

PHAB Public Health Modernization Funding Workgroup  
CLHO Update, August 2023

**LPHA Representatives on Workgroup:**

- Kim La Croix, Clackamas
- Jackson Baures, Jackson
- Naomi Biggs, Polk
- Michael Baker, Jefferson
- Trish Elliott, Hood River
- Florence Pourtal, Lincoln
- Shellie Campbell, North Central PH District
- Meghan Chancey, Baker

**Workgroup topics, deliverables and timeline**

<p>Topic 1. Key questions to build understanding of our current and future system, and lessons from first round of funding from CBOs</p> <p><b>Deliverables: Key questions to support shared understanding; topics and issues to revisit to support Topic #3</b></p>
<p>Topic 2. Strategies and benchmarks to ensure new funding to CBOs serves communities currently underserved by CBO public health equity funds.</p> <p><b>Deliverables: Recommended strategies; benchmarks for equitable funding distribution.</b></p>
<p>Topic 3. Strategies to improve information-sharing, coordination and other system improvements to address community health priorities.</p> <p><b>Deliverable: Recommended strategies</b></p>
<p>Topic 4. LPHA involvement in making funding decisions about new CBO awardees in 2023-25</p> <p><b>Deliverable: Recommended strategies</b></p>
<p>PHAB will vote to approve recommendations and other deliverables.</p>

Meeting dates	Topics
May 18, 31 June 12, 20	Topic #1: Key questions to build understanding of our current and future system, and lessons from first round of funding from CBOs
July 18	Topic #2: Strategies and benchmarks to ensure new funding to CBOs serves communities currently underserved by CBO public health equity funds
July 31	Topic #2: Strategies and benchmarks to ensure new funding to CBOs serves communities currently underserved by CBO public health equity funds
August 18	<p>Topic #2: Strategies and benchmarks to ensure new funding to CBOs serves communities currently underserved by CBO public health equity funds (Topic 2 deliverables finalized)</p> <p>Topic #3: Strategies to improve information-sharing, coordination and other system improvements to address community health priorities.</p>
August 28	<p>Topics #3: Strategies to improve information-sharing, coordination and other system improvements to address community health priorities. (Topic 3 deliverables finalized)</p> <p>Topic #4: LPHA involvement in making funding decisions about new CBO awardees in 2023-25. (Topic 4 deliverables finalized at this meeting or a future meeting)</p>
<b>Assess need for additional meetings in August</b>	

## **Summary of July 31 meeting**

### **Topic 2: Equitable funding strategies for new funding to CBOs to reach underserved communities.**

1. Reviewed tables of regional and county per capita investments for 2021-23 CBO funding to understand current distribution of funds.
2. Agreed to apply the public health modernization funding formula to 2023-25 funding to CBOs to estimate funds that will be awarded to CBOs in each county and region.
  - Note that funding to CBOs will not be allocated through a funding formula, as they are to LPHAs.
  - The funding formula estimates equitable funding across counties, regions and populations.
3. Discussed application of a base amount and a cap on funding awards to CBOs.
4. Discussed methods to identify counties that are currently underserved through OHA funding to CBOs.

The Workgroup is expected to finalize its recommendations at the August 18 meeting.

### **Topic 3: Strategies to improve information-sharing, coordination and other system improvements to address community health priorities.**

1. Introduced ways in which language in the CBO application, work plan and RFGA can be strengthened to better support CBO and LPHA collaborations. Workgroup members provided edits to CBO draft application questions and work plan template via email.

The Workgroup will continue to discuss improvements and whether any corresponding changes are needed to LPHA work plans or reporting at the August 18 meeting.

# 2023-25 PUBLIC HEALTH MODERNIZATION GENERAL FUNDS FOR COMMUNITY-BASED ORGANIZATIONS – PROPOSED VALUES AND AGREEMENTS

## Spring 2023

The purpose of this document is to share the Oregon Health Authority (OHA) values and proposed process for continuing its work toward eliminating health inequities and partnering meaningfully with local public health authorities (LPHAs) and community-based organizations (CBOs) toward this shared goal through additional new funding for public health modernization (PHM) in the 2023-25 biennium.

### **Background**

In 2015, the Oregon legislature adopted recommendations from the 2014 Task Force on the Future of Public Health Services and added foundational public health services to Oregon statutes. Because everyone in Oregon deserves the opportunity to lead long and healthy lives, the goal of public health modernization is a modern public health system that is nimble and responsive to complex public health problems and actively contributes to the elimination of costly health inequities.

The Task Force modified a model for a modern public health system and added *health equity and cultural responsiveness* as a foundational capability for governmental public health. *Health equity and cultural responsiveness* is further defined in the [Oregon Public Health Modernization Manual](#). The manual speaks to the importance of **working together with communities most impacted by health inequities** across all aspects of public health.

In 2016, Oregon's state and local public health authorities completed an [assessment](#) of where each entity was performing relative to the definitions for what public health needs to serve in the Oregon Public Health Modernization Manual. At that time, *health equity and cultural responsiveness* was the **least implemented foundational capability** across Oregon's state and local public health authorities.

In 2020, the Oregon Health Authority (OHA) adopted its 10-year goal to **eliminate health inequities**. The COVID-19 pandemic highlighted the vital importance of health equity to public health emergency response. The [SB 1554 Report on the Public Health Response to the COVID-19 Pandemic in Oregon](#), published in November 2022, recommends increased funding of public health modernization to continue equity gains made during the pandemic, including funding to community-based organizations. A modern public health system that meaningfully includes the governmental components of the public health system, community-based organizations (CBOs), health systems

and other community partners are primary ways that the Public Health Division contributes to OHA's strategic goal.

### Values

OHA's values related to funding the public health system are:

- Equity: ensuring that financial resources are directed to communities that are most disproportionately impacted by health inequities, including communities at the intersections of multiple identities.
- Partnership: to meaningfully engage LPHAs, CBOs and community partners in all aspects of the funding process.
- Transparency: sharing information clearly, frequently and transparently.
- Inclusion: individuals, local communities and local partners that are most impacted are a part of developing ideas and solutions and making decisions.
- Accountability: quickly identifying issues, communicating in a timely fashion, achieving health equity objectives, and working to ensure local public health modernization efforts are complimenting each other.

### OHA agrees to:

- Following consultation with the Public Health Advisory Board, CLHO and the CBO Advisory Board, establish a workgroup for coming to decisions on the implementation of the items below.
- Prioritize any new CBO allocated funds within public health modernization to communities currently underserved by public health equity funds.
  - OHA will work with LPHAs and CBOs to identify benchmarks for equitable distribution of funds (examples: geography; population size; burden of poor health outcomes, etc.).
- Consult LPHAs in the decision-making process for identifying and awarding new CBO grantees.
  - This could include and will be jointly worked through with CLHO:
    - Direct collaboration between OHA and LPHAs to identify potential local and/or regional CBO grantees
    - LPHA participation in new CBO grant application review
- Share LPHA public health modernization work plans and CBO PH equity funding work plans between LPHAs and CBOs.
- Provide ongoing training and technical assistance to CBOs and LPHAs, including:
  - Helping to identify fiscal sponsors for emerging CBOs;
  - Supporting application processes for emerging CBOs;
  - Providing organizational development resources for CBOs;
  - Providing level-setting PHM education;

- Convening LPHA and CBO partners toward relationship development and shared approaches to public health work.
  - Provide resources, support, technical assistance and tools to LPHAs to work with CBOs and to ensure adequate capacity to do so.
- Work to ensure that all jurisdictions benefit from support to CBOs. If a jurisdiction does not have any willing CBOs identified or awarded funding, OHA will work with the relevant LPHAs and community partners to ensure funding support for community-based health equity work. Examples of strategies could include (but is not limited to) the following:
  - Provide stipends for volunteer community member/partner participation in public health meetings and trainings;
  - Support for convening partners to determine interest for starting an organization or coalition, including funding for a start-up if needed;
  - Provide public health-related training and technical assistance to community members and partners; and
  - Explore opportunities for additional community partnerships tied to community health improvement plans.
- OHA intends to begin work on the above agreements as soon as possible through the ways listed below.
- Discussion in the LPHA/CBO Alignment Workgroup to identify mutually acceptable and reasonable grant agreement language for CBOs and LPHAs to support relationship development, communication, coordination and collaboration.
- With input from the Conference of Local Health Officials and the CBO Advisory Committee, Public Health Advisory Board discussion and recommendations for how to ensure that financial resources are directed to communities that are most disproportionately impacted by health inequities.
- Joint conversations among PHAB, the Conference of Local Health Officials, and the CBO Advisory Committee to determine and transparently outline the future processes for selection of CBOs.
- Convening LPHAs and CBOs to discuss a possible pilot project for LPHA passthrough for CBOs that would like to receive funding through an LPHA instead of OHA.