Cardiovascular Health (CVH) Council

Leadership Team and Evaluation Peer Network Meeting

July 2022 Report
Executive Summary

The CVH Council Leadership Team (LT), consisting of the Chair, Past Chair, and Chair-Elect, and the Evaluation Peer Network (EPN) Recipient Representatives met in May 2022 to participate in strategic planning activities. This included setting outcomes and activities for the CVH Council in support of all health department staff working on heart disease and stroke prevention strategies. The goals for the group were to form a working team between the CVH Council LT and EPN Recipient Representatives, and to develop an action plan for what should be accomplished over the next 18 months.

Overview: From May 16-18, 2022, this 1.5-day meeting included the following discussion items (for full list of attendees and agenda, please see Appendices A-B):

- **Setting the Context for Our Work:** The Broader CDC and NACDD Perspective-Context for meeting and Update from NACDD Leadership.
- **CVH Portfolio Overview:** Description of our work to provide larger landscape; opportunities for growth; how to enhance the role of states; and how to showcase success in Year 5.
- **Health Equity Lens:** Set the stage for how a focus on health equity will impact the work of states and what does this look like in terms of implementation. This conversation helped inform the identified priority areas.
- **Roles and Responsibilities:** Increase capacity of the leadership teams in areas such as leadership, communication, and professional development
- **Communication Opportunities:** Discuss how to promote the CVH Council and role it can play in supporting CVH-related activities on the local, state and national levels.

Context: This was the first time the CVH Council Leadership Team has come together in almost five years to do strategic planning in-person. CVH Council members recently elected a new slate of chairs that started their positions in January 2022. This was a great opportunity to be strategic about the CVH Council programming, communications, and professional development. This is a pivotal time as states prepare for a cooperative agreement that will build on the work they are currently doing and will have a large focus on health equity. In addition, NACDD’s CVH team recently held listening sessions with the states to gather feedback on 1815/1817 strategies and support needed to address health disparities and health inequities that lead to health equity; the findings from the listening sessions provided a basis for many of the discussions as the group plans for the next 12-18 months.

Below is a summary of the priority areas that emerged as part of the strategic planning, with the action steps that were determined as more immediate priority areas. A more detailed list is available in the full report.
## Priority Areas and Action Steps

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<th>Priority Area</th>
<th>Action Steps</th>
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| Data: Collection, Measurement, and Dissemination        | 1. Identify training on data equity (see health equity section)  
2. Help present negative results for program improvement  
3. Provide technical assistance on data measure definitions/operationalization                                                                   |
| Health Systems and Upstream Factors                     | 1. Advise/foster collaboration on grant strategies  
Upstream and improve outcomes  
2. Provide guidance on community-informed/grassroots implementation                                                                                 |
| Health Equity: Education/professional development; Communication; Implementation | 1. Describe health equity concepts that appeal to many constituencies (e.g. how to define health equity to policy-decision makers so that there is legislative friendly language)  
2. Identify raining in health equity data (e.g., We All Count)  
   a. Training and policy considerations for data disaggregation approaches  
   b. Presenting data in an equitable way to focus more on root causes and not further stigmatizes populations  
   c. Discussion on the value of negative outcomes from a program to inform improvements to program design  
Provide funding/grant opportunities for states to participate in to address health equity; funding for direct and guided technical assistance, piloting potential step by step guides |
| Policy Opportunities                                    | 1. Develop tools/resources to respond to legislatures  
2. Develop legislative friendly messaging on health equity                                                                                           |
| Strategic Communications                                | 1. Disseminate new journal articles on implementation of the strategies  
2. Host webinars on appropriate measures of health equity  
3. Host forums where states can share successes implementing strategies                                                                               |
| Grant Writing Support                                   | 1. Provide grant writing support                                                                                                                                                                           |
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