



HPV Cancer Prevention Program

Preventing HPV Cancers with Rural Communities: Updates and Opportunities

Quarterly Meeting

Summary

August 20, 2025

1:00 – 2:00 PM ET / 12:00 – 1:00 PM CT

Access the presentation slides and recording of the [August 2025 Rural HPV Vaccination Quarterly Updates Meeting \(LINK\)](#)

Presenters:

- Nicole Williams, MPH, Program Coordinator, HPV Cancer Prevention Program, St. Jude Children's Research Hospital
- Maddy McNee, MPH, Program Coordinator, HPV Cancer Prevention Program, St. Jude Children's Research Hospital
- Dandy Garcia, NALHE, Associate Director for Community Partnerships, American Cancer Society

Progress Revisiting Rural HPV Vaccination Priority Actions: Overview of new Rural HPV Vaccination Summary Report – Nicole Williams, MPH

- Progress continues to be made on the [six priority action steps](#) to increase HPV vaccination with rural communities initially developed by a rural HPV think tank in 2023. As a reminder, the priorities are:
 - Promote starting HPV vaccination at age 9 in rural communities.
 - Compile and share existing resources for addressing HPV vaccination with rural communities.
 - Develop or adapt health care provider and health care professional HPV vaccination training resources for those serving rural communities.
 - Explore policy influences on HPV vaccination in rural areas.
 - Develop, test, and disseminate easy-to-use messages for rural audiences.
 - Review and update existing resources and data on HPV vaccination and HPV cancers in rural communities.
- During this meeting the following updates were provided:
 - An overview was presented of the forthcoming **Rural HPV Vaccination Summary Report**, developed to document the St. Jude HPV Cancer Prevention Program's rural HPV activities since they began in 2023 and guide the ongoing process of revisiting the six rural HPV vaccination priority actions given the current rural health funding and policy landscape. Key achievements from the report include:
 - Progress has been made across all six priorities (start at age 9, compile/share resources, provider training, policy and advocacy, communication, and data).
 - Highlights from the report of some key evaluation metrics include:
 - hosted three (3) rural-focused seminars for our annual HPV awareness day programming, presented two (2) webinars for partners on rural HPV vaccination, published two (2) policy papers about HPV vaccination, presented our rural HPV work at six (6) national conferences, published three (3) research papers on rural

HPV vaccination and cancer trends, hosted eight (8) quarterly meetings and sent eight (8) quarterly communications to share updates and progress, published 32 articles in the Wide Open Spaces article series, maintain a robust rural HPV listserv of over 600 members, and over 5,000 visits to the preventing HPV cancers with rural communities webpage to-date

- Other resources highlighted included: [Preventing HPV Cancers with Rural Communities factsheet](#) and refreshed national campaign materials which now include rural-focused resources [here](#).
- We plan to share the Rural HPV Vaccination Summary Report later this year along with our updated rural HPV vaccination priorities to celebrate National Rural Health Day on November 20.
- In response to the changing dynamics, we are experiencing affecting rural health and vaccinations, and as part of our process to revisit the six rural HPV vaccination priorities, we have launched an updated national survey to guide this ongoing effort. The feedback will help us refine our strategies moving forward to maximize impact in rural HPV cancer prevention efforts.
 - **We would greatly value your input by September 12 to help ensure the revised priorities reflect on-the-ground realities and today's rural health context. Take the survey [here](#).**
- Join us for the next seminar in our Empowering and Strengthening Community, Culture, and Connection to Prevent HPV Cancers series on **October 16, from 10-11:15 a.m. Central Time for *Close-Knit, Far-Reaching: Harnessing the Strengths of Rural Communities to Prevent HPV Cancers Through HPV Vaccination***. The seminar will explore differences in HPV vaccination and HPV cancers within and across sub-groups present in rural communities and will explore actionable strategies to prevent HPV cancers by addressing the unique barriers faced by rural communities. Through the lens of rural intersectionality, participants will examine how geography, race, ethnicity, sex, and socioeconomic status intersect to influence HPV vaccination access and outcomes in rural communities. Register [here](#).

Migrant Farmworkers Coalition-Indiana – Dandy Garcia, NALHE

- The featured presentation focused on building the Migrant Farmworker Coalition to improve cancer prevention and education among migrant and seasonal farm workers in Indiana.
- These farm workers face elevated exposure to UV, pesticides and chemicals, among others, which increases their risk for cancers, while also facing barriers to accessing health and preventative care and services.
- The Migrant Farmworker Coalition-Indiana was created to bring services, education, and resources to farm workers. In leading the Coalition, Dandy collaborates with Federally Qualified Health Centers (FQHCs), community health centers, state labor offices, and organizations like Proteus and the Mexican Consulate.
- In 15 events over the last year, the Migrant Farmworker Coalition has reached over 3,000 workers. Activities included safety training, screening referrals, resource distribution, HPV vaccination education, and provision of preventive items (ie sunscreen, Red Cross resources, and nutrition support).
- Emphasis was placed on the need for strong collaboration across organizations and flexibility in planning outreach events due to seasonal work schedules.
- Many farm workers were unfamiliar with HPV vaccination. The American Cancer Society provides Spanish-language resources, opening the door for broader engagement and cancer prevention conversations.
- The discussion drove home the need to integrate farmworker outreach into broader rural HPV prevention strategies as well as the value of collaboration across multiple organizations and sectors and underscored the importance of “meeting people where they are”, a salient theme across rural health.

Closing and Next Steps – Maddy McNee, MPH

- **Mark your calendars** for [National Rural Health Day](#) on November 20 for our final **Preventing HPV Cancers with Rural Communities: Updates and Opportunities** Quarterly Meeting of 2025 from 12:00 – 1:00 p.m. CT / 1:00 – 2:00 p.m. ET. Click [here](#) to register. We look forward to celebrating the

strengths of rural communities during this meeting, and through our quarterly newsletter in November, dedicated to National Rural Health Day.

- Tell us what you are working on related to rural HPV cancer prevention. We would love to showcase your work with rural communities to increase HPV vaccination and prevent HPV cancer. We are all learning from each other to improve protection among people living in rural communities. Contact us at PreventHPV@stjude.org if you are interested in:
 - Presenting as part of an upcoming quarterly updates meeting
 - Sharing information in the quarterly communication
 - Contributing to our monthly Wide Open Spaces article series
- St. Jude HPV Cancer Prevention Program's national public awareness campaign "Their Future is in Your Hands" has re-launched to include a focus on rural communities. Access the campaign at stjude.org/PreventHPV and rural content directly [here](#).

Helpful Resources

We encourage you to access [St. Jude HPV Cancer Prevention Program Rural HPV Vaccination Resources](#) and use and share the following rural HPV vaccination resources from the St. Jude HPV Cancer Prevention Program:

- Website: stjude.org/hpvrural
- Preventing HPV Cancers in Rural Communities [fact sheet](#). Printed copies are also available upon request.
- Wide Open Spaces articles are available at stjude.org/hpvrural – read the latest article From August [here](#)
- January 2023: St. Jude Rural HPV Vaccination Introductory Meeting [recording](#)
- Preventing HPV Cancers with Rural Communities: Quarterly Updates and Opportunities:
 - August 2025 quarterly updates [recording](#) and [newsletter](#)
 - May 2025 quarterly updates [recording](#) and [newsletter](#)
 - February 2025 quarterly updates [recording](#) and [newsletter](#)
 - November 2024 quarterly updates [recording](#) and [newsletter](#)