



Common Agenda

Shared Pathways and Strategies for Better Health

South Carolina is working to address important non-medical factors impacting health, including access to food, safe housing, and reliable transportation. These factors are essential for improving overall health outcomes.

Healthcare providers, public health agencies, social service organizations, and nonprofits each work to meet these needs in different ways. However, without better coordination, shared systems, and stronger infrastructure, these efforts cannot reach their full potential.

Funding for this work is also often limited, fragmented, and short-term, making it hard to sustain and expand programs that could improve health in the long run.

Common Goal

Build a strong and lasting system where healthcare organizations, public health agencies, social service groups, and nonprofits work together and use policy-guided strategies to effectively address nonmedical factors that impact health.

Common Agenda



Pathways

1 **CAPACITY BUILDING** - strengthening skills, resources, and systems to better serve communities

Strategies

1. Build strong, two-way relationships between healthcare institutions, community groups, and other organizations so they can work together to meet community needs.
2. Encourage the use of common screening tools and referral processes that address nonmedical factors impacting health so everyone is working in a consistent way.

2 **WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT** - training & supporting people to meet current and future needs

Strategies

1. Make sure community focused staff, healthcare workers, and organizational leaders have the tools, training, and support they need to help improve the nonmedical factors that impact health.
2. Enhance the capacity of non-traditional health partners to address nonmedical needs through training and ongoing engagement.

3 **POLICY APPROACHES** - creating and improving rules, laws, and guidelines that promote health

Strategies

1. Identify policy and system changes that are proven to help with nonmedical factors like housing, food, and/or transportation and have a positive financial return.
2. Help community leaders and decision-makers understand policies that address nonmedical factors and how they can improve health while saving money.

4 **FUNDING APPROACHES** - developing reliable & coordinated ways to finance programs & services

Strategies

1. Develop ways to combine funding sources to help keep the work going into the future.
2. Use current funding sources, like grants or government programs, to support work that addresses community needs.

5 **TECHNOLOGY INFRASTRUCTURE** - building & improving tools & systems that connect people & services

Strategies

1. Encourage the use of promising practices, including technology, to help screen for non-medical needs and connect people to services, including tools that track if help was received.
2. Identify processes that make it easier for organizations, institutions and groups to work together and share information to meet community needs.



Shared Pathways and Strategies for Better Health

Glossary of Terms

Agenda – A plan or outline of goals and actions to be addressed.

Capacity Building – Strengthening the skills, resources, and systems that organizations and communities need to do their work effectively.

Community Health – The overall health and well-being of a group of people living in the same area, influenced by medical care and nonmedical factors.

Community Needs – Issues or resources a community requires to be healthy and thrive, such as food, housing, transportation, and safe environments.

Funding Approaches – Strategies for finding and using money to support programs, services, or projects.

Healthcare Organizations – Groups that provide health services, such as hospitals, clinics, and medical practices.

Infrastructure – The basic systems and structures needed for a community or organization to function, such as roads, water systems, technology, and communication networks.

Nonmedical Factors – Conditions in which people live, work, and play that affect health, such as food access, housing, transportation, education, and income.

Nonprofits – Organizations that work to benefit the public rather than make a profit, often funded by donations, grants, or public money.

Partnerships – Formal or informal agreements between two or more groups to work together toward a common goal.

Policy Approaches – Creating or changing rules, laws, or guidelines to address problems and improve systems.

Public Health Agencies – Government or community-based organizations that work to protect and improve the health of the population.

Strategies – Specific plans or actions used to achieve a goal.

Technology Infrastructure – The hardware, software, and systems that organizations use to share information and connect people to services.

Two-Way Relationships – Partnerships where both sides share information, ideas, and resources equally.

Workforce Development – Training, supporting, and preparing people to do jobs that meet current and future needs in a community.



Who's Involved

Four lead organizations – guiding implementation along with two governing bodies:

- **Administrative Lead:** Center for Community Health Alignment (CCHA)
- **Policy Lead:** SC Institute of Medicine and Public Health
- **Research and Data Lead:** Furman University Institute for the Advancement of Community Health
- **Programmatic Lead:** SC Hospital Association

The Governance Council is a multi-sector group that sets the strategy through the development of a Common Agenda, and ensures the Leads stay accountable.

COUNCIL MEMBER	ORGANIZATION/COMMUNITY
Andrea Mitchell	SC Center for Rural & Primary Healthcare
Angel Bourdon	Prisma Health
Angel Brannon	Habitat for Humanity-Darlington Co.
April Richardson	BlueCross BlueShield of South Carolina
Graham Adams	SC Office of Rural Health
Kara Moore	Lowcountry Food Bank
Karla Buru	SC Department of Public Health
Monty Robertson	Alliance for a Healthier SC
Renee Linyard Gary	Roper St. Francis
Sally Wills	LiveWell Greenville
Shunna Jeter	SC Legal Services
Steven Ferruffino	SC Department of Social Services
Vicki Young	SC Primary Health Care Association

Community Voice Advisory Board Members

Brenda Perkins	Browns Ferry Community Outreach Georgetown County
Lillie Fox	CCHA, USC Arnold School of Public Health

The Community Voice Advisory Board

includes people with lived experience who ensure community perspectives guide the work, with two members also serving on the Governance Council.



BOARD MEMBER	ORGANIZATION/COMMUNITY
Upstate Region	
Ken Baxter	Patient Engagement Studio
Sebastian Villacas	PASOs Prisma Health
Midlands Region	
Nikita Jackson	North Central Family Medicine
Tolani Franks	Catawba Nation
Mandy Halloran	ABLE SC
Lizzy Van Harn	MORE Justice
Pee Dee Region	
Lillie Fox	CCHA
Brenda Perkins	Brown Ferry Community Outreach
Darnell McPherson	Darlington Co. 1st Steps
Justine Roberts	Performing Arts & Science Academy
Selena Tisdale	Eli Collins Foundation
Lowcountry Region	
Anne Sanderson	Family Connection of S. Carolina
LaShandra Morgan	Orangeburg County
Shanice Willingham	SC Region 3 Housing Authority

Funders include:

The Duke Endowment

Based in Charlotte and established in 1924 by industrialist and philanthropist James B. Duke, The Duke Endowment is a private foundation that strengthens communities in North Carolina and South Carolina by nurturing children, promoting health, educating minds and enriching spirits. Since its founding, it has distributed more than \$5 billion in grants. The Endowment shares a name with Duke University and Duke Energy, but all are separate organizations.



BlueCross BlueShield of South Carolina Foundation

The BlueCross BlueShield of South Carolina Foundation is a statewide funder dedicated to improving health outcomes of all South Carolinians. The Foundation invests in collaborative, community-driven solutions that address systemic challenges and promote generational change.



The BlueCross BlueShield of South Carolina Foundation is an independent licensee of the Blue Cross Blue Shield Association.

Get Involved To learn more or contribute to this effort, Contact Doug Taylor at TAYLORDJ@mailbox.sc.edu