



## HEALTH IN ALL POLICIES

# Implementation Strategies

Health in All Policies (HiAP) creates safer, healthier communities but can be difficult to implement. State and territorial health agencies that have successfully implemented HiAP have offered the following strategies to help others get started. A comprehensive HiAP approach can include a variety of strategies at different levels and may include some elements of collaboration, education, assessment, consultation, program development, and policy.

### Collaboration

- Identify other ongoing multi-agency workgroups or councils, and consider integrating HiAP into these goals.
- Identify current champions for health in other sectors and nurture relationships with them.
- Form a cross-agency task force or participate in formal cross-agency groups established by state or local authorities.
- Utilize health impact assessments (HIAs) as tools to build partnerships around a specific policy or project.
- Set up an informal meeting with your counterpart in another agency.
- Seek partnerships with community-based organizations to gain insight on issues.

### Assessment

- Integrate health goals, indicators, or metrics into long-term planning or guidance (e.g., State Transportation Improvement Plans).
- Conduct HIAs to build skills in assessing the health impacts of other sectors' projects and policies.
- Utilize tools that can assist with developing partnering strategies (e.g., logic models, collaboration checklists).
- Engage other sectors in local community needs assessments (e.g., Affordable Care Act or accreditation process).
- Promote cross-sector data collection and analyses.
- Create health performance measures for accountability in other interested sectors.
- Integrate health metrics into policy frameworks that address upstream determinants of health (e.g., graduation rates, poverty, incarceration).

*Turn for more »*



### Education and Community Engagement

- Conduct cross-agency trainings on the relationship between health and other sectors.
- Work with universities and medical schools to integrate HiAP into curriculums.
- Conduct partnering meetings or workshops.
- Identify decision makers who are champions for health and provide them with HiAP information.
- Invite other state agency staff to health agency meetings.
- Partner with other sectors to solicit public input on policies that affect health.
- Develop a working knowledge of other agencies' language, processes, pressures, and goals.

- Seek partnerships with community-based coalitions or other groups to gain insight on their priorities.
- Conduct joint trainings with other agencies on topics that link disciplines.

### Program Development

- Create health staff positions in other sectors or vice versa (e.g., hire a transportation planner in the health department).
- Provide information to communities to promote health on specific projects and policies.
- Provide relevant health agency staff with tools to integrate HiAP into current work (e.g., training, checklists).

### Policy and Legislative Approaches

- Work with ASTHO or other national partners to provide comments on federal policies.
- Implement a process for ongoing policy analyses in health agencies, particularly during state legislative sessions.

### Health-based Consultation and Technical Assistance

- Provide health consultation services to developers through the environmental permitting process.
- Identify state-level opportunities to integrate health into existing policy frameworks (e.g., environmental impact assessments) in each sector.

*Programs at the national level that support this work include the **National Prevention Strategy (NPS)**, found at <http://www.surgeongeneral.gov/initiatives/prevention/strategy/report.pdf>. NPS provides a framework to guide our nation in the most effective and achievable means to improve health and well-being. It integrates recommendations and actions across multiple settings to focus on both increasing the length of people's lives and ensuring that their lives are healthy and productive. The broad goal of achieving better health has sustained a call to action across the country, from promoting healthy behaviors to creating environments that make it easier to exercise and access healthy foods.*

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Health in All Policies is a collaborative approach that integrates and articulates health considerations into policy making and programming across sectors, and at all levels, to improve the health of all communities and people.

FIND OUT MORE: [www.astho.org/hiap](http://www.astho.org/hiap)