



2024-2029 Community Health Improvement Plan + the work of the Partnership

April 11, 2024

Community Health Improvement Plan

- ✓ Long-term effort to address large-scale public health problems
- ✓ Done every 5 years
- ✓ Increases knowledge about the interconnectedness of activities
- ✓ Used to set priorities
- ✓ Creates benchmarks for what improvement looks like
- ✓ Improves organizational and community coordination and collaboration





ABOUT US

SLO Health Counts is a collaborative of community members, nonprofits, government agencies, cities, schools, and leaders in SLO County working together toward the shared goal of a healthy, thriving community.

We view this website as a tool to inform, inspire, and initiate dialogue about the health assets we strive to protect and the health challenges we face in our county. We invite you to be part of this dialogue and welcome your input on this resource.

HISTORY

SLO Health Counts builds on a strong history of community engagement in support of health and wellness in San Luis Obispo County, including the pioneering work of HEAL SLO and ACTION for Healthy Communities. Sincere thanks to those who have made this work possible.

VISION

A healthy, equitable, and thriving community.

MISSION

SLO Health Counts is a community-wide initiative that works to equitably improve health for those who live, work, and play in San Luis Obispo County.

Who is involved

Employers and
Businesses

Hospitals and
Healthcare Sector

Government
Agencies

Nonprofit
Organizations

Education Sector

Transportation
and Planning
Agencies

Elected Officials

Underserved
Communities

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INTRODUCTION

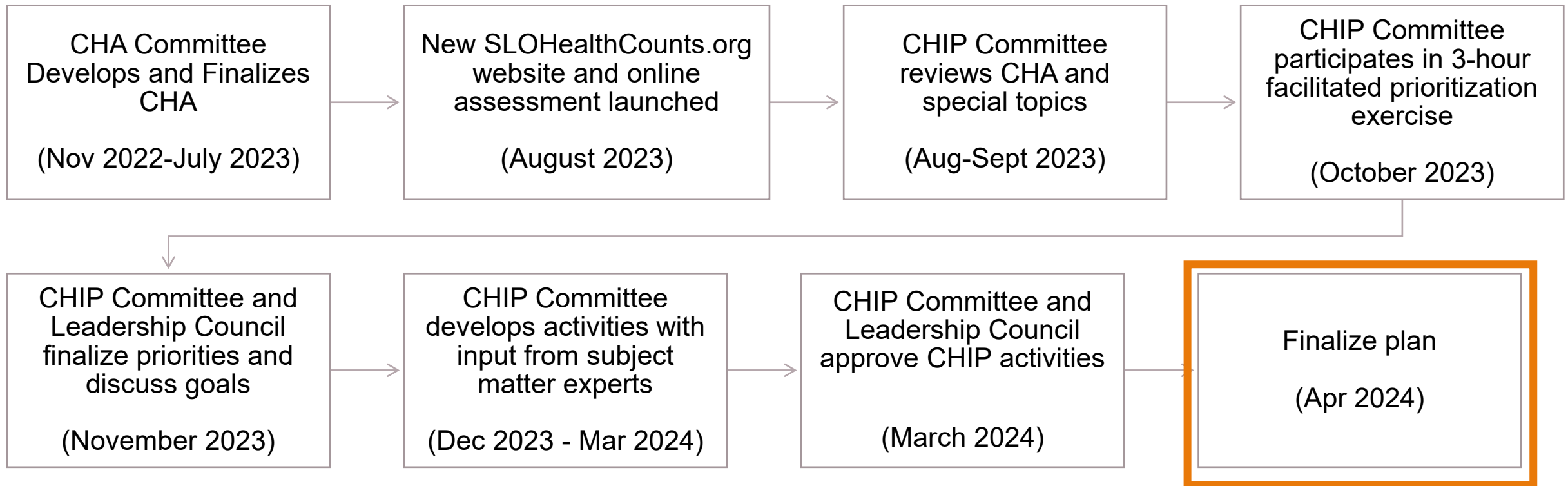
OUR COMMUNITY HEALTH ASSESSMENT

The power of data to guide community health improvement is immense. Accurate, relevant information helps us determine how to most effectively direct limited resources and where to find assets we can leverage to make positive change. It helps us understand who is most vulnerable to health threats and what demands most need our attention. Data also allows us to see what is working well in communities and find additional ways to improve community health.

For those reasons, members of the SLO Health Counts collaborative conduct a community health assessment for SLO County every five years.

These findings are intended to inform a broader audience — community health centers, government agencies, philanthropy, community-based organizations, civic leaders and the general public — about the top health issues facing our community.

Process thus far



almost there!



Community Health Improvement Plan – **Our Priorities**



**Healthy
Neighborhoods**



**Access
to Care**



**Mental Health &
Substance Use**

Community Health Improvement Plan – **Our Priorities**

Healthy Neighborhoods

Create socially cohesive, vibrant neighborhoods that allow people to connect with each other, safely walk and bike, access healthy food and other things they need, and enjoy parks and open space.

Housing | Bike & Ped Improvements | Climate Resilience



Community Health Improvement Plan – **Our Priorities**

Access to Care

Ensure healthy communities where individuals can easily get care that is affordable, culturally and linguistically appropriate, and available when and where they need it.

Local pipelines | Reimbursement rates | Mobile access



Community Health Improvement Plan – Our Priorities

Mental Health & Substance Use

Create thriving and resilient communities that include opportunities for people to have socio-emotional supports that prevent anxiety, depression or substance use from beginning in the first place as well as treatment for those issues when they do arise.

Supports across the life course | Drug overdose prevention



The work of this group is
incredibly valuable.

**We'd like to ensure it's a focal
point under 'Access to Care'.**

Priority – Access to Care

Goal: Recruit and retain providers to the Central Coast.

Objective 1: Develop local pipeline(s) & training programs for Physical, Behavioral, and Oral Health.

- **1.1** Gather current data from businesses and conduct a market assessment of local healthcare positions (number and type of positions needed).
- **1.2** Identify educational/training/ professional development opportunities to build the capacity of support staff, including community support (CHW/P) and Enhanced Care Management roles.
- **1.3** Partner with Cal Poly, Cuesta, Allan Hancock, AT Still, local residency programs, and/or other educational organizations to expand existing, and build new pathways, for career development.

Objective 2: Retain local healthcare workforce and identify funding/investment opportunities.

- **2.1** Design and implement a survey to health-related employers/employees to identify challenges to retention (permanent vs. contracted positions).
- **2.2** Advocate for changes to SLO County's rural designation for Medicare reimbursement rates and to increase Medi-Cal reimbursement rates in general.
- **2.3** Research and find funding sources to support local workforce development activities.



Priority – Access to Care

Goal: Expand services in remote areas and to hard-to-reach populations.

Objective 1: Increase healthcare visits performed in remote areas of the county by 20% (e.g. through mobile or pop-up clinics, resource fairs).

- **1.1** Create list of current organizations that use mobile and pop-up clinics, and the locations, frequencies and services provided.
- **1.2** Based on identified gaps, research the locations, staffing and services needed in expanded mobile operations.
- **1.3** Investigate partnerships, funding opportunities and alternative staffing (e.g. community health workers, promotores) approaches to meet the demand.
- **1.4** Create training suite that helps inform providers on the cultural and linguistic needs of their target population.
- **1.5** Create and utilize a system of closed-loop referrals for other needed supports and programs (e.g. housing, mental health, transportation) that is culturally, linguistically, and generationally appropriate.



Thoughts?

Sign up online to stay informed

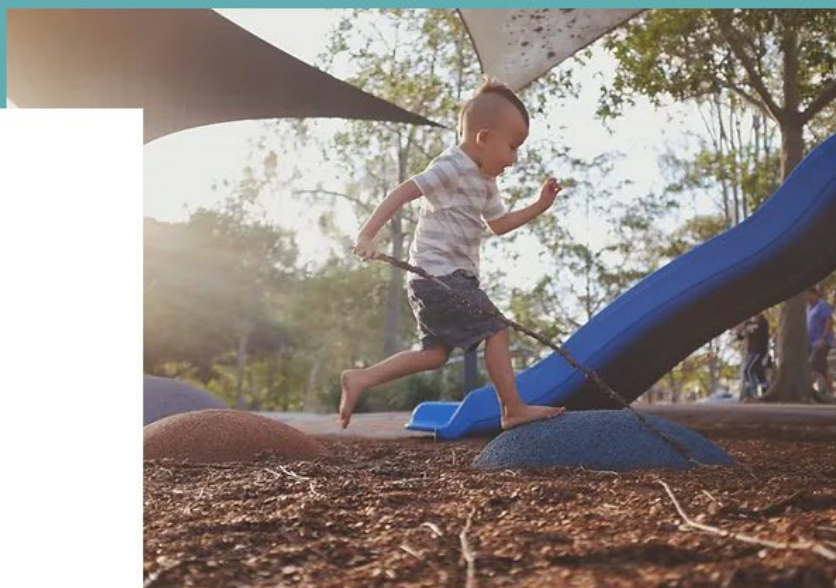
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