

VERSION 2.0 WORK IN PROGRESS: Health Equity Think Tank Summary

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The Public Health Accreditation Board is a 501(c)3 nonprofit organization dedicated to improving and protecting the health of the public by advancing and ultimately transforming the quality and performance of state, local, tribal, and territorial public health departments.



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Health equity is a subject matter that has undergone significant advancement in the past few years. An increasing number of health departments are addressing health equity in their communities.

PHAB commissioned Human Impact Partners (HIP) to write a paper to:

- Describe health equity efforts where public health departments are either the leader or a strong, key partner;
- Provide descriptions of health equity technical assistance resources, models, or tools that are available to public health departments; and
- Make recommendations concerning the types of activities that health departments should be expected to do to address health equity in the population they serve.

The HIP paper proposed five overarching recommendations for PHAB to consider in developing PHAB Standards and Measures Version 2.0:

- Lead with health equity
- Explicitly define health equity and community
- Provide more explicit guidance on community engagement
- Require health equity strategic planning and integration across programs
- Promote health equity innovation and accountability

The HIP paper also proposed revisions to each of the Domains' standards and measures.

PHAB gathered a group of health equity experts from across the country to spend two days reviewing and discussing the recommendations contained in the commissioned paper. The group provided further recommendations concerning health equity related concepts, language, and requirements to include in Version 2.0 of the Standards and Measures.

PHAB will carefully consider the recommendations it has received as it considers issues such as: (1) What are appropriate health equity requirements, given the current state-of-the-art? (2) What types of activities should health departments be expected to demonstrate? (3) How are health equity activities assessed? (4) What are health equity metrics? (5) What is valid evidence to demonstrate health equity work?

Health Equity Think Tank Members

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