



HEALTH
EQUITY
SOLUTIONS

The Story of PA 17-74 (SB 126)

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Health Equity Solutions

Vision

For every Connecticut resident to obtain optimal health regardless of race, ethnicity, or socioeconomic status.

Mission

To promote policies, programs, and practices that result in equitable health care access, delivery, and health outcomes for all people in Connecticut

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The HES Approach

Education
 Awareness
 Policy/advocacy
 Partnerships
 Coalitions
 Planning

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WORKING WITH OTHERS TO SUPPORT

1

Health Insurance Literacy:
 Increase health insurance literacy in the state (especially among marketplace consumers)



2



Cultural Competence:
 Advance cultural competence training for health professionals
 Support Commission on Health Equity legislation for cultural competence training for dental hygienists

3



Medicaid: Protect the program from cuts in eligibility, services, and access
 Work with the Medicaid Strategy group



3

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Education and Awareness Building



HES has developed and delivered 5 workshops centered around the necessity of incorporating health equity into everyday practices and policies. The workshops include:

- Health Equity – The Basics
- Social Determinants of Health
- Advocacy 101 & 102
- Asset Based Community Development
- Storytelling for Advocacy

All workshops can be modified to address the needs of the organization, community, or group of individuals requesting our training.



Policy and Advocacy

HES' policy model is simple and straightforward:

1. Identify what works

- Source the best policy and programmatic solutions within Connecticut as well as nationwide.
- Conduct policy analyses and research to educate, as well as inform.
- Engage diverse partners to identify solutions.

2. Shape solutions for maximum impact

- Shape and influence policies and regulations.
- Monitor the implementation of legislation.
- Provide regulatory feedback.

3. Accelerate their adoption

- Convene public forums.
- Implement campaigns and other messaging.
- Engage in media advocacy.
- Actively participate on related coalitions and committees.



Partnerships and Coalitions



During the 2017 legislative session, HES took the lead on introducing and successfully passing our first piece of legislation centered on Community Health Workers (SB 126). This momentous achievement could not have been done without the support of our partners.



HES believes that true health equity cannot be achieved without collaboration and coalition building.



NORTH CENTRAL REGIONAL
MENTAL HEALTH BOARD, INC.

What's Next?

- Currently examining what certification means for CT
 - Who, what, when, where, how
- Advocacy for integration, recognition, and sustainability of CHWs
 - Regardless of payment system (FFS or otherwise)
 - Medicaid (beyond SIM)
- Serving as a collaborator and friend for the CT Association of CHWs

Questions?


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