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| **Agenda Scenario:****Negotiating Community Concerns in a Health Crisis** |
| **SCENARIO**It is June 2022 and a new variant of Coronavirus, originating from northern India- the Kappa version has begun. As international borders have been opened for many months, travel activity has meant this variant has spread through Australia with great speed. While Omicron has all but disappeared with 80% of the population now quadrupled vaccinated, Kappa presents a new challenge as it shows resistance to current vaccines**,** prompting the emergence on global markets for a one-time Super-Booster (SB). Acquisition and distribution of this SB is likely to commence in Australia in the next two weeks and is predicted to be unreliable with delivery.**Choose one of the following local government areas to base your organisation for this scenario:*** City of Greater Dandenong
* City of Maribyrnong
* Bass Coast Shire
* Macedon Ranges Shire
* Mitchell Shire

**INSTRUCTIONS****Holding an emergency meeting:**You need to call a meeting to strategise the most effective way to mobilise community uptake of the vaccine.**Who to invite?**The Department of Health are preparing comms and media tiles to promote the SB for widespread uptake in CALD communities.  Via the Victorian MUlticultural Commission, Department of Health will also make Senior Medical officials accessible to respond to enquiries.Key stakeholders and leaders from your community who have influence in messaging need to be contacted, representing a cross section of age, gender, sexuality, disability suburb and socio-economic backgrounds.**Issues?**There are those in your community who lack access to technology that will enable them to see DH comms initiatives, including mainstream media. The aged population in your community are particularly vulnerable as a growing demographic, who also suffered excessive fatalities during the Delta outbreak.  You know this new outbreak will be triggering for them.There is a cohort of your community who will be hesitant about the SB and even an intractable minority who are steadfastly anti-vax.Past experience has shown a lot of confusion with members of your community in the retail and hospitality sector who may face renewed calls to close business and/ or furlough staffEmotions and confusion need to be planned for and managed with thoughtful responsesYour organisation is recognised as a peak community organisation for messaging and material supportYour operations have only recently returned to normal after the onset of COVID and you may now be facing similar trials, going backwards to some extentImminent school closures need to be flagged. Officials from the right government departments are crucial to onboard in getting messaging correct.Previous experience has shown mixed messaging in public health advice instils doubts in your community about the intentions of authorities - you to have to carefully manage relationships with both parties**Outcomes?*** What concrete actions do you want to achieve from this meeting?
* What are reasonable expectations for you, your organisation and the community to have?
* What resources do you need in place to conduct this meeting?
* How will you manage anticipated anger and emotions from those present?
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| **SCENARIO TIPS**  |
| **These questions might help you start to build an agenda for your meeting*** Who is the local council representative for health, aged care, schools? How can they help you?
* Who is the state representative for health, aged care, schools? How can they help you?
* What is the demographic in your LGA? How have they been uniquely impacted by the vaccine rollout to date? What kind of resistance might there be to the SB? From who?
* Who are you going to prioritise in your response? How?
* What are your reporting obligations for any work you undertake / funds you raise?
* Who is conveying the final message – should it come from government or community leader or external resource i.e. GP’s? What is their cultural background? How do you think this will impact community member mindset?
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