SAN BERNARDINO COUNTY

Public Health
Health Equity

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Healthy Communities Initiative Quarterly Meeting Summary

December 11, 2025

10 AM – 11:30 AM

Population Health Framework Update

Stacey Davis provided a brief update on the Population Health Framework and Community Health Planning Regions.

- Feedback gathered throughout 2025 has been incorporated into proposed regional boundaries.
- The County anticipates sharing finalized Community Health Planning Regions in 2026.
- Next steps will focus on transitioning from planning to implementation, including discussions on governance and funding.
- Regions will roll up into countywide Community Vital Signs efforts while maintaining a hyperlocal, community-driven approach.

Looking Ahead to 2026: HCI Updates & Announcements

Bernadette Beltran shared several updates and new initiatives planned for 2026.

Quarterly Meeting Schedule

- HCI Quarterly Meetings will continue on the third Wednesday of the final month of each quarter, from 10:00–11:30 AM.
- Meetings will transition from Zoom to Microsoft Teams.
- Participants will receive individual meeting invitations rather than a recurring calendar invite.

Commented [SD1]: Can we send a meeting series for 2026 via Teams?

Healthy Communities Initiative Webpage

- The HCI webpage has been fully revamped to improve navigation and usability.
- New features include:
  - A centralized Resource Library
  - Sample policies, ordinances, and policy action toolkits
  - Resources are categorized by topic area (e.g., climate, built environment, chronic disease, active transportation) and will be continuously updated.

New Learning Sessions

- Beginning in 2026, HCI will launch Learning Sessions focused on PSE strategies and the intersection of climate and health.
- Sessions will occur during the first month of each quarter and will be open to a broader audience, including community-based organizations.
- Topics will center on actionable, prevention-focused approaches.

City Check-Ins

- Optional 30-minute one-on-one check-ins with cities will continue in 2026.
- These meetings provide space to discuss PSE efforts, grant opportunities, and technical assistance needs.
- A scheduling link is available through the HCI team's email signatures.

Community Engagement Overview

Stephanie Corona provided an overview of community engagement and its role in advancing health equity.

- Community engagement is a collaborative, bi-directional process that ensures community voices influence policies, programs, and practices.
- Effective engagement builds trust, promotes equity, and leads to more culturally relevant and sustainable solutions.
- Engagement is essential for addressing health inequities and supporting long-term systems change.

City Spotlight: Rancho Cucamonga Community Engagement Policy

Hope Velarde, Analyst with the City of Rancho Cucamonga, presented on the city's Community Engagement Policy with a Health Equity Lens.

- Healthy RC has served as the foundation for equitable engagement for nearly two decades.
- The policy was developed through a multi-departmental process supported by County funding and technical assistance.
- An internal Ambassadors for Community Engagement (ACE) team was created to build staff capacity and champion implementation.
- Core principles emphasize cultural humility, inclusive participation, transparency, and shared decision-making.
- The policy encourages intentional engagement using the Spectrum of Engagement (inform, consult, involve, collaborate, empower).
- Data is used to guide outreach efforts, ensuring historically underrepresented communities are reached.
- A case study from Rancho Cucamonga's General Plan update highlighted how the policy supported engagement of over 2,300 residents and informed equity-centered planning decisions.

Lessons Learned

- Start with shared values and celebrate existing engagement efforts.
- Engage leadership and staff early.
- Use data to highlight inequities and guide strategy.
- Flexibility in policy language supported broader adoption and culture change.

Group Discussion: Community Engagement Challenges & Strategies

Participants engaged in a facilitated discussion on community engagement experiences.

Common Challenges Identified

- Low participation or attendance despite outreach efforts
- Language access and translation limitations
- Transportation barriers

- Limited staff capacity for promotion and follow-up
- Difficulty reaching younger residents and historically underrepresented groups

Strategies & Promising Practices Shared

- Leveraging partner organizations and trusted messengers
- Using multiple outreach methods beyond social media
- Offering incentives such as raffles or giveaways
- Hosting engagement activities in community-familiar settings
- Asking residents what they want rather than assuming needs

Resources & Tools

Stephanie Corona highlighted several policies, models, and tools that support equitable community engagement, including:

- State and local policies that formalize community engagement and equity
- Engagement self-assessment tools
- Step-by-step engagement planning workbooks
- Models that embed engagement into funding and program design

These resources will be available through the updated HCI Resource Library.

Closing & Next Steps

- Presentation materials and resources will be shared with participants.
- Cities are encouraged to explore the updated HCI webpage and resource library.
- The HCI team will continue supporting cities through learning sessions, check-ins, and technical assistance in 2026.
- The next HCI meeting will be held on March 18, ,2026, from 10am-11:30am via Microsoft Teams meeting.