

Executive Summary



The Connecticut Health Foundation adopts the following strategic plan for 2007 to 2017.¹

PRIORITY AREAS

The Foundation will recommit to its three priority areas: Children's Mental Health, Racial and Ethnic Health Disparities, and Oral Health.

GOALS AND OBJECTIVES

The Foundation has established goals and objectives in each priority area to guide its work, as follows:

CHILDREN'S MENTAL HEALTH GOAL:

Reduce the number of at-risk children ages 6-14 entering intensive treatment and/or the juvenile justice system due to mental health problems.

Objective 1: Promote a community-based system of early identification and intervention for children at risk of mental health problems.

Objective 2: Support the development and dissemination of knowledge in early identification and effective interventions relating to children's mental health.

RACIAL AND ETHNIC HEALTH DISPARITIES GOAL:

Decrease racial and ethnic health disparities.

Objective 1: Create public will to decrease racial and ethnic health disparities in access and treatment.

Objective 2: Improve the quality of systems that enhance patient-provider interactions in order to promote health equity.

ORAL HEALTH GOAL:

Improve the oral health of children from low-income families by supporting the incorporation of oral health at every point where children and their families intersect with health care, human service and education systems.

Objective 1: Support institutionalization of family oral health promotion and links to "dental homes" into health care, human service and education systems to increase the number of pregnant women and children aged 0-5 years from low-income families receiving dental prevention and treatment.

Objective 2: Support increasing the number of patient- and family-centered "dental homes" providing care in coordination with the primary medical provider for pregnant women and children aged 0-5 years from low-income families.

Objective 3: Support the implementation of school-focused policies and systems that promote family oral health and links to "dental homes" to increase the number of children enrolled in the national school lunch program who are caries free or have completed dental treatment.

ADDITIONAL POINTS

In addition to the Foundation's goals and objectives, several other points will guide the work of the Foundation, as stated below:

- The Foundation will actively keep issues associated with health data and sustainable resources on its radar screen to inform its three priority areas.
- Responsiveness to opportunity will be considered a value of the Connecticut Health Foundation. If specific criteria are met, the Foundation may respond to opportunities that arise outside its three priority areas and their associated goals and objectives.

¹ Progress will be measured against benchmarks on shorter time intervals, such as every three years.

² A large benchmark group will need to be identified by the Foundation; Data should be compared across same-age categories.