
Metro Denver Partnership for Health



Partnership Charter Adopted 4/26/19

The Metro Denver Partnership for Health (the Partnership) is led by the public health agencies serving the seven-county Denver metropolitan region. These counties are Adams, Arapahoe, Boulder, Broomfield, Denver, Douglas and Jefferson.

Vision

Improved health in metro Denver through regional collaboration.

Mission

We build partnerships between our agencies and across sectors to increase capacity for achieving our vision.

Core Activities

- Collaborate with leaders in sectors related to public health (e.g., health care, human services, behavioral health and others) to promote health and well-being across the region.
- Foster a culture of collaboration by empowering staffs to work together.
- Provide leadership and strategic support to work groups, staff, and partners.
- Provide a platform for shared leadership, capacity building and networking opportunities.

Structure

- A Steering Committee is comprised of executive directors and their senior-level designees from each public health agency; this committee meets monthly in-person and as needed to address issues in a timely manner.
- Co-chairs are nominated from within the Steering Committee and serve a one-year term. Anyone on the Steering Committee can serve as a co-chair.
- One representative from the Colorado Department of Public Health attends Steering Committee meetings as a strategic partner and advisor.
- One consistent representative from each work group attends Steering Committee meetings on a quarterly basis as a strategic partner and advisor. They are nominated by their fellow group members.
- Strategic partners and advisors actively engage in discussions and inform the decision-making process.
- Work groups address specific priorities identified or approved by the Steering Committee. Official Partnership work groups must be approved by the Steering Committee and must adhere to the guidelines outlined in the Work Groups Overview section below.
- Collaboration outside of the formal Partnership structure is encouraged on other topics.
- The Colorado Health Institute provides facilitation, strategic services, and administrative support for the Steering Committee and activities identified by this group.

Decision-Making

- Partnership decisions are by consensus among Steering Committee Members.

- Co-chairs oversee external communications issues in consultation with Steering Committee members as time allows; this enables the Partnership to respond to information requests in a timely manner.

Dues and Funding

- Partnership activities are supported by public and private grants, member dues, and in-kind support.
- Each Partnership member contributes annual dues to support approved expenses including work group activities, administrative support and facilitation.
- Dues are structured on a per-member basis (\$2000) and per capita. Per capita dues (using current population estimates) are calculated based on annual Partnership budget needs (see annual budget for additional detail) and approved by the Steering Committee.
- The Steering Committee will review the budget and expenditures quarterly.

Expectations of Steering Committee Members

- Attend all Steering Committee meetings.
- Serve as liaison to one Partnership work group as needed. Activities include regular communications with a work group representative(s), attending work group meetings periodically, providing strategic support and guidance and sharing updates as needed at Steering Committee meetings.
- Review meeting notes and other documents and provide feedback and edits as appropriate.
- Assure that capacity and workload are addressed in new and existing work.
- Co-chairs meet monthly by phone. Responsibilities include planning agendas for Steering Committee meetings, making themselves available to respond to requests from CHI, and keeping other members of the Partnership informed about their activities. Co-chairs also review the Partnership's budget on a monthly basis.

Work Groups Overview

Work groups can either be formed organically out of cross-organizational occupational or content area affinity groups, or by the Steering Committee to support specific priorities of the Partnership. If the former, work groups must demonstrate how their work aligns with and supports the Partnership's priorities.

- Work groups have a charter and annual work plans (or corresponding grant deliverables) approved by the Steering Committee in January of each year.
- Each work group will provide an update to the Steering Committee upon request or at a minimum once annually.
- Work groups make requests to the Steering Committee for resource needs or for guidance on unresolved problems.

In addition, collaboration and partnership among cross-organizational occupational or content area affinity groups outside of a formal MDPH work group structure is strongly encouraged.

Additional details are provided in the Work Group Guidance document.

Priority Areas (2019):

- Behavioral health
- Climate change and health
- Data sharing
- Early childhood
- Healthy beverages/obesity
- Health equity
- Strategic Partnerships