

New Strategic Plan 2013 – 2017

(Updated: 2/25/15)



Connecticut Health
FOUNDATION

At the Connecticut Health Foundation, our mission states, *“Everyone deserves the opportunity for optimal health, regardless of race, ethnicity, background, or income level. We are dedicated to improving the health of all Connecticut residents.”*

In order to deliver on this mission, we have decided to shift the focus our efforts over the next five years to one critical strategic goal – expanding health equity for all of our residents.

For us, expanding health equity means helping more people gain access to better care, especially for those who currently lack it now – people of color.

Our commitment to oral health and children’s mental health has evolved as a result of this shift. Ultimately, we are bringing these priority areas under

our strategic lens of health equity. We know that both of these issues, if left unaddressed, contribute significantly toward health inequities.

At the end of 2014 we formally exited funding children’s mental health as a separate, standalone priority area, and we will do the same for oral health by the end of 2018. Instead, we will fund grant proposals that look to address inequities in children’s mental health and oral health. We encourage grantseekers to review our strategic goals and objectives, as well as our theory of change, to find a good fit between our priorities.

STRATEGIC GOALS AND OBJECTIVES

HEALTH EQUITY

Goal 1: Leverage opportunities to advance health equity in reforming health care.

- Objective 1:** Promote health insurance enrollment and navigation support systems that will increase and maintain coverage.
- Objective 2:** Foster the inclusion of mental, oral and physical health in an integrated health care system.
- Objective 3:** Increase system accountability by advancing the development and integration of quality standards and measurement protocols into primary care delivery models (e.g., Person-Centered Medical Homes, Accountable Care Organizations)
- Objective 4:** Maximize the role of the safety-net (School Based Health Centers, Community Health Centers, hospital clinics) in an integrated health care system.

Goal 2: Strengthen leadership and network capacity to promote health equity in health care access and delivery.

- Objective 1:** Cultivate diverse, skilled health equity leaders that advocate for and effect change in private, public and non-profit sectors.
- Objective 2:** Advance public policies that promote health equity by establishing a health advocacy entity.

ORAL HEALTH

Goal 1: Strengthen the advocacy infrastructure to sustain improvements in oral health access for low-income families.

- Objective 1:** Bolster the leadership capacity of key stakeholders, organizations and coalitions to advocate for policies and regulations that maintain and improve oral health access for low- income families.

Goal 2: Support system changes that promote oral health care for low-income pregnant women.

- Objective 1:** Develop and integrate new dental and obstetric practice and referral systems to increase the number of pregnant women receiving oral health care.
- Objective 2:** Promote integration of new oral health care practice and referral guidelines into statewide maternal and child health programs.