

Partnerships for Population Health Learning Opportunity: Request for Applications

Overview

Governmental public health agencies recognize the importance of cross-sector collaboration to build healthy environments that not only encourage healthy behaviors but also remove barriers to health and well-being. Healthy People 2030 prioritizes specific goals relating to social determinants of health, including neighborhoods and built environments.

ASTHO, in partnership with CDC, will provide a series of virtual learning opportunities for state/territorial public health agency staff to improve awareness of how to engage with Medicaid, transportation, and housing sectors to find common goals and priorities, create a process for intentional and meaningful information-sharing, and communicate effectively. The learning opportunities will also include peer-to-peer sharing and case-based studies discussing existing cross-sector collaborations that advance health equity and improve population health outcomes.

Through this project, ASTHO will:

- Equip public health agency staff with knowledge of how the Medicaid, transportation, and housing sectors operate (specifically from the state-level), is funded, and makes decisions.
- Explore how public health agency staff can position themselves as a convener of chief health strategist to build relationships in which other sectors can further population health goals.
- Identify what activities or types of infrastructure are needed to support this new way of working across sectors and how to institutionalize this work.

Activities and Commitment

ASTHO asks the state/territorial applicant to serve as a central point of contact and to participate in the three program components, described below:

1. **Virtual training modules (May – June 2021):** ASTHO will deliver pre-recorded videos, led by a subject matter expert, which will provide an overview of each of the three sectors: Medicaid, transportation, and housing. The training videos will be available for download and provide food for thought ahead of the live technical assistance calls.
2. **Small-group technical assistance/peer coaching calls (May – June 2021):** There will be a total of three 60-minute calls. Each of the peer-coaching calls will focus on one sector (Medicaid, transportation, and housing) and will begin with a brief summary of the virtual training content, polled questions to assess participants' knowledge of the sector. The call will then offer a case-

based presentation and discussion between the 5-9 participating S/THAs. Participants will ask questions and share promising strategies or activities from their jurisdictions.

3. **Evaluation and state action planning (July 2021):** Participants will be asked to complete brief polls during the technical assistance calls to assess for knowledge gain (e.g., one poll at the beginning of the call and a follow-up poll at the end). In addition, at the conclusion of the project period, S/THAs will complete an evaluation survey, detailing how the training and coaching sessions apply to their work and what they intend to do differently as a result. Participants will be asked to identify at least one action step or commitment to continue advancing collaborations with Medicaid, transportation, and/or housing.

Eligibility and Selection

ASTHO invites state or territorial public health agency (S/THA) staff to apply for this opportunity. One representative per jurisdiction (**5-9 jurisdictions total**) will be selected to participate in this cohort. ASTHO will select jurisdictions based on the following:

- ASTHO will prioritize applicants who: 1. have demonstrated an existing relationship with at least one cross-agency partner (Medicaid, housing, or transportation), 2. offer a promising practice for relationship-building, and 3. include a clearly defined technical assistance need.
- Priority will be given to applicants who are serving as state/territorial health officials, senior deputies, or division directors who commit to serving as the central point of contact.
- ASTHO will look for a diversity of S/THA organizational structures (e.g., centralized versus decentralized, oversight over Medicaid and social services).

Timeline

- **Request for application released:** Monday, March 29, 2021
- **Applications due:** Friday, April 16, 2021
- **Selection announcement:** Friday, April 23, 2021
- **Project period:** May 1 – July 31, 2021

Submission

Please email the completed application to ASTHO's Population Health and Innovation Team: phi@astho.org

Application

State or Territorial Health Agency Point of Contact Information

Please name a point of contact who will commit to watching the pre-recorded training modules, attending all three peer-to-peer calls, and completing a state/territorial action plan/evaluation. The point of contact may delegate colleagues to also join calls and access resources; however, ASTHO asks states/territories to have a single person to serve as a central contact for our staff.

Name
Title
Agency
Phone
E-mail
Assistant e-mail (if applicable)
Can ASTHO provide any ADA accommodations to support your participation?

Cross-Agency Partnership Experience and Technical Assistance Needs

Have you or your agency worked in partnership with your state Medicaid office, transportation department, or housing authority in the past five years? Please describe.
What structures (if any) do you currently have in place to partner with Medicaid, housing, or transportation sectors?
<input type="checkbox"/> Regular meetings <input type="checkbox"/> Designated point of contact or defined mechanism for communication between agencies, or both <input type="checkbox"/> Memorandum of understanding or data-sharing agreement in place <input type="checkbox"/> Shared staffing

- Shared written goals in the state health improvement plan or another strategic plan
- None of the above
- Other. Please describe: _____

Please describe an area of success or a promising strategy you have employed to build cross-agency partnerships in your state or territory. Would you be willing to speak to this strategy on a peer-to-peer call?

What is one specific challenge you have encountered related to cross-agency partnerships development where you would like to receive technical assistance?