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Employer Onsite Clinics Willing and Able to Do Vaccinations, See Increase in Behavioral Health and Telehealth Services Per National Association of Worksite Health Centers' COVID-19 Survey

PHOENIX – January 19, 2021 – To help employers and unions with onsite and near-site health centers navigate the ongoing challenges and impact of COVID-19, the non-profit [National Association of Worksite Health Centers](#) (NAWHC) released the results of its most recent benchmarking survey.

The study was conducted in November 2020 to gauge how the COVID-19 situation has changed since last March, as people get back to work and employers adjust to the imminent arrival of the vaccines. NAWHC is a non-profit organization for employers, unions, vendors and providers who are developing or expanding onsite, near-site, mobile and virtual worksite health centers for their covered populations.

“Employer-sponsored health centers offer preventive, acute, primary care and chronic disease services to millions of employees and their dependent and have had to adapt and respond to the COVID-19 crisis,” said Larry Boress, NAWHC executive director. “While initially transitioning services primarily to telehealth, these centers are now addressing the screening, treatment and safety needs of those returning to the worksite as well as those working remotely. As a valuable community resource to get populations immunized, these centers face major challenges in acquiring vaccines and protective equipment as they lack recognition from public health authorities for their important potential role as a source of vaccine distribution.”

Findings include:

- The number of people working primarily onsite has increased to 55% in November, up from 26% in March.
- When compared from March to November, 30% of centers have higher utilization, while 24% indicated lower utilization, with almost 60% no longer postponing any type of care.
- Telephonic COVID-19 screening has remained high with 83% in November and 86% in March supporting this service.
- Obtaining protective equipment, especially N95 or similar masks, continues to be a challenge for over half the worksite health centers.
- While most employer centers don't plan on doing mass screenings, 97% intend to either offer onsite vaccinations or will work with vendors and local health departments in getting their employees protected against COVID-19.
- Over 60% see their centers expanding telehealth and other services in the future.

The online survey was conducted in November 2020 with 41 responses, with 63% from employers and union sponsors, 28% from clinic providers and vendors and 9% indicating other. Fourteen industry sectors were represented and 58% of the respondents indicated that they have over employees. A report on the survey results can be [found here](#).

About the National Association of Worksite Health Centers

The [National Association of Worksite Health Centers \(NAWHC\)](#) is the nation's only non-profit organization focused on assisting public and private employers and their vendor partners in developing and getting the greatest return from their onsite, near-site, shared and virtual health centers, onsite pharmacies, worksite fitness and wellness centers. NAWHC offers educational programs, networking opportunities, resources, benchmarking and support for those interested and involved with worksite clinics. NAWHC serves as a clearinghouse of information on worksite health centers and the marketplace, providing educational programs, resources, benchmarking surveys, and employer case studies.

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