



City of San Antonio

Agenda Memorandum

File Number:
{{item.tracking_number}}

Agenda Item Number: 3

Agenda Date: December 16, 2024

In Control: Community Health Committee

DEPARTMENT: Health Department

DEPARTMENT HEAD: Claude Jacob

COUNCIL DISTRICTS IMPACTED: Citywide

SUBJECT:

Metro Health 2.0 Strategic Plan Updates

SUMMARY:

An update on the progress of the Metro Health 2.0 Strategic Plan, aims to strengthen key areas of San Antonio's public health infrastructure. The plan was developed to transform the work of Metro Health and the broader public health system, leveraging investments from local, state, and federal partners. The Metro Health 2.0 plan is a requirement for national public health reaccreditation which is expected in 2025. This comprehensive plan ensures that the health department meets the standards set by accrediting bodies, demonstrating its commitment to improving public health practices, services and outcomes. By fulfilling the guidelines outlined in Metro Health 2.0, the department aligns with best practices, improves community engagement and advances its overall mission of enhancing public health.

BACKGROUND INFORMATION:

In late 2022, Metro Health initiated the Metro Health 2.0 Strategic Plan, backed by a five-year \$25.5 million federal CDC's Public Health Infrastructure Grant (PHIG). This plan reflects Metro Health's commitment to modernizing public health systems by addressing the need for sustained investments. The strategic plan was developed collaboratively by Metro Health staff, involving steering committees, advisory teams, and workgroups, focusing on six core areas inspired by the U.S. Bipartisan Policy Center's framework for public health modernization: Community Engagement, Data and Technology, Financing, Partnerships, Public Health Laws and Governance, and Workforce.

The Community Engagement focus area aims to empower staff as public health ambassadors, improve outreach workers' methods for community engagement, and ensure systematic inclusion of community voices in decision-making. The Data and Technology area focuses on implementing a comprehensive data infrastructure modernization plan to transform Metro Health into a data-driven, 21st-century public health system.

The Financing focus area seeks to address program funding gaps, retain staff, enhance fiscal management through standardized procedures, and improve internal communication with a deliverables-tracking dashboard. The Partnerships area emphasizes building sustainable external collaborations, securing funding for partner initiatives, and equipping staff with skills and support for effective coordination with community and organizational partners.

The Public Health Laws and Governance area targets advancing Metro Health's policy agenda through coalition building and legislative engagement while strengthening public communication of the department's roles. Finally, the Workforce focus area prioritizes recruiting and retaining a diverse workforce through partnerships with academic institutions, implementing professional development programs, and refining policies to build a resilient team.

Metro Health will report progress regularly on these focus areas, highlighting efforts to improve public health services, address disparities, and foster community engagement. Metro Health also aims to create a sustainable, inclusive, and modern public health system by leveraging data-driven strategies, enhancing partnerships, and promoting equity-driven policies.

ISSUE:

The presentation to the Community Health Committee will outline progress on the implementation of the Metro Health 2.0 Strategic Plan and highlight the goals designed to address the plan's six focus areas.

FISCAL IMPACT:

This item is for briefing purposes only.

ALTERNATIVES:

This item is for briefing purposes only.

RECOMMENDATION:

This item is for briefing purposes only.