

Lessons Learned: Reaching Recent Arrivers with Special Short Term Legal Status to meet TB Screening Requirements, e.g. Afghans, Ukrainians, Venezuelans, Nicaraguans, Haitians

Julie Higashi, MD PhD
Director, TB Control Program Los Angeles County
October 3, 2023



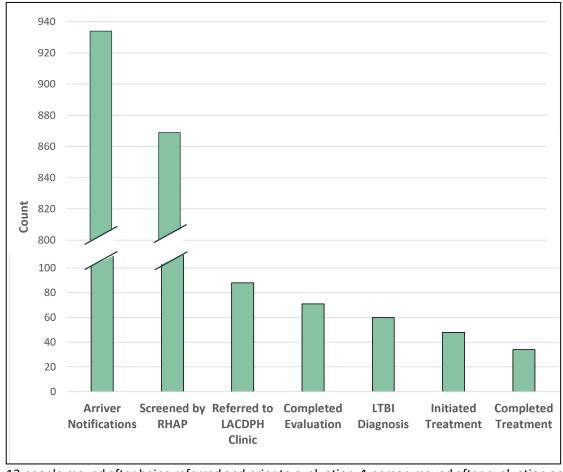
Outline

- Afghan evacuee cohort
 - Outcomes
 - Strategies
- Ukrainian arrivers
 - Outcomes
 - Strategies
 - Website
 - Postcard/Flyers
 - Social Media
 - Municipal Transit Authority Campaign
 - Community Outreach
 - Impact/Costs of Strategy

LTBI Cascade of Care of Arrivers from Afghanistan in LAC 2021-2023



LTBI Prevalence = 6.9 %



12 people moved after being referred and prior to evaluation, 1 person moved after evaluation and prior to treatment initiation, and 3 people moved after treatment initiation but prior to treatment completion.



Performance Measures vs Outcomes

The screening and treatment initiation outcomes of this cohort (93% and 81%, respectively) with an anticipated treatment completion of 86% exceed RHAP's TB performance objectives (90% screened, 70% treatment initiation, 78% treatment completion).

| | RHAP Performance Objective | Outcome to Date | Expected Outcome |
|------------------------|----------------------------------|-----------------|---------------------|
| % Screened | 90% | 93% | 93% |
| % Treatment Initiation | 70% | 81% | 81% |
| % Treatment Completion | 78% | 75% | 80% |

Lessons learned



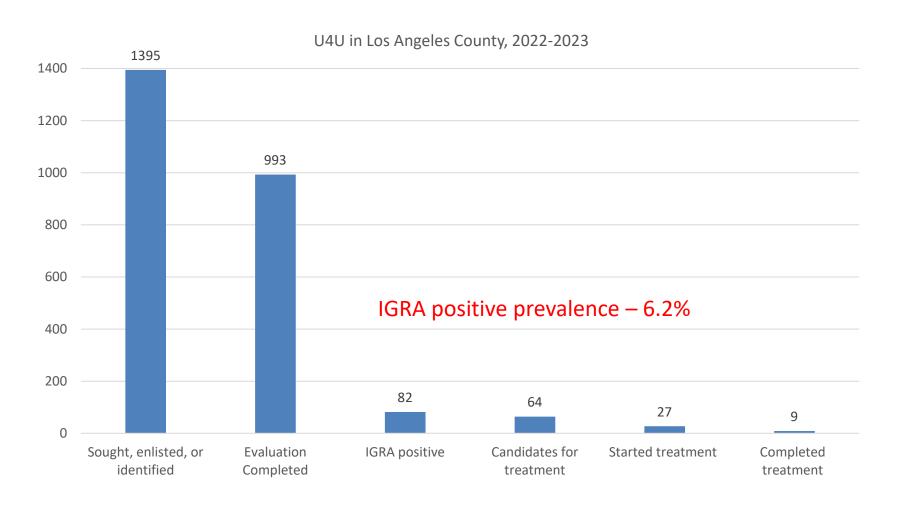
- Clinic based case management was effective in helping arrivers complete TB evaluations in refugee health clinic and support transition to chest clinic for LTBI treatment
- Hiring community workers from the arriver community with language skills improved capacity and service delivery
- TBCP assisted in tracking outcomes such as completed evaluations, link to clinic services chest clinic, and initiation and completion of treatment
- A combination of:
 - Clinic based community worker evaluation completion, linkage to TB clinic
 - Clinician review outcomes for accurate diagnosis and tracking, linkage to primary care provider
 - Epidemiology support tracking of outcomes; Q/A that could feed back to community worker or clinician

LAC Ukrainian Arriver Outcomes as of September, 200





Estimated Ukrainian arrivals in LA County to date by sponsors – 10,000





Timeline of Interventions

USCIS Launches U4U (April 21, 2022) Health Educator
Assistant hired;
social media in
Ukrainian/Russian
(March to present)

Mining
Electronic
Laboratory
Reporting Test
Environment
(July 2023)

Media Event

– NPR Radio
(October 5,
2023)











RHAP Banner on TBCP Website (November 2022)

r Municipal Transit
Authority Campaign
QR Codes directing to
TBCP website
(March-May, 2023)

Community Education and Testing Events (May, 2023 to present)

Armenian
American
Medical
Association
Invited Talk
(November 11,
2023)



NEED HELP WITH YOUR HEALTH ATTESTATION?

CALL THE REFUGEE HEALTH CENTER (818) 291-8901



Scan QR Code to learn more or visit: www.ph.lacounty.gov/tb/think-test-treat-tb.htm



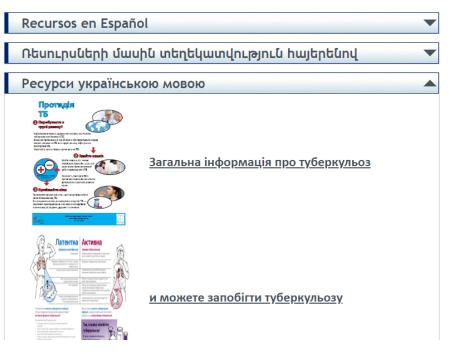
#UNITINGFORUKRAINE

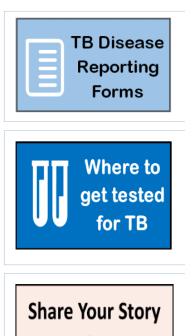




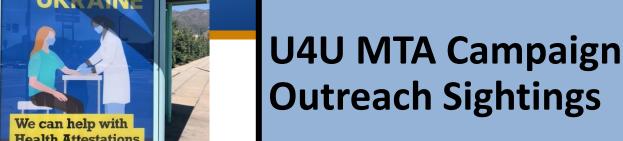
Refugees Needing Help with Their Tuberculosis (TB) Attestation Call (818) 291-8901







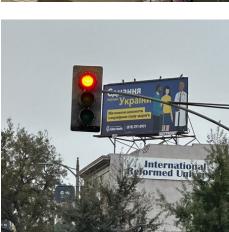




 U4U advertisements were posted on bus shelters and billboards around SPA 2 and SPA 4 from March – April (can still see some around!)













Strategies – Costs and FTE

| Strategy | Unit | Cost/FTE | Comment |
|--------------------------------------|--|---|--|
| Postcards/Flyers | 2500/900 | 500/200 | Printing Costs |
| Municipal Transit Authority Campaign | 24 Billboards50 Bus Shelters29 Bus Tails | 151,000 | Combined U4U and Latinx/Hispanic Population Outreach |
| Social Media | Posts | In House Artwork | Telegram/Facebook |
| Health Education Assistant | 40 hours/week | 5000/month | Critical for social media posting (one way) |
| Community Outreach events | 1-2 events per month | 1-4 PHN/CDC PHAP 1-2 Community Worker 1 Health Educator | Testing event doubles number of staff; capacity 24 individuals tested in 3 hours |
| Incentives/Enablers | \$20 grocery/target Hygeine kits | 1 per in face encounter | Testing Treatment |



Total IGRA Volume by IGRA Type Los Angeles County, Jan-Jun 2023





Earned Media



https://wehotimes.com/west-hollywood-hosts-weho-mishka-festival-celebrating-russian-culture/

Summary/Conclusions



- LA County has elicited contact information of about 14% of expected Ukrainian arrivers
- Costs of creating a campaign can be modest:
 - Work with partners to gain access to quality graphics
 - Work with your communications team and web design team
 - Print materials to hand out in community with QR code or phone number
 - Post on social media in appropriate languages
 - Translation costs were far less than expected
- Larger scale awareness campaign did not generate many telephone calls but may have impacted aggregate TB testing
- Health educator/Community workers with cultural/language skills are key for getting the word to the right population



Acknowledgements

- TBCP Elimination, Education, Evaluation Team
 - Ayda Keshishian, PHN, RN
 - Ashley Randall, Senior Health Educator; Kimberly Lynn-Otello Health Educator
- Epidemiology
 - Edward Lan Supervising Epidemiologist
- Communications Team
 - Annette Kondo
- Refugee Health Assessment Program/Clinic
 - Emily Wen, Program Manager
 - Nataliya Ageyenko, Health Education Assistant



Thank you!













Presentation Extras





Extras: Colors

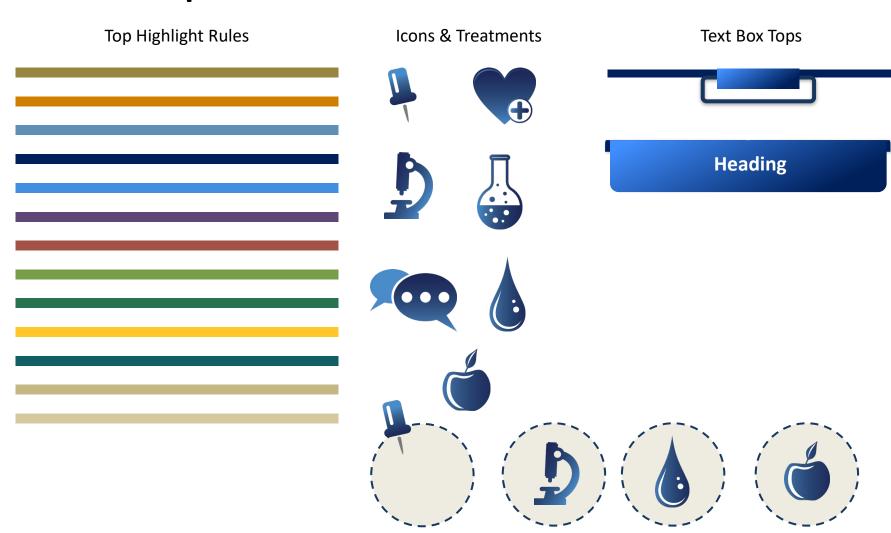
Additional SPA colors

| GOLD Pantone 145 | cf7f00 | 207-127-0 |
|-----------------------|--------|------------|
| BRICK Pantone 7524 | a45248 | 164-82-72 |
| GREEN Pantone 555 | 28724f | 40-114-79 |
| YELLOW Pantone 123 | ffc72c | 255-199-44 |
| TEAL Pantone 5483 | 4f868e | 17-94-103 |
| PURPLE Pantone 7447 | 5d4777 | 93-71-119 |
| LT. GREEN Pantone 576 | 789d4a | 120-157-74 |
| BLUE Pantone 7454 | 5f8fb4 | 95-143-180 |
| | | |

| Dk. Blue Pantone 281 | 00205b | 0-32-91 |
|---|-------------|-------------|
| Med. Blue Pantone 279 | 418fde | 65-143-222 |
| LT. TAN Pantone 4525 | c58783 | 197-183-131 |
| Lt. Tan Pantone 4545 | d5cb9f | 213-200-159 |
| Standard Background 2 (used in background box | 238-236-225 | |



Extras: Shapes & Icons

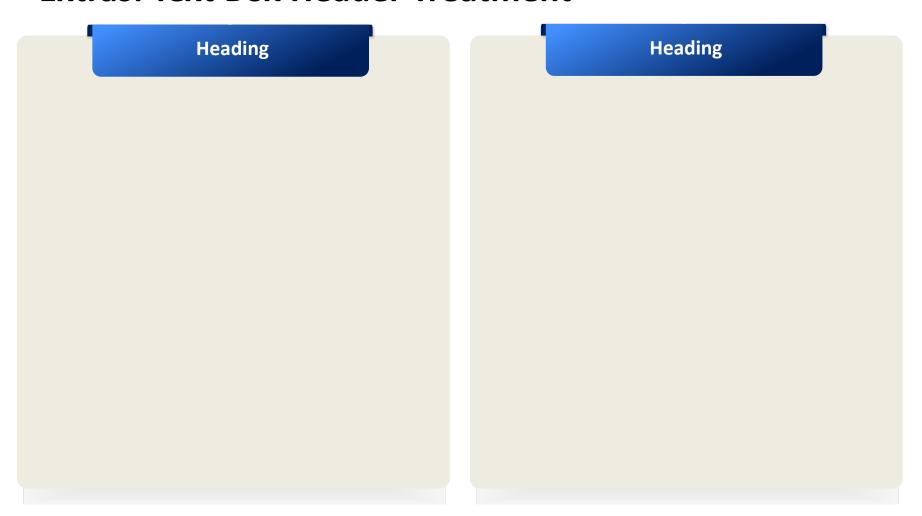




Extras: Text Box Highlight Treatment



Extras: Text Box Header Treatment





Extras: Highlight Option

Today, Americans live about **30 years longer** than in 1900 mostly due to Public Health efforts

Today, Americans live about **30 years longer** than in 1900 mostly due to Public Health efforts