

RHIP and COVID-19 MINI-GRANT PROJECT SUMMARIES

COVID-19 Final Report for La Pine Community Health Center “The Personal Protective Equipment Project - Masks”

Summary of Results:

- By providing masks for all providers, staff, patients and visitors, this project enabled us to continue to provide a safe environment for staff, patients and visitors during the COVID-19 pandemic.
- Medical masks are critical Personal Protective Equipment. Our protocol for wearing medical masks (we do not allow cloth masks for employees) has become much more involved as part of the State mandate and the costs of masks have increased dramatically.
- Every day staff begin their day with a new mask and cannot reuse it. If staff comes in direct contact with a sick patient, within 6 feet for more than 15 minutes they need a new mask. If a mask becomes dirty or soiled, staff needs a new mask.
- We have provided medical masks to all providers, staff and patients and visitors when needed and continue to enforce the comprehensive, rigorous COVID-19 safety protocols that have been in place since February/March 2020.
- From December 15, 2020, until September 15, 2021, over 12,000 masks were distributed to providers, staff, patients, and visitors at our clinic sites.
- By providing masks and a rigorous mask protocol, we have impacted all La Pine Community Health Center patients in our service area regardless of income, insurance, location, race, national origin, ethnicity, diverse-ability, age, faith, gender, gender identity and sexual orientation.
- La Pine Community Health Center has been a Federally Qualified Health Center since 2009.
- By providing masks to all providers, staff, visitors and patients we offer the highest level of safety for them as the COVID-19 pandemic continues.
- Without this grant it would have been a challenge to provide this many masks to keep our patients and staff safe.

Quote:

"We've been able to provide masks for the patients and visitors in our service area, so they remain safe at our clinic."

Erin Trapp, RN - Director of Nursing