



## NEWS RELEASE

**For Immediate Release**  
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### **The African American Research Collaborative and The Commonwealth Fund to Host Media Call to Release Findings of the American COVID-19 Vaccine Poll on Vaccine Hesitancy Among Americans**

**WASHINGTON, D.C.** – The National Association of Latino Elected and Appointed Officials (NALEO) Educational Fund today released the following advisory on a special virtual press event Wednesday, June 16, at 12:00 p.m. ET, hosted by the African American Research Collaborative (AARC) and The Commonwealth Fund to present findings from the just-completed 2021 American COVID-19 Vaccine Poll—an expansive poll meant to understand the barriers to Americans taking a COVID-19 vaccine.

During the event, AARC and The Commonwealth Fund will be joined by leading medical and public health experts and scholars from some of the nation's most prestigious research universities, who helped design the poll, to share in-depth analysis on these and other questions:

- What are the primary drivers of vaccine hesitancy, particularly in rural regions and communities of color? Are there differences based on race or who one voted for in 2020?
- What will it take to get non-vaccinated Americans to take a COVID-19 vaccine?
- How do parents feel about vaccinating their children against COVID-19?
- Should COVID-19 vaccines be mandatory for teachers and students in K-12 schools?
- Will Americans take booster vaccines or a combination Flu/COVID-19 vaccine annually?

The poll surveyed more than 13,000 people nationwide across race and gender lines, with large samples of African Americans, Latinos, Asian Americans, Whites, Pacific Islanders, Native Americans, and rural Americans. The poll was offered in multiple languages, both via live phone interview and online. During the webinar, the pollsters and researchers will be joined by groups working to increase vaccine uptake to present key findings and discuss what those results mean as we get closer to our nation's new "normal."

## **WHO**

- Henry Fernandez, Principal, African American Research Collaborative
- Laurie Zephyrin, M.D., Vice President, Advancing Health Equity, Commonwealth Fund
- Ray Block, Ph.D., Senior Research Analyst, AARC; Associate Professor, Penn State
- Matt Barreto, Ph.D., President, BSP Research; Professor UCLA
- Janelle Wong, Ph.D., Professor, University of Maryland
- Arturo Vargas, Chief Executive Officer, NALEO Educational Fund
- Raymond Foxworth, Ph.D., Vice President, First Nations Development Institute
- Peter G. Szilagyi, M.D., MPH, Prof. Dept. of Pediatrics, UCLA David Geffen School of Medicine

## **WHAT**

Webinar to release and discuss key findings on causes of COVID-19 vaccine hesitancy and barriers to access based on the 2021 American COVID-19 Vaccine Poll

## **WHEN**

Wednesday, June 16, 2021

12:00 p.m. ET

## **HOW TO JOIN**

RSVP [here](#)

### *Pollsters and Sponsors*

*The pollsters for the American COVID-19 Vaccine Poll were the African American Research Collaborative and BSP Research.*

*Sponsoring organizations include The Commonwealth Fund, Robert Wood Johnson Foundation, and W.K. Kellogg Foundation.*

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### **About NALEO Educational Fund**

*NALEO Educational Fund is the nation's leading non-partisan, non-profit organization that facilitates the full participation of Latinos in the American political process, from citizenship to public service.*

### **About the African American Research Collaborative**

*The African American Research Collaborative (AARC) provides high-quality research and analysis on the political interests, motivations, and goals of African Americans. Our expert team of pollsters, researchers, and analysts has vast experience in polling, American political behavior, and issues that affect us all: healthcare, the economy, education, housing, civil rights, policing, jobs, grassroots organizing, and social justice.*

**About The Commonwealth Fund**

*The Commonwealth Fund is a non-profit foundation supporting independent research on health care issues and making grants to improve health care practice and policy. For more information, please visit [commonwealthfund.org](http://commonwealthfund.org).*