

# ADVANCING HEALTH EQUITY BY INVESTING IN OUR LOCAL HEALTH COUNCILS (33 COUNTY & 9+ TRIBAL)

LEGISLATIVE HEALTH & HUMAN SERVICES COMMITTEE Presentation: September 19th, 2023



## LOCAL TRUSTED HEALTH HUBS

- CONVENING + ENSURING LOCAL
   VOICES ARE CENTERED & HEARD
- CONDUCTING COMMUNITY & TRIBAL
   BASED HEALTH ASSESSMENTS
- IMPLEMENTING COMMUNITY HEALTH IMPROVEMENT PLANS
- COLLABORATING WITH HEALTH
   CARE PARTNERS & LEADERSHIP TO
   ADDRESS LOCAL PRIORITIES

## PUBLIC HEALTH SYSTEM (DOH)

- INFORMS THE STATEWIDE HEALTH IMPROVEMENT PLAN (SHIP)
- WORKS IN CONCERT WITH NMDOH'S REGIONAL OFFICES (5 REGIONS)
- INFORMS PUBLIC HEALTH POLICIES TO ADVANCE EQUITY
- KEY ROLE IN THE STATEWIDE CLOSED LOOP REFERRAL SYSTEM (MEDICAID) + RESOURCE DIRECTORY
- KEY ROLE W/ PUBLIC HEALTH ACCREDITATION BOARD PROCESS FOR NM STATE AGENCY, NMDOH

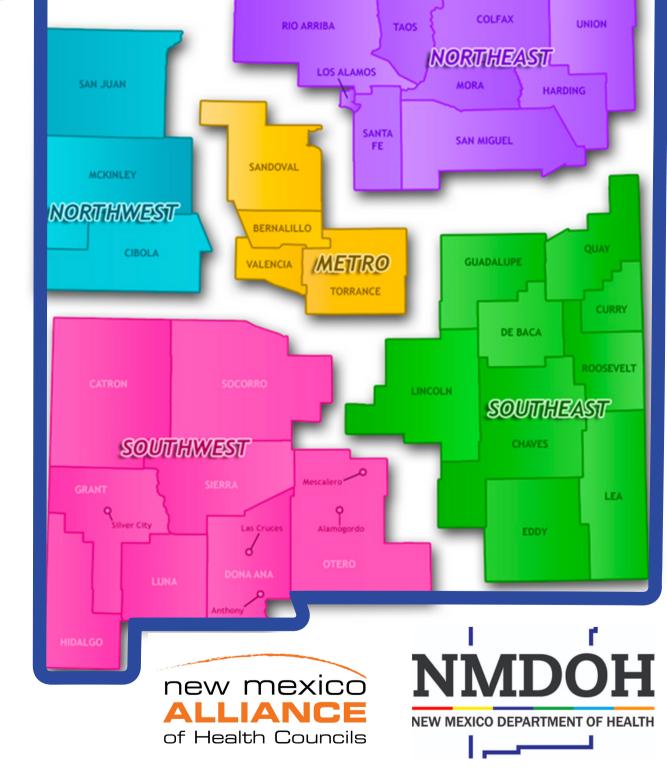


Thanks to the CDC/W.K.Kellogg emergency response funding during COVID-19, Health Councils were able to serve New Mexico's most vulnerable Community

members (Tribal, rural and border communities).

HEALTH COUNCILS REACHED OVER 340,000.00 NEW MEXICANS WITH EMERGENCY RESPONSE EFFORTS (COVID19). TRIBAL, RURAL, BORDER COMMUNITIES, MOST AFFECTED.

HEALTH COUNCILS ARE CENTRAL TO NMDOH MEETING NATIONAL STANDARDS FOR ENSURING ESSENTIAL PUBLIC HEALTH SERVICES ARE PROVIDED IN THE COMMUNITY. (PHAB) NM WAS LAST ACCREDITED IN 2015.









#### CHA + CHIP + SHIP CYCLE 42 HEALTH COUNCIL S + NMDOH

As of March 2022, 39 County and Tribal Health Councils engaged in a 12-month process of local- level community health improvement planning with the support and technical assistance from the New Mexico Alliance of Health Councils and regional New Mexico Department of Health staff. County and Tribal Health Council identified CHIP priorities to inform the NM SHIP process.



#### **HEALTH COUNCIL CRITICAL ROLE IN PUBLIC HEALTH:**

Works w/NMDOH on evaluating progress, tracking data & reporting health outcomes (qualitative + DATA + quantitative)

CONVENE

**COLLAB** 

42 County + Tribal Health Councils + NMDOH + Key Partners (CHA + CHIP + SHIP)



Conduct Community
Health Assessments (CHA)
Identify Gaps/ Needs
(Community Driven)

Collaborate with key partners on strategies to address local social & public health priorities.

PRIORITIZE

Implement Community
Health Improvement
Plan (CHIP). CHIP
priorities inform the
SHIP. Currently
implementing phase.



MARCH 2022 TO JULY 2023



# Intersectionality of Social Determinants of Health, Health Equity, and Root Cause

- 1. Defining health equity at the local level
- 2.Health disparities and the link to health outcomes
- 3. Declaring public health as a crisis
- 4. Defining social justice
- 5. Indigenous SDOH framework



## Data Review and Prioritization Session

- 1. Conduct community health assessments
- 2. Other data collection
- 3. Data analysis
- 4. Conduct data review sessions
- 5.Identify health priorities based off data and stories collected
- 6. Identify goals and strategies



## Overview: CHIP Process

- 1. Assess health council capacity
- 2. Conduct "visioning" activity



# Partners and Community Engagement

- 1. Develop partnerships and collaborations
- 2. Community context
- 3. Review list of current and possibly partners



#### **Evaluation + Outcomes**

- 1. Activity to process measures
- 2. Identify milestones
- 3. Identify health outcomes

Implementation of County and Tribal Health Council
CHIP Action Plans + Informs New Mexico's Statewide Health
Improvement Plan (SHIP)

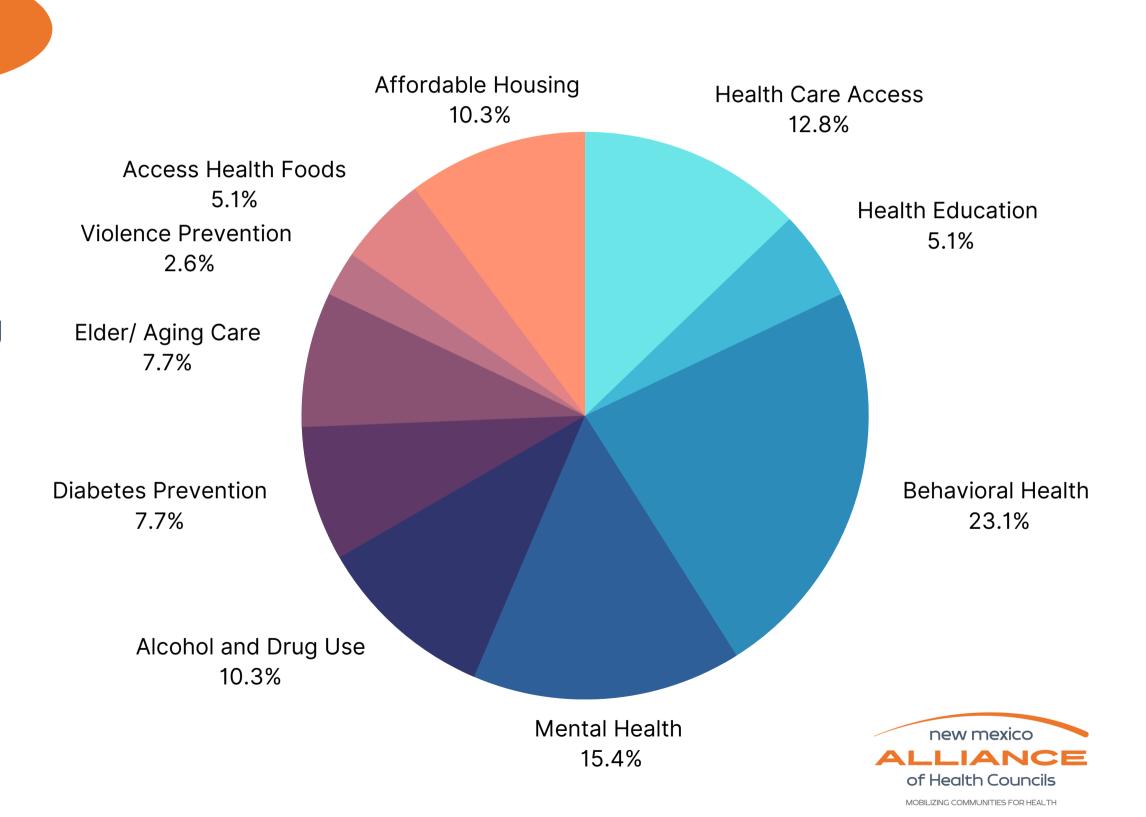
## 2023 New Mexico Community Health Priorities (CHIP)



# Health Council Statewide Priorities As of August 1, 2023:

- 1. Behavioral Health
- 2. Mental Health
- 3. Access to Quality Health Care Services
- 4. Drug and Alcohol Use
- 5. Access to Safe and Affordable Housing
- 6. Diabetes Prevention
- 7. Older Adults / Elder & Aging Care
- 8. Access to Healthy Foods
- 9. Access to Quality Health Education
- 10. Violence Prevention

\*\*\*NMAHC is working with NMDOH, ECED and Behavioral Health Coallition to collaborate to identify alignment opportunities in service of community members across New Mexico.



### FACTS + WHAT IS AT STAKE? CDC FUNDING ENDS ON MAY 31, 2024

01

#### **HB137 MANDATE, 2019**

02

#### **DEFUNDED SINCE 2010**

**HB137 Act** 



The purpose of the **County and Tribal Health Councils Act** is to improve the health of New Mexicans by developing a comprehensive, community-based health planning councils to identify and address local health needs and priorities. Access the **state statute here.** 

04

County & Tribal Health Councils have been defunded since 2010. Federal programs/ New Mexico's Office of Substance Use Prevention at HSD all fund community coalitions to conduct health assessments, planning and support implementation at an average of \$125,000 annually (per Health Council).

03

# CDC FUNDING ENDING MAY 2024

CDC emergency response (COVID-19) funding made the impossible possible for Health Councils. Funding will end May 31st. 2024. The lack of funding/investment from the state will destabilize the public health infrastructure (DOH) and hinder local community health planning and trust.

## IMPACT: PUBLIC HEALTH DESTABALIZATION

NMDOH will lack the ability to carry out and complete community-based CHA/CHIP/SHIP process, attain PHAB accreditation, implement the statewide closed loop referral system and resource directory, all of this, and more will hinder health access and equity across the state.

## What is at stake...?

### NMDOH + PUBLIC HEALTH SYSTEM

Destabilization of Health Councils will hinder the ability to conduct community-based health assessments and planning, significantly impacting NMDOHs' CHA, CHIP and SHIP processes, as well as the inability for the **State to achieve its Public** Health Accreditation. Progress and relationships made with Tribal Health Councils and partners will also be significantly hindered.

# STATEWIDE EFFORTS: ACCESS

Health Councils are integral to the following statewide efforts, defunding will hinder progress made:

- Statewide closed-loop referral and resource directory
- Connecting primary care providers with local communities
- Critical collaboration in addressing health outcomes such as w/Behavioral Health Collaborative, ECE, Primary Care, etc.

# HEALTH COUNCIL's CAPACITY

When CDC/W.K.Kellogg funding ceases in May of 2024, Health Councils will instantly loose the capacity to fulfill their mandate and operational role within public health in partnership with NMDOH. Staffing will be hindered (124 roles statewide), these include but not limited to Health Equity Promotion Liaison, Health Council Coordinator, Health Equity Specialist, Health Equity Program Manager, etc.

# INVESTMENT OPPORTUNITY

ADEQUATE
FUNDING
REQUEST:
\$6.6 MILLION

From 2013 to 2022, **County and Tribal Health Councils <u>received only 3-</u>** 7% of what would be considered an evidencebased adequate level of funding from the state, only about \$4,000 - \$9,461 per Health Council, per year.

**STATUTE:** County and Tribal Health Councils are expected to fulfill their role, responsibilities and mandates outlined in House Bill 137 with **LIMITED funding:** 

FY 2022 State: \$9,461 per Health Council per year

FY 2023 State: \$12, 952 per Health Council per year

FY 2024 State: \$15,333 per Health Council per year

FY 2021 - 2024 (3 year grant): CDC/ W.K.Kellogg Foundation Health Equity & Community Rebuilding Grant: \$50,000 per Health Council - ENDS 5/31/24



# 6.6 MILLION DOLLAR INVESTMENT IN 42 COUNTY & TRIBAL HEALTH COUNCILS (HB137)

On behalf of New Mexico's 42 Health Councils, NMAHC is kindly requesting and advocating for securing Adequate Funding for Health Councils at \$6.6 million (\$6 Million from State Funding and \$600,000.00 from Legislative Finance Committee.) This includes on an average \$142,800.00 per Health Council and \$600,000.00 to contract with a third party organization (example, NMAHC), to continue to provide statewide ancillary support to all County and Tribal Health Councils.

## DATA POINT:

Currently, only a 1/4-time position is possible with traditional State funding (\$15,333). Without adequate funding, Health Councils' capacity and operations will cease, having an adverse effect on the community health improvement process (DOH), and meeting accreditation standards. De-funding Health Councils will hinder the strides made, trust built, and community engagement and impact achieved. This will result in an uptick of the harmful social determinants of health (SDOH) across our communities, the very SDOH that the state of New Mexico is seeking to address. Without adequate funding for Health Councils, community members will suffer the most.



## LEGISLATIVE SUPPORT

Deepest gratitude to our elected officials who are sponsoring a house bill for adequate funding for Health Councils, during the 2024 Legislative Session.



Rep. Liz Thomson

Bernalillo



Rep. Wonda Johnson McKinley & San Juan



Sen. Liz Stefan's

Bernalillo,

Lincoln, San

Miguel, Santa Fe, Torrance & Valencia



Rep. Anthony Allison
San Juan

The New Mexico Alliance of Health Councils is a statewide nonprofit 501c3 organization providing ancillary supporting and advocating for New Mexico's 42 County & Tribal Health Councils and community partners.



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