

CHIP: Putting communities in the driver's seat

COMMUNITY HEALTH
Improving health across Hennepin County, together.
IMPROVEMENT PARTNERSHIP

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What is CHIP?

The Community Health Improvement Partnership (CHIP) includes organizations from across the Twin Cities that target community health issues together using collective impact. Partners include housing developers and providers, cultural and faith-based organizations, schools, human services, public health agencies, health care organizations and more.

How CHIP functions

Executive committee

- Executives and community members from local organizations and agencies
- Has decision-making authority

Action Teams

- Community mental wellbeing
- Housing stability
- Staff, managers and leaders participate from many organizations

Collaboratives

- Large gatherings with CHIP partners and communities
- Small groups in local communities

CHIP's commitment to health and racial equity

Health and racial equity are at the core of our work.

Because of this, we will focus on the ways structural and institutional racism and also bias, impact outcomes for people of color. We will use a racial equity lens to focus our intent, which will bring us all to a **shared understanding, language, and definitions** on race and bias as we catalyze and carry out our work.

What guides our work

CHIP's guiding principles

- We understand that racism is at the core of racial and economic disparities, and the systems that perpetuate these inequities must be dismantled.
- We recognize the harm our systems have caused, and we will shift our organizations' business decisions to prevent harm.
- We will listen as communities define their own goals, then partner with them to achieve shared success.
- We will act collectively upstream, harnessing the power and resources of this partnership to create equitable processes, policies, and collaborations.

CHIP's two priorities

Community mental well-being

- Become trauma informed agencies and organizations
- Support spiritual/faith/cultural leaders to respond to trauma in their communities

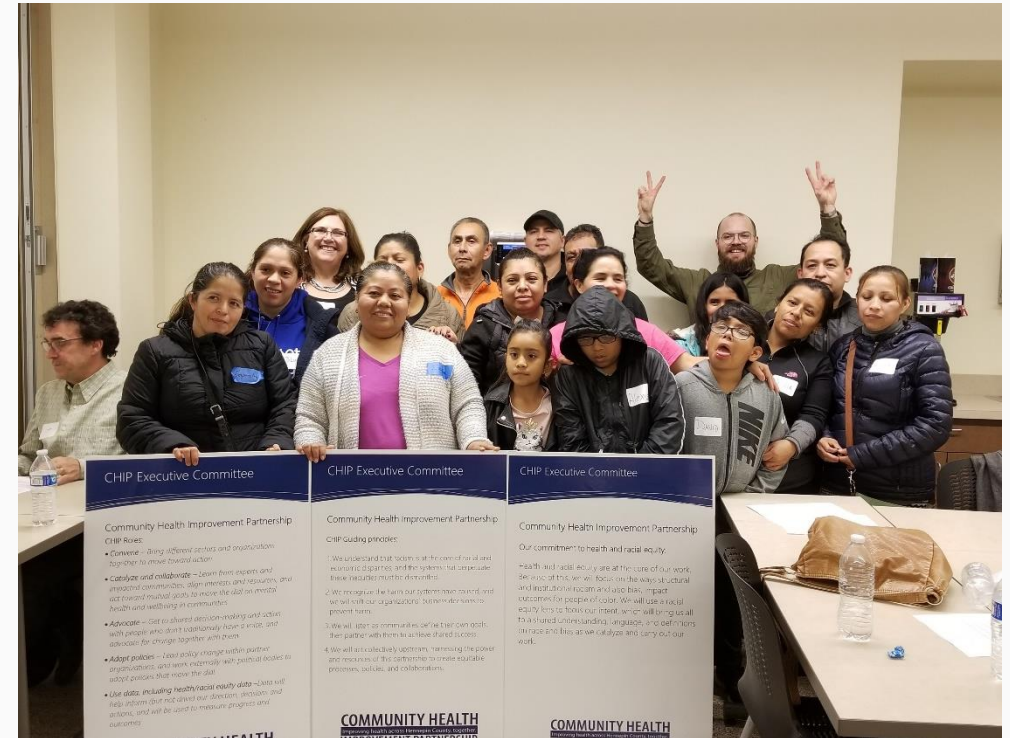


Native elder in a mask

CHIP's two priorities

Housing stability

- Reduce housing barriers for prospective tenants and residents of rental communities
- Support community led initiatives in rental communities that increase social connectedness



Displaced Latinx mobile home park residents

Intentionally putting communities in the driver's seat

Grant from the Public Health Accreditation Board (PHAB) with funds from the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation (RWJF)

- Proposal was based on our statement on health and racial equity and guiding principles
- Catalyzed local cultural, spiritual and faith-based solutions and wove community voices into existing structure
- Kicked off grant in early 2020



Mask give-away via CSII/CHIP mini grants



Intentionally putting communities in the driver's seat: 3 key components

1. Community Based Organizations (CBOs)

- Selected four diverse CBOs at \$25,000 each for a total of \$100,000 via RFA to carry out a project of their choosing under one of CHIP's priorities in collaboration with their communities.
- Projects selected were those that proposed to address a specific policy or practice change in government most likely have the greatest impact on racial disparities.
- CBOs selected by a community review team.

Community Based Organizations (CBOs)

Annex Teen Clinic

Young people will integrate lived experiences accessing sexual/reproductive healthcare with healing work, training, and discussion on systemic racism and historical trauma. They'll create provider guides to ensure services are trauma-informed and advise on an in-depth curriculum for CHIP organizations.

Raices Sagradas

Healing Circles project will train 20 Latinx church leaders in the basics of trauma and small group facilitation. Those leaders will work with groups of 30 to 50 participants in regular church activities and form healing circles to share their experiences and offer mutual support.

Tasks Unlimited

Envision Community will complete a research and design project that helps the housing community understand how safety and social connectedness are interrelated for people experiencing homelessness. Findings and actionable ideas will guide Envision's rental community and CHIP.

Twin Cities Recovery Project

Twin Cities Recovery Project will expand its grief and trauma programming from housing complexes into the community so more people can access services. They'll also work with the community to better address needs related to Covid-19 and the death of George Floyd.

CBO Scope of Services:

A different kind of work plan

CHIP partnership will:

- Listen to the ideas and recommendations of the community, including their lived experiences and collective wisdom.
- Identify and/or leverage additional resources or personal connections to contracted organizations, such as technical assistance, in-kind support, or a helpful introduction.
- Provide opportunities to contracted organizations to learn from each other and CHIP.
- Integrate lessons learned into CHIP's future direction and priorities.
- Foster mutual learning and relationship-building with CONTRACTOR.

Community-based organizations will:

- Offer opportunities for CHIP partners to connect with key leaders and communities CONTRACTOR may serve.
- Incorporate health and racial equity into CONTRACTOR's project as described in CHIP's statement of health and racial equity.
- Work in partnership with a variety of community members and organizations.
- Provide community recommendations and advice to the CHIP Executive Committee and action teams.
- Foster mutual learning and relationship-building with CHIP.

Intentionally putting communities in the driver's seat: 3 key components

2. CHIP intern

- Selected by a community interview panel
- Intern has related work and lived experience to:
 - Coordinate the work of the four funded CBOs and mini grant recipients
 - Connect that work with the CHIP executive committee and action teams toward powerful collective action

Intentionally putting communities in the driver's seat: 3 key components

3. Mini grants

- Two of four rounds complete.
- Awarding \$300-\$500 to community members (organizations were ineligible) for local ideas and solutions to address racial disparities and improve mental well-being and housing stability.
- All projects funded are selected by a community review team.



Mini grant recipient, Idil Farah

Proposal:

“Improve the mental well-being of my East African community by providing guidance and tools to help parents feel they and their young children are safe while engaging in play activities. Families in my community are mostly low-income and speak English as a second language. Their children do not have the same access to physical activity as they did while attending school. Multi-generational families with both elders and younger children are fearful of going to public parks because they don’t have the basic protection they need like masks and sanitizing wipes to stay safe outdoors.”

Idil's proposal

Proposal:

Supply information and basic items to encourage families to engage in indoor/outdoor play activities that can be done at home, in back yards or in nearby parks.

Two groups:

1. Those who live close to nearby parks: Provide families with masks and /or sanitizing wipes and equipment to play with family members such as a Frisbee
2. Those who do not have access to outdoor play areas (apartment dwellers): Provide small equipment so they can safely play indoors, like a jump rope or a hula hoop

Overall goal:

Encourage families to get outdoors or be physically active indoors in a safe manner to not only increase mental well-being but to also improve their physical health as well.

**Play promotes creativity while
developing physical, intellectual and
emotional strength.**

**Play is an important part of healthy
brain development.**

Project challenges and learning

Challenge:

- Because of COVID, she had to arrange time with each family to pick up items. That took time.
- More youth size masks need to be distributed. She got some for her project and the county and cities are also distributing them now.

Learning:

- Kids are the most forgotten population in this pandemic
 - They have to stay indoors and can't see their friends
 - Her goodie bag gave them something in common with their friends to talk about and keep busy with
- Families needed ideas on how to stay healthy outdoors if you live in an apartment

What we've learned so far in 2020

1. COVID changed everything!
2. Funding community members means they truly lead that work
3. Round 1 mini grant appl didn't quite ask what we needed to know – revised for Round 2
4. Work of the CBOs will elevate community desires and differences
5. One intern and 4 CBOs cannot possibly represent all communities and that is a good thing!

Food for thought

This work is funded through a grant.

- How can we embed it into ongoing funding?
- How can we integrate community voices into everyday public health work?

Hennepin County is composed of many different cultural, spiritual, faith and geographic communities.

- How do we facilitate and integrate conflicting community ideas and solutions?

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