

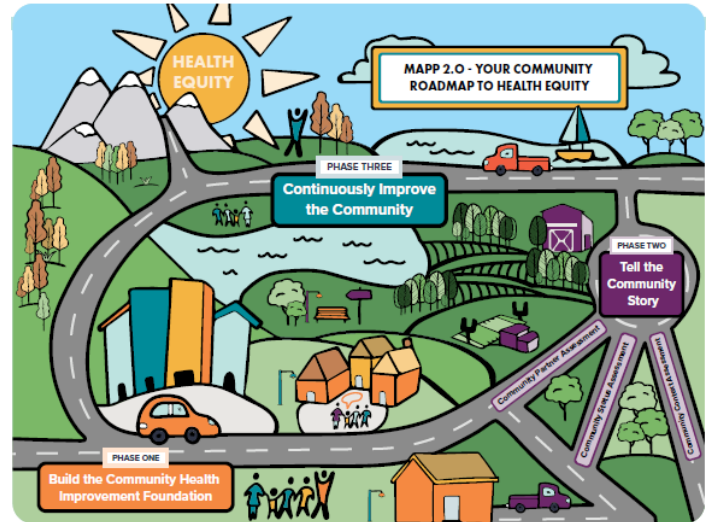


PURPOSE

In the Mobilizing for Action through Planning and Partnerships 2.0 (MAPP 2.0) process, Phase Two: Tell the Community Story involves conducting three different assessments to paint a comprehensive picture of health in the community.

The Community Partner Assessment (CPA) provides a structure for community partners to look critically at their individual systems, processes, and capacities, and the collective capacity of the system to address inequities and advance health equity. It answers questions like:

- Who is involved, or needs to be involved, in MAPP?
- What capacities, skills, and strengths does each organization bring to improving community health?
- Where are there gaps in fulfilling essential public health services?

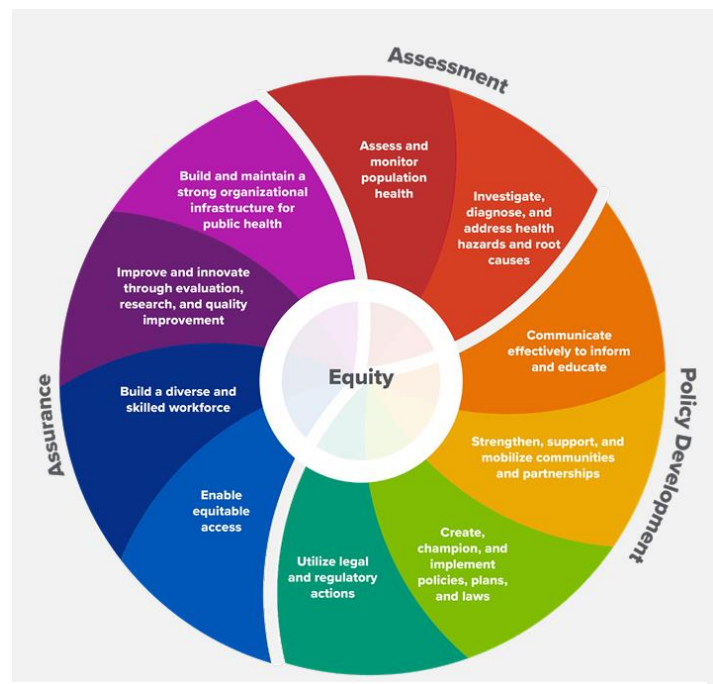


PROCESS

The village project team and LHF held a virtual community partner welcome meeting in October 2023 to bring together community partners from across the public health landscape, provide an opportunity for them to learn more about the needs assessment, and launch a community partner assessment survey.

The community partner assessment survey was open online from October through December 2023 and received 27 total responses, primarily from leadership or senior management from nonprofit organizations serving Schaumburg.

A facilitated in-person meeting was held on January 16, 2024, in which participating community partners heard preliminary findings about community needs from the CSA and CCA, reflected on the results of the community partner assessment survey, and worked in small groups to weigh in on gaps and barriers based on these findings.



The 10 Essential Public Health Services (EPHS). Revised 2020 by the Public Health National Center for Innovations (PHNCI) and the de Beaumont Foundation. Image from CDC.

RESULTS

The CPA is organized around the guiding questions above, with highlights from both the community partner assessment survey and from the discussion and synthesis with partners in-person in January 2024. Highlights of the CPA are described in this summary.



Community Partners and Involvement in Community Health Improvement

- **Participating Partners:** Partner agencies responding to the survey came from many different sectors. 73% were nonprofit organizations, and 61% focus on health. Partners work in the areas of mental health care, human services, family well-being, food access/affordability, education, housing, transportation, LGBTQIA+ discrimination/equity, and racial justice.
- **Involvement in Community Health Improvement Partnership:** 50% of partners said their organization has participated in a community health improvement process, and 54% said their organization had participated in or facilitated community-led decision-making. 72% said the reason they were interested in joining a community health improvement partnership was to deliver programs effectively and efficiently and avoid duplicated efforts, followed by creating long term, permanent social change (48%), pooling resources (40%), and increasing communication among groups (40%).
- **Populations Needing More Services:** According to partner agencies, the populations who need more services available in the community include individuals with limited English proficiency (75%), immigrants, refugees, asylum seekers (70%), individuals who are unhoused (65%), children or teens (55%), individuals with disabilities and their caregivers (55%), older adults (50%), individuals who identify as Hispanic/Latinx (50%), and individuals who identify as LGBTQIA+ (50%).
- **Greatest Community Challenges:** The greatest challenges in the community selected by partners included mental health care access (95%), poverty or affordability of basic needs (85%), housing stability or affordability (85%), food security (70%), unemployment or underemployment (65%), transportation (65%), childcare or early childhood education access (60%), primary care access (55%), and health insurance coverage (55%).
- **Greatest Barriers to Community Members Accessing Health Care:** The top three barriers to community members accessing health services selected by partners were costs (80%), lack of transportation (75%), and insurance barriers (70%), followed by language differences (50%), lack of childcare (45%), and fear or lack of trust (40%).

Capacities of Community Partners and Gaps in Essential Public Health Services

- **Equity Practices:** 91% of responding organizations have at least one person in their organization dedicated to addressing diversity, equity, and inclusion internally.
- **Strategies and Skills:** To accomplish their work, partners utilize strategies like providing social and health services (90%), using communications (80%), engaging in alliance and coalition building (70%), research and policy analysis (65%), and leadership development (65%).
- **Organizational Capacity:** Only 20% of responding partners felt they have sufficient capacity to do their work, while 70% felt they did not have sufficient capacity and 10% were unsure. Funding was a noted challenge.
- **Fulfillment of Essential Public Health Services:** Several essential public health services are being done by most responding partners, including communication and education (100%), community engagement and partnerships (81%), and access to care (76%). Other essential public health services are being fulfilled by some partners, including workforce (52%), policies, plans, and laws (48%), and evaluation and research (43%). Few partners who took the survey fulfill the services of legal and regulatory authority (14%) or investigation of hazards (19%).
- **Data and Assessment Capacities:** 55% of responding organizations conduct assessments of some kind. All organizations collect some kind of data, using data collection methods such as surveys, feedback forms, interviews, data tracking systems, electronic health records, and focus groups.
- **Community Engagement Practices:** Partners vary in terms of their depth of community engagement. 11% involve the community, 26% collaborate with the community, and 5% defer to the community for decision making. Community engagement methods also vary and include social media, surveys, presentations, and community events.
- **Language:** 84% of partners say that most of their publicly available materials are translated into other languages.