to resources where they can find more information to make the best decision for themselves, their family and their community.

C. *If applying for a grant of $1500 or $2000* Host a COVID-19 vaccination event: DHHS staff will help coordinate a partnership between each selected business and a vaccination provider (Local Health Department, Federally Qualified Health Center, or pharmacy) to host a vaccination event. Representation from the business is required at the event.

D. Complete the required online reporting form: The following information is required: photos of fliers or social media content of COVID-19 information posted, information about client vaccination hesitancy, and vaccination event information including photos of event if applicable.

ELIGIBLE BUSINESSES

Applicants must be a small business such as a barbershop, salon, local grocery store, local restaurant, etc. within the state of Nebraska serving any county with the exception of Douglas County to avoid duplicative funding. (If your business is in Douglas County and you are interested in hosting a vaccine clinic outside of this opportunity please contact the Douglas County Health Department).

For the purposes of this grant, a small business is one that has no more than 50 (fifty) employees and is not a franchise.

Priority will be given to businesses that serve at-risk populations in rural and under-served areas. These populations are those that have been hit hardest by COVID-19 including, but not limited to:

- Racial and ethnic minority groups
- Communities with high social vulnerability
- Rural communities
- People with disabilities
- People that are homebound/isolated or lack transportation
- Immigrants and/or refugees
- People otherwise adversely affected by poverty or inequality

TO APPLY

Please fill out the attached application. Selected businesses will be notified.

Completed applications can be emailed to dhhs.minorityhealth@nebraska.gov or may also be sent by mail to the following location:

ATTN: Department of Health and Human Services
Office of Health Disparities & Health Equity
P.O. Box 95026
Lincoln, NE 68509

Applications will be accepted on an ongoing basis until funding runs out.

VAX TO BUSINESS APPLICATION

BUSINESS NAME & NUMBER EMPLOYEES: _____

COMPLETE ADDRESS: _____

TELEPHONE NUMBER: _____

EMAIL ADDRESS: _____

SSN / TAX ID #: _____

PAYMENT SHOULD BE MADE TO: _____

AMOUNT APPLYING FOR (select only one):

☐ $1000 (only COVID-19 education)

☐ $1500 (COVID-19 education & 1 vaccine event)

☐ $2000 (COVID-19 education & 2 vaccine events)

NUMBER OF EMPLOYEES FROM BUSINESS THAT WILL PARTICIPATE IN TRAINING: _____

POPULATION(S) BUSINESS SERVES: (select all that apply)

☐ RURAL ☐ LIMITED ENGLISH PROFICENCY ☐ TRANSPORTATION LIMITED / ISOLATED

☐ PEOPLE WITH DISABILIES ☐ HISPANIC / LATINOS ☐ AFRICAN AMERICANS

☐ NATIVE AMERICANS / AMERICAN INDIANS / ALASKAN NATIVES ☐ ASIANS / PACIFIC ISLANDERS

☐ CAUCASIANS ☐ REFUGEES / IMMIGRANTS ☐ OTHER: (please specify): _____

LANGUAGE NEEDS: (If you need materials in languages other than English please list language for each area below)

☐ TRAINING: _____

☐ FLIERS & EDUCATION MATERIALS: _____

☐ INTERPRETATION FOR VACCINATION EVENT: _____

☐ OTHER: _____

STATEMENT EXPLAINING WHY YOUR BUSINESS IS A GREAT PARTNER FOR THIS PROGRAM:

_____

_____

☐ I CERTIFY THAT THIS BUSINESS IS AN "ELIGIBLE BUSINESS" AS DEFINED BY THIS ANNOUNCEMENT

PRINTED LEGAL NAME & TITLE OF APPLICANT:

_____

NEBRASKA
Good Life. Great Mission.
DEPT. OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES