

# Introducing the AHRQ ECHO National Nursing Home COVID-19 Action Network

Protect your residents and staff

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**AHRQ ECHO National Nursing  
Home COVID-19 Action Network**



# Today's Speakers



Dr. Sanjeev Arora  
Founder and Director  
Project ECHO



Associate Director  
Project ECHO



Alice Bonner  
Senior Advisor for  
Aging, IHI

# What is the COVID-19 Action Network?

- Supported by the federal Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality (AHRQ) and in collaboration with the Institute for Healthcare Improvement (IHI), Project ECHO is launching a National Nursing Home COVID-19 Action Network.
- We are actively recruiting nursing homes around the country to join in this interactive community of practice.
- The goal is to collaboratively advance improvements in COVID-19 preparedness, safety and infection control.



# GOALS – Implement evidence-based best practices to help nursing homes to:

- Keep the virus out of nursing homes where it has not entered.
- Identify residents and staff who have been infected with the virus early.
- Prevent the spread of the virus between staff, residents and visitors.
- Provide safe, appropriate care to residents with mild and asymptomatic cases.
- Ensure staff practice safety measures to protect residents and themselves.
- Reduce social isolation for residents, families and staff.





## How will we achieve our goals?

- Provide no-cost training and mentorship to thousands of nursing homes nationwide.
- Create a virtual learning community where nursing home staff can learn from experts and each other to expand the use of proven best practices.

# The COVID-19 Action Network's Approach

- An interactive virtual community of practice using the ECHO model: guided mentorship to share complex ideas using an “all teach, all learn” environment.
- Weekly sessions over 16 weeks that include a short lecture plus case-based presentations and discussion.
- Nursing home teams learning from experts and each other, and specialists learning from on-the-ground experience of nursing home teams.
- Sharing best practices that can be put to use immediately.

# The COVID-19 Action Network's Approach

- Virtual sessions are facilitated by small multidisciplinary teams of subject matter and quality improvement experts.
- Nursing homes participate in virtual groups of 33-35.
- Sessions follow a standardized curriculum that is updated weekly to reflect new evidence and best practices.
- Project ECHO links together more than 100 local training centers with thousands of nursing homes in local learning communities embedded within a national action community.





# Highlights of the curriculum

- PPE best practices
- Infection control practices
- COVID-19 testing
- Clinical management of asymptomatic and mild cases
- Minimizing the spread of COVID-19
- Managing social isolation





# Why should nursing homes participate?

- Gain practical information, skills and resources.
- Connect to a virtual learning community of specialists and peers.
- Participation is free and voluntary.
- Nursing homes that participate will receive \$6,000 to compensate for the staff time involved.\*

\*Available to nursing homes eligible to receive funding from the Provider Relief Fund. Most nursing homes are eligible.

# How to get involved

- Training begins this month
- Learn more and sign up at <https://hsc.unm.edu/echo/nursing-home>
- Join future webinars at <https://hsc.unm.edu/echo/institute-programs/nursing-home/sessions.html>
- Contact us at [ECHONursingHome@salud.unm.edu](mailto:ECHONursingHome@salud.unm.edu)

# Thank You

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