

Community Health Affinity Group

2025 Prospectus



CHA offers an affinity group for leaders working in the areas of community health and community benefit. Operating in its fifth year in 2024 with 39 enrolled hospitals, the Community Health Affinity Group will continue in 2025 as follows.

Aims

- Advance the strategic integration, alignment, performance and impact of children's hospital-sponsored community health initiatives;
- Identify opportunities for shared learning, collective action and/or input, only possible via multi-site collaboration;
- Elevate knowledge and best practices for community health among participating hospitals and expand the network of peers.

Structure

- This is an annual topic-based affinity group. While not an improvement project, the group could identify and pursue benchmarking opportunities. Enrollment is for one year.
- Enrollment is at the hospital level and accommodates up to 3 consistent participants. The affinity group is not restricted by role/title and is appropriate for individuals with domain in community health or community benefit (see below for guidance). Dedicated participants will become the locus of leadership and have presentation opportunities.
- The group will hold two meetings in 2025, meeting in-person in both the Spring and Fall. A Steering Committee advises the group's direction and serve as its architects. Virtual Community Health Conversations will take place throughout the year in addition to the two meetings.
- A closed listserv serves as the mechanism for ongoing discussion. It is tied to an online library to support resource collection, idea sharing and expanded learning.
- A profile collection offers the opportunity to easily identify peers and learn the structure and focus areas for other teams.

2025 Calendar

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November 2024	Enrollment opens
May 2025	In-person meeting hosted in Houston by Texas Children's, May 6-8
October 2025	In-person meeting, date and location to be announced in Spring 2025

Participants

Implementing community health strategy takes a team effort. Therefore, participating hospitals are encouraged to include multiple team members representing different aspects of leadership and expertise in such areas as:

- community and population health
- strategy
- community benefit
- operations
- evaluation
- clinical leadership

A team leader from your organization serves as primary contact to CHA. They will coordinate the hospital team's work and contributions.

Steering Committee

Sara Burnett, Le Bonheur Children's Hospital
Marisha DiCarlo, Arkansas Children's Hospital
Susan Goldenstein, Children's Hospital Colorado
Julie Katz, Nicklaus Children's Hospital
Chelsey Lindhal, Mary Bridge Children's Hospital
Stephanie Stokes, Primary Children's Hospital
Heather Wuensch, Akron Children's Hospital

Enrollment and Fee

The activities of this affinity group -- in-person meetings and virtual work -- will be funded by an annual team enrollment fee of **\$3,800**. Individuals are responsible for their own travel expenses.

Enrollment Process

1. Signed this enrollment form and return to Stacy.Wathen@childrenshospitals.org
2. Complete the [online team roster](#).
3. Expect to receive a confirmation, a program survey and invoice once CHA receives your enrollment materials.

Confidentiality

All information provided through the Community Health Affinity Group is confidential and for enrolled hospital use only. It is not to be shared with other organizations or individuals outside of your organization. CHA is committed to sharing -- as appropriate -- with the broader network of children's hospitals learning and resources discovered by this affinity group. We will do so with the group's prior permission and wherever possible, in partnership with group participants.

Questions

Please contact the staff facilitation team with questions or comments

Project lead: Stacy Wathen | Stacy.Wathen@childrenshospitals.org

Coordinator: Katie Domina | Katie.Domina@childrenshospitals.org

Signature

The signature of the Team Leader below indicates that your team has been identified and is prepared to meet the expectations of the Community Health Affinity Group. (Note, a single signature per team is required)

(name)

(date)