

# Public Health and Faith Community Partnerships:

## Model Practices to Increase Influenza Prevention Among Hard-to-Reach Populations

### A RESOURCE GUIDE AND TOOLKIT FOR PUBLIC HEALTH AGENCIES

The Interfaith Health Program, in partnership with the Association of State and Territorial Health Officials (ASTHO) and with support from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), has published a resource guide and toolkit, **Public Health and Faith Community Partnerships: Model Practices to Increase Influenza Prevention Among Hard-to-Reach Populations**.

The Model Practices Framework provides strategies to identify and engage faith-based organizations as partners in community health promotion and disease prevention outreach. Designed for both public health and religious leaders, the aims of the guide are to contribute to partnership-building capacity and to enhance the ability of public health to reduce the spread of influenza.

The toolkit addresses the capacity and unique contributions of faith-based partners in breaking through access barriers of mistrust, income, geography, and culture. These distinctive practices are organized into three categories:



#### The Foundation

Four practices that describe what is unique to the faith-based character of this work and undergird the sustaining qualities of enduring commitment.

- Faith Mission as Core Driver
- Trust in Community
- Compassion-Driven Flexibility
- Inclusivity



#### The Processes

Five practices that represent what is essential to accomplish the work on a day to day basis recognizing the roles of faith-based partners.

- Identify Trusted Leaders
- Marry Stories with Data
- Keep Relationships and Presence Paramount
- Build and Maintain Trust
- Collaboration that Endures



#### The Infrastructure

Five capacities and structural components that support and grow the work through the processes and activities, sustained by the foundational core drivers.

- Leadership Anchors the Network
- Volunteers as Groundwork
- Circle of Core Partners
- Network Connections
- Multisectoral Collaborations