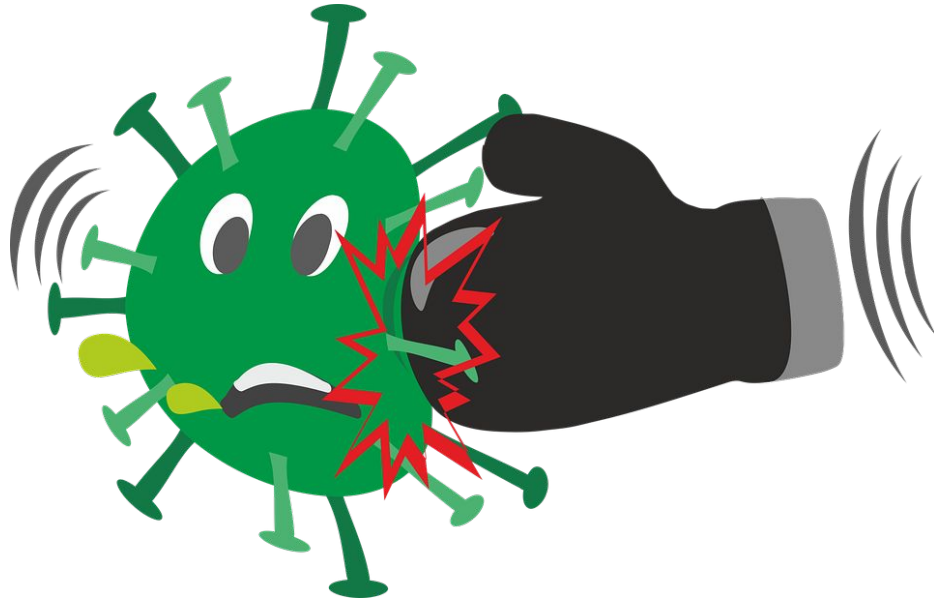


# 2021 Summary of COVID-19 Awareness Projects



by Jae Jin Pak and Timotheus “T.J.” Gordon, Jr.



UNIVERSITY OF  
**ILLINOIS CHICAGO**

Institute on Disability  
and Human Development



**MOREHOUSE**  
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***This social story is made possible by:***  
*The Institute on Disability and Human Development*  
*Chicagoland Disabled People of Color Coalition*  
*Association of Centers and Universities on Disabilities*  
*National COVID-19 Resilience Network*  
*Morehouse College School of Medicine*

In Spring 2021, Chicagoland Disabled People of Color, with support of the Institute on Disability and Human Development (IDHD), partnered the National COVID-19 Resilience Network (NCRN) through a mini-grant where we create events and information on COVID-19 vaccines, resources, and updates to share to the disability community in the Chicagoland area.

We are also connected to a network of organizations throughout the United States who are doing projects on helping marginalized communities through the pandemic.

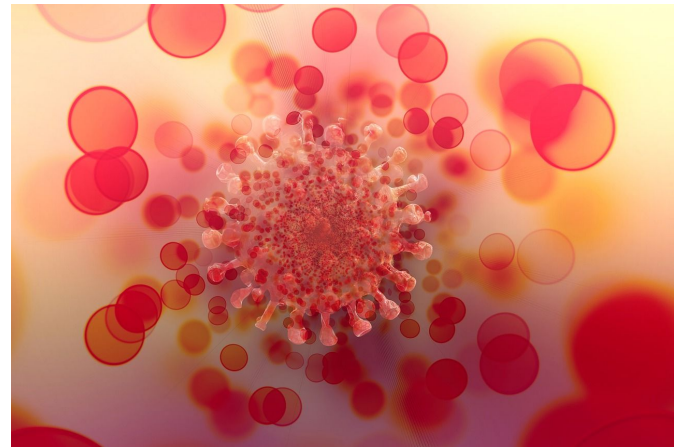


During the summer of 2021, Chicagoland DPOCC and IDHD put together a social story on updates about COVID-19 vaccinations, including addressing misinformation of the vaccines in communities of color, where to get the vaccine, and updates on which age groups are eligible to receive vaccines.

We will give updates on when the vaccines are available to children under 5 years old and other treatment options for those who are not able to get the vaccine due to certain medical conditions.



We also made a guide that informs the disability community about the delta variant; we will soon create a similar guide that will give important information of the omicron variant of COVID-19 (not the Omarion variant).



While we created the guides, we also partnered with Equip for Equality (an organization that advocates for disability rights in Chicago) and the Sibling Leadership Network to create and share two-page plain language flyers on where people with disabilities can find and ask about getting COVID-19 vaccines at home and mobile sites through the City of Chicago and Cook County suburbs.

# I cannot leave home. Can I still get a COVID vaccine?

**Yes!** The Cook County Department of Public Health has partnered with organizations who can provide in-home vaccination to those who qualify.



## Who qualifies for this program?

To qualify for this program, you must...

be 65 or older

**OR**

have a disability

**OR**

use adaptive equipment  
*(like a ventilator, crutches, a walker or wheelchair)*

## AND...

- Be unable to leave your home because it is too difficult
- Live in Suburban Cook County

If you live in Chicago, Skokie, Evanston, Oak Park, or Stickney, please contact your local health department for information on how to get a vaccine.

**Sign up by calling our hotline: 833-308-1988**

*Hotline hours are M-F 7am-10pm and Sat 8am-10pm*

**Or, sign up online:** <http://bit.ly/homevaccine>



When we receive your request we will work to connect you with one of our partners. They will call you to schedule an appointment. Please be patient while we work through a large number of requests.



In addition to the guides, we have interviewed a few self-advocates across the state of Illinois; these self-advocates talked about their experiences with getting COVID-19 vaccines and why they chose to get vaccinated.



In October 2021, Chicagoland DPOCC, IDHD, and Interfaith Council hosted a virtual event where people could ask questions or raise concerns to faith leaders in Chicago about how faith and religion can affect one's decision to either get the COVID-19 vaccine or not.





Chicagoland DPOCC has partnered with two organizations, due to our commitment to provide COVID-19 related resources to people of color with disabilities:

- Jae Jin and T.J. represents Chicagoland DPOCC and IDHD in Chicago Mayor's Office for People with Disabilities (MOPD) Advisory Committee, where they raise concerns of including people with disabilities in the Chicago economy, conversations on public transportation during the pandemic, and COVID-19 efforts (including health care).



**PPE 4 PWD**

Personal Protective Equipment  
for People with Disabilities

- Chicagoland DPOCC is also a part of a Cook County group called Personal Protective Equipment for People with Disabilities (PPE 4 PWD). The purpose of PPE 4 PWD is to ensure that Cook County community members have the necessary personal protective equipment (PPE) to stay safe during the pandemic.



**PPE 4 PWD**

Personal Protective Equipment  
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While we have done a lot of great things with creating and supporting COVID-19 related resources in 2021, Chicagoland DPOCC will continue to provide accurate and plain-language information, as well as updated resources and news, related to COVID-19 and disability in the Chicagoland area. For instance, we are currently creating a TikTok channel with interns, where viewers can quickly access latest updates on COVID-19 mandates and information that impact people of color with disabilities.



For detailed examples of projects we've done under the NRCN mini-grant, or if you would like additional information related to COVID-19 resources for people of color with disabilities in the Chicagoland area, visit:

- COVID-19 Vaccination and Resource Database:  
<https://tinyurl.com/COVID19-Resource-Database>
- COVID-19 Resource Playlist (including self-advocate interviews):  
<https://tinyurl.com/COVID19-Resource-Playlist>





*Thank you for reading our summary, and  
for your support!*