External Leadership Team Charter

The Healthy South Carolina Initiative (HSCI) is a 5-year, statewide effort with the primary goal of supporting the implementation of culturally appropriate, evidence-based and population-based strategies to address the health risk factors associated with chronic disease. In overseeing this initiative, the SC Department of Health and Environmental Control (DHEC) is partnering with Eat Smart, Move More South Carolina, the Outpatient Quality Improvement Network at MUSC, the South Carolina Tobacco Collaborative, and the Office of Public Health Practice at the USC Arnold School of Public Health. These groups represent the collaborative network and community-level partnerships that will be needed to carry out the strategies outlined in the implementation plans for this grant. Representatives from these core grant partners and DHEC’s Office of Performance Management and Health Improvement comprise the Internal Leadership Team for HSCI.

The HSCI External Leadership Team represents a critical link in the overall success of this grant by assembling primarily external partners to advise the Internal Leadership Team on strategic issues and to support state-level initiatives and systems development to enhance local community transformation. The state-level leaders serving on the External Leadership Team bring valuable expertise from diverse sectors of influence and will allow a consistent and important linkage to other statewide activities related to the purpose of this initiative. True community transformation cannot be achieved by the health sector alone. As such, broad, multi-sector engagement is the key to ensuring the adoption of the policy, environmental, programmatic and infrastructure changes that will be needed to achieve healthier communities across South Carolina.

The purpose of the HSCI External Leadership Team is to advise DHEC and the core grant partners of HSCI on the strategic direction of this initiative in a manner that improves collaboration and coordination and maximizes the potential for improved health outcomes related to chronic disease.

This role will be realized through the following strategic functions:

- To focus high-level attention on the need to maximize health impact through prevention, advance health equity and reduce disparities, and use and expand the evidence base
- To foster linkages with other statewide initiatives in a manner that minimizes duplication of effort and maximizes resources toward improving the health of South Carolinians
- To provide added leadership in advancing the environmental approaches and systems-level changes needed to achieve the desired outcomes of improved health and quality of life
- To identify opportunities for future resources and sustainability for this initiative that will maximize the transformative benefit during and beyond the projected funding period
- To align health improvement initiatives and indices and monitor critical intermediate steps as well as long-term outcomes of various statewide efforts in a manner that promotes synergy and enhances effectiveness