



Cambridge Health Alliance
Community Health Advisory Council (CHAC)
Member Role Description

What is CHA's Community Health Advisory Council or CHAC?

Cambridge Health Alliance (CHA) is a public, safety net healthcare system with a mission to improve the health of the communities it serves. The CHAC is part of the institution's commitment to intentionally center the voices of CHA service area communities, with the goal of collaboratively improving health outcomes and fostering a healthier community. Convened by CHA's Department of Community Health, CHAC members play a pivotal role in ensuring that CHA is responsive to the needs of the community, consisting of local community members with a variety of lived experiences, expertise, and knowledge.

The Community Health Advisory Council (CHAC) is a venue for community members and CHA staff to engage in collaboration, continuous learning, and monitoring of strategies and actions related to advancing the objectives of CHA's Regional Wellbeing Assessment and Implementation Strategy (see CHA's [Community Health Data and Reports page](#)).

CHAC meetings will consist of:

1. Sharing information, resources, and skills amongst members
2. Reporting and evaluating progress related to the Implementation Strategy areas of focus
3. Demonstrating and operationalizing equity principles of: language justice, centering under-represented voices in leadership and decision making, and creating spaces of collective care.

CHAC Member Responsibilities:

1. Attend regular quarterly CHAC meetings.
2. Provide feedback and recommendations on proposed projects and activities related to CHA's Wellbeing Assessment and Implementation Strategy process.
3. Support activities related to, and stemming from, the CHA's Wellbeing Assessment and Implementation Strategy process.
4. Raise awareness about health issues impacting the community, advocate for equitable access to care, services, and information, and support policies that advance community wellbeing.

5. Engage in discussion, planning, problem-solving and communication about emerging community health issues, and collaborate to address them.
6. Demonstrate and operationalize equity principles of language justice; centering under-represented voices in leadership and decision making; and creating spaces of collective care.

CHAC Member Benefits:

- Build connections and relationships with healthcare professionals, community leaders, and advocates that can be sustained outside of the CHAC context and lead to deeper collaboration and partnership.
- Ensure a direct communication channel between your community and CHA leadership on issues related to health and wellbeing.
- Contribute to overall community wellbeing through influencing positive changes in community health
- Develop an enhanced understanding of healthcare system services and related policy development

Time commitment: The CHAC will meet on a quarterly basis (4 times a year), with possible committee work between meetings. Meetings will typically last 60–90 minutes. The meeting schedule and location will be determined in consultation with CHAC membership.