Blue Cross and Blue Shield companies remain committed to helping communities across the country during the COVID-19 pandemic. The belief that every American deserves safe and effective COVID-19 vaccines is at the heart of our commitment. We continue to support widespread vaccination events, as well as targeted efforts to reach those with low access. Blue Cross and Blue Shield companies have so far invested $11.5 billion to support their communities during the pandemic. We’re using our deep community connections to build confidence in vaccines. And we’re striving to eliminate racial disparities in access. Our goal is to build a more equitable health care system for all, now and beyond the pandemic.

COVID-19 Vaccination Efforts

BUILT AND MANAGED THE STATEWIDE COVID-19 VACCINE NETWORK

- Served as the Third-Party Administrator of California’s vaccine network. More than 36 million doses of vaccine have been administered in the state and over 50% of eligible Californians are fully vaccinated.

- Surpassed initial goals to build a network with 572 providers and 3,037 vaccination sites with the capacity to provide more than 6 million vaccine doses per week.

- Consulted on the development of a state vaccine appointment system, My Turn, which to date has completed or scheduled over 6 million vaccine doses.

- Dedicated staff members for vaccine network management, supply allocation and helping the state reach its equity goals.

- Proactively engaged with providers and local health jurisdictions every day to help meet their needs.

ACCESSING THE VACCINE

- Reimbursement available for Medicare Advantage members that request transportation to and from vaccination appointments.

- Distributed COVID protection care packages to all MA members with information on how to stay safe and where to get more information on the vaccine.

EDUCATING THE COMMUNITY

- Partnered with local Public Health Departments for social media and radio campaigns.

- Developed online vaccine FAQs: Busting Vaccine Myths.

- Distributed emails to members with safety and efficacy information.

- Published a blog post by BSCA's Chief Health Officer that addressed safety information about the vaccines.

UPCOMING COVID EFFORTS

Supporting expansion of the State Vaccine Network to include pediatric providers and small, independent family physician practices.

ADDRESSING INEQUITIES

- Joined AHIP and BCBSA on Vaccine Community Connectors program, pledging to promote vaccinations for 2 million underserved, at-risk Americans.

- Joined the Rally for Recovery Commitment, a national commitment to protect employees and communities by encouraging vaccines and continued mitigation effort.

- Partnered with providers to distribute vaccines directly to providers to maximize distribution efficiency. These vaccines are allocated to make sure low-income neighborhoods and communities of color have access, and providers are compensated in-part by how well they are able to reach disparately affected communities.

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Blue Shield of California is an independent licensee of the Blue Cross Blue Shield Association.