

Social Health Equity Project: From Community Health Needs Assessments to System Transformation



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Community Health Needs Assessments

History and Requirements

- The Affordable Care Act introduced this requirement for non-profit hospitals
- Required to be completed every 3 years
- Not only focus on health care needs but overall community health needs (ie Social Determinants of Health)
- Must take into account input from “persons who represent the broad interests of the community served by the hospital facility, including those with special knowledge of or expertise in public health.”
- This information is used for an implementation plan and to decide how community benefit programs will be implemented
- Publicly available reports and open to public comments

Opportunities

- A way for advocates, community based organizations and others to interact with large hospitals to influence the health issues that will be addressed and also create accountability
- This project opportunity is possible from funding from Together Towards Health

Sources:

<https://www.healthcarevaluehub.org/advocate-resources/publications/community-health-needs-assessment-brief-background>

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Project Overview

- **Phase 1: Needs Assessment Review (Now)**
 - Review of Community Health Needs Assessments (Stanford, Sutter, San Mateo County Health, Dignity, Kaiser)
 - Review of common trends/themes across reports
 - Evaluation of data using a racial equity lens
- **Phase 2: Community Collaboration (March 2023)**
 - Present findings for community review
 - Strategy sessions for solutions to gaps/needs
 - Identification of 1-2 policy recommendations to influence change
- **Phase 3: System transformation (April-June)**
 - Hold meetings with hospital stakeholders around community identified solutions
 - Share findings of CHNA review with equity perspective and possible data gaps
 - Develop strategy and action plan to influence change on policies



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For more questions and/or
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