The V-PROTECT: Confidence [Vaccinate to protect yourself, your family, and your community] program aims to address vaccine hesitancy and low uptake rates among Black and Asian refugee, immigrant, and migrant (RIM) communities in Illinois by identifying ethnically and culturally tailored interventions to increase confidence in vaccine products, vaccine providers, and vaccine policy. Black and Asian RIM communities experience barriers to healthcare access with contributing factors to heightened vaccine hesitancy and low uptake rates. The Asian Health Coalition will strategically partner with local community-based organizations and regional health centers across Illinois to assess, develop, and disseminate culturally and linguistically tailored interventions to improve vaccine confidence and uptake. Selected partners will demonstrate an ability to reach Black and Asian RIM groups within urban, suburban, and/or rural counties.

PROGRAM OPPORTUNITY

With generous support from the U.S. Department of Health & Human Services - OASH, the Asian Health Coalition will select 4 community partners to activate the V-PROTECT: Confidence program. Each partner will receive up to $20,000, along with ongoing technical assistance, capacity building, and programmatic support, to conduct listening sessions, provide education and awareness campaigns, collect completed knowledge assessments, and provide healthcare navigation to community members within their catchment area.

COMMITMENT BY COMMUNITY PARTNERS

Working alone, or within a neighborhood collaborative, selected partners will commit to the following activities from December 1, 2021 to September 29, 2022.

- Identify at least one individual to serve as an trusted messenger;
- Conduct listening sessions and surveys within the Black and/or Asian RIM communities to learn about the community’s confidence in vaccine products, providers, and policy decisions;
- Using educational resources, lead culturally and linguistically competent vaccine education events for Black and/or Asian RIM communities to raise awareness and improve knowledge about vaccine effectiveness and safety;
- Participate in monthly group or individual calls with staff from Asian Health Coalition on vaccine education, patient navigation, and strategies for connecting individuals to community health centers/FQHCs;
☐ Provide feedback on Asian Health Coalition resources by reviewing language, cultural appropriateness, and content of educational materials, resources, and handouts for community participants such as PowerPoint presentations, pre/post surveys, and posters;

☐ Participate in process and outcome evaluation by collecting completed intake forms, surveys, and other items, such as our demographic form, pre/post surveys and healthcare connect forms; and

☐ Complete all reporting requirements, such as monthly reports, call logs, and other paperwork, requested by Asian Health Coalition or DHHS – OASH.

**OUR COMMITMENT**

The Asian Health Coalition will work to expand the capacity of the selected partner organizations to provide culturally and linguistically appropriate education, awareness, and patient linkage to regional health centers. AHC will provide trainings to partner organizations and connect them to vaccination sites to facilitate community-clinic connections. Between December 1, 2021 through September 29, 2022, we will provide technical assistance, expertise, and programmatic support, including:

☐ Trainings on trusted messengers, vaccine education, patient navigation, and strategies for connecting individuals to relevant healthcare providers;

☐ In language, culturally tailored educational materials, resources, and handouts for community participants such as PowerPoint presentations, pre/post surveys, and posters;

☐ Evaluation material such as listening session guides, and surveys;

☐ Ongoing technical assistance, expertise, and programmatic support by Asian Health Coalition staff to assist with implementing vaccine education, patient navigation, and outcome evaluation.

**TIMELINE**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>November 19, 2021, 5pm CST</td>
<td>Deadline to submit <em>V-Protect: Confidence</em> program partner online application</td>
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<tr>
<td>November 29, 2021</td>
<td>Notification of community partner selections</td>
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<tr>
<td>December 8, 2021</td>
<td><em>V-Protect: Confidence</em> program launch meeting with selected community partners.</td>
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<tr>
<td>December 31, 2021 – September 29, 2022 [Last Business Day of Month]</td>
<td>Submission of monthly reports</td>
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<tr>
<td>April 2022</td>
<td><em>V-Protect: Confidence</em> program mid-year meeting</td>
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<tr>
<td>September 2022</td>
<td><em>V-Protect: Confidence</em> program year-end meeting</td>
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ELIGIBILITY AND REVIEW CRITERIA

This opportunity is limited to Illinois-based non-profit 501c3 organizations or regional health centers that are reaching Black and/or Asian RIM communities. The Asian Health Coalition will make a final determination of funding for all community partners based on the following criteria:

- Compliance with all application guidelines
- Strong alignment with our grant goals and community priorities
- Experience with community health education that meets the cultural and linguistic needs of your communities
- Experience with referring community members to local healthcare providers
- Capacity to fulfill all grant requirements including participation at coalition meetings, monthly reports, and evaluation requirements

Please note that submission does not guarantee funding.

TO APPLY

Submit your application online at:  [https://redcap.link/VProtectConfidence](https://redcap.link/VProtectConfidence)

Questions? Please contact Program Director, **Alia Southworth** at alia@asianhealth.org or call (773) 834-6599.