



# Northwest Healthcare Response Network

Onora Lien, Executive Director

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# About Us

- Independent non-profit organization
- Launched 2005 as a program with local public health
- Incorporated as nonprofit in 2013
- Healthcare coalition across western WA state and statewide collaboration & coordination

*We lead cross-sector, solution-oriented coordination to build healthcare ecosystem resilience in order to face emergencies, disasters, disease outbreaks, and other disruptive events*



# COVID-19

- Many forms of public-private partnerships (PPP) were critical to vaccine distribution and other MCM distribution efforts during COVID-19 in WA
  - Local and state public health and emergency management lead PPPs with large employers, community-based partners
  - State Vaccine Action Command & Coordination Center System (VACCS) PPP with large employers, healthcare, unions & others
- Very strong collaboration among public and private sector partners esp healthcare and public health partners through our efforts to support allocation and distribution of MCMs such as:
  - Remdesivir
  - Monoclonal antibodies
  - Ventilators
  - PPE
  - Vaccine



# How we engaged

- Help identify and escalate healthcare's needs with public health
- Create forum for public health to bring issues, concerns to healthcare
- Identify needed healthcare or other expertise that could assist
- Facilitate and broker collaboration among cross-sector partners
- Facilitate and broker strategies and problem solving to reach pragmatic, innovative solutions
- Planning
- Support data collection, information sharing for ongoing collaboration and problem-solving



# What helped

- Mission focused mindset
- “Backbone organization” to serve as coordinating entity
  - Trust
  - Relationships
  - Neutral broker
  - Structure
  - Support establishing/implementing systems (plans and data)
- Forum for problem-solving
- Leveraging private sector and healthcare expertise, resources
- Willingness of partners to commit their time and resources to collaboration
- Equity focused goals



# Challenges

- Maintaining true “common operating picture”
- Role clarity
- Supply availability
- Changing communication needs
- In some cases, funding/reimbursement options for healthcare
- Resources to sustain the effort
- Variability among state and local and regional approaches and decision-making
- Competing with daily business needs of community and private sector partners



# Takeaways

- Leverage and build on existing partnerships; integrate new partners into these when possible
- Invest in and sustain capacity to support PPP coordination of these efforts
- Private sector engagement can and should happen at many levels
- Need to sustain buy in to these collaborations for the next event ;
- Plan in ways that will make sense for maximizing private partner participation
- Equity priorities will vary community to community
- Nothing replaces local knowledge and importance of engaging local communities and partners especially in advancing equity
- Data driven, public health minded approach is critical

