

Action 1: Develop Shared Data Systems



Basic Needs for Health and Safety

What is the action?

Develop shared data, metrics, and learning tools across health and community access points to support earlier identification of community needs and strengthen accountability. This action aligns partners around common indicators, shared definitions, and practical tools that can be used across local, regional, and state systems to improve decision-making and coordinate action.

Why does this matter?

- Shared data helps partners identify community needs based on real conditions rather than assumptions, enabling resources and strategies to be better aligned with local realities.
- Common metrics and data-sharing practices strengthen trust, collaboration, and collective ownership across sectors and regions.
- Standardized tools support more consistent and proactive responses, helping organizations act earlier and reduce duplication of effort.
- Shared metrics and accountability structures help partners track progress, stay aligned around common goals, and sustain momentum over time.
- Consistent data definitions and localized information support benchmarking, shared learning, and place-based decision-making across Georgia.

What does success look like?

- **Statewide Reach, Access, and Analytic Capacity:** Shared data tools and infrastructure are accessible and usable across communities and regions throughout Georgia.
- **Shared Data Infrastructure and Governance:** Partners align around common metrics, data standards, governance structures, and protocols for responsible data use.
- **Learning, Education, and Storytelling:** Data and learning tools are understandable, actionable, and used in community-informed decision-making.
- **Adoption and Use by Frontline and Partner Organizations:** Shared metrics and tools are integrated into workflows and inform decisions across health and community systems.
- **Perceived Value and Efficiency:** Partners see value in participating because shared tools improve coordination and support collective progress.

What things should be considered?

Implementation Considerations

- Participation is more likely when shared metrics, tools, and reporting expectations are designed with different organizational capacities in mind, allowing smaller and under-resourced partners to contribute without needing extensive data infrastructure.
- Long-term success depends on governance structures that balance statewide consistency with meaningful community voice, shared decision-making, and transparency.
- Trust can be strengthened when partners have clear expectations for data ownership, use, privacy, and protection, reducing concerns about misuse or competitive disadvantage.
- Building on existing data systems and demonstrating their value through improved coordination, reduced duplication, and better decision-making can help overcome time, funding, and political barriers.

Key Stakeholders

- Public health, healthcare, and community-based organizations
- Local, regional, and state government agencies
- Community health workers and frontline service providers
- Schools, public safety agencies, and regional networks
- Residents, community leaders, and grassroots coalitions

Geographic and Population Considerations

- Approaches should reflect differences in organizational capacity across Georgia, particularly for rural communities, smaller organizations, grassroots groups, and partners with limited data infrastructure or staffing.
- Special attention should be given to organizations serving populations that often experience disproportionate barriers to health and stability so community needs are reflected accurately and equitably. This includes partners serving low-income households, people with disabilities, immigrant and multilingual communities, housing-insecure individuals, older adults, and other historically marginalized groups.

In what ways can this action be moved forward?

- Adopt or pilot shared metrics and definitions within your organization, coalition, or community initiative.
- Share data, lessons learned, and promising practices with partners to strengthen collective learning and accountability.
- Support smaller, rural, and under-resourced organizations by sharing tools, technical assistance, training, or infrastructure that lowers barriers to participation.
- Participate in cross-sector governance, planning, or learning networks that help align data efforts and inform decision-making.
- Use shared data to communicate community needs, demonstrate impact, and build support for coordinated action and investment.

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Action 2: Embed Community Health Workers Into Team-Based Care



Basic Needs for Health and Safety

What is the action?

Embed Community Health Workers (CHWs) into team-based care models to strengthen referral pathways, care navigation, and warm handoffs between health and community services. This action supports integrating CHWs into care teams across local, regional, and state systems by clarifying roles, strengthening coordination, and building the infrastructure needed for long-term adoption and sustainability.

Why does this matter?

- CHWs help improve referrals, care navigation, and warm handoffs, making it easier for people to connect with the services and supports they need.
- Integrating CHWs into care teams can improve coordination, reduce friction across systems, and enhance the overall experience of care.
- CHWs help identify unmet social needs earlier, creating opportunities to intervene before challenges become more severe and reducing health disparities.
- Embedding CHWs into care teams can strengthen community engagement and connect more individuals to health and support services.

What does success look like?

- **Policy and Systems Change:** Organizations and systems adopt policies, standards, certification pathways, and care models that support CHW integration.
- **CHW Workforce Development:** More trained and certified CHWs are recognized and utilized as valued members of care teams across Georgia.
- **Sustainable Funding:** Dedicated funding and reimbursement pathways support ongoing CHW employment and integration.
- **Health Outcomes Improvement:** CHW-supported efforts contribute to measurable improvements in care coordination, follow-up, referrals, and health outcomes.
- **Local Readiness for CHW Integration:** Communities and organizations demonstrate increased awareness, readiness, and capacity to implement CHW models based on local needs.

What things should be considered?

Implementation Considerations

- Successful integration begins with clearly defining the CHW role, educating care teams about CHW responsibilities, and establishing supervision structures that support collaboration with licensed staff.
- Consistent workforce standards and certification pathways can help reduce role confusion, support hiring decisions, and strengthen confidence in CHW integration across systems.
- Long-term success depends on sustainable funding strategies, reimbursement pathways, or other financing approaches that support CHW positions beyond initial pilots or grant funding.
- Integration is strengthened when referral pathways, care coordination processes, and team workflows are designed to support seamless connections across healthcare, community, and social service systems.

Geographic and Population Considerations

- Approaches should reflect differences in local healthcare infrastructure, workforce capacity, and organizational readiness across urban, suburban, rural, and regional communities.
- Special attention should be given to organizations serving populations that often face barriers to health and care access, including low-income households, immigrant and multilingual communities, people with disabilities, individuals with chronic or behavioral health conditions, housing-insecure populations, veterans, and other underserved groups.

In what ways can this action be moved forward?

- Clarify and champion the role of CHWs within your organization, network, or community to build understanding and support for integration.
- Support CHW training, certification, workforce development, and professional recognition across Georgia.
- Pilot or expand CHW-supported referral, care navigation, and care coordination efforts where unmet needs or system gaps are common.
- Measure and share outcomes, lessons learned, and successful integration models to demonstrate the value of CHWs and build support for broader adoption.
- Advocate for sustainable funding, reimbursement pathways, and policies that support long-term CHW integration.

Key Stakeholders

- Community Health Workers and community advocates
- Healthcare systems and public health agencies
- Community-based organizations and nonprofit partners
- State agencies, policymakers, and Medicaid partners
- Professional associations, advocacy groups, and funders

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Action 3: Sustain Health Care-Led Approaches



Basic Needs for Health and Safety

What is the action?

Support policy and financing strategies that sustain health care-led approaches that improve health, strengthen connections to community resources, and address health-harming conditions. This action focuses on creating the funding, reimbursement, policy, and partnership structures needed to help effective approaches move beyond short-term pilots and become sustainable parts of systems serving communities across Georgia.

Why does this matter?

- Sustainable policy and financing strategies help health care-led approaches improve health outcomes, strengthen prevention efforts, and better address social drivers of health over time.
- Stable funding and supportive policies can expand access to effective approaches beyond traditional health care settings, increasing reach in rural, underserved, and historically under-resourced communities.
- Long-term investment allows organizations to develop the workforce, partnerships, and infrastructure needed to sustain impact and improve service delivery.
- Coordinated policy and financing approaches can improve efficiency, reduce avoidable costs, and strengthen the long-term viability of efforts that support community health and well-being.

What does success look like?

- **Policy and Funding Alignment:** Policies, reimbursement pathways, funding mechanisms, and institutional supports sustain effective health care-led approaches beyond individual leaders or funding cycles.
- **System Integration:** Health care-led approaches are embedded into routine operations, care pathways, and organizational practices rather than operating as stand-alone initiatives.
- **Measurable Outcomes:** Outcome data is used to demonstrate effectiveness, strengthen the case for continued investment, and inform policy and financing decisions.
- **Scale and Partnership:** Cross-sector partners work together to sustain and expand successful approaches across communities and regions throughout Georgia.

What things should be considered?

Implementation Considerations

- Policy opportunities may be shaped by changing political priorities, making timing, relationship-building, and readiness to act during windows of opportunity important for advancing long-term solutions.
- Building support for investment often requires demonstrating value through improved outcomes, avoided costs, efficiency, and other measurable benefits that matter to decision-makers and funders.
- Smaller, rural, and historically under-resourced communities may require targeted funding approaches, technical assistance, and regional support structures to ensure equitable access to resources and opportunities.
- Sustained progress depends on building shared ownership across sectors, geographies, and levels of government, supported by coordinated leadership and champions who can advance policy and financing priorities.

Key Stakeholders

- Health care and public health organizations
- Community-based organizations and regional coalitions
- Policymakers, government agencies, and funders
- Educational institutions and professional associations
- Community leaders, residents, and cross-sector partners

Geographic and Population Considerations

- Approaches should account for differences in organizational capacity, infrastructure, and resource availability across urban, suburban, rural, and regional communities.
- Special attention should be given to ensuring health care-led approaches benefit communities that experience disproportionate barriers to health and access, particularly in regions that have historically received less investment or support.

In what ways can this action be moved forward?

- Strengthen awareness and a shared narrative around health care-led approaches by sharing examples that demonstrate how they improve health, strengthen prevention, and address health-harming conditions.
- Use data, outcomes, and local success stories to demonstrate value, communicate avoided costs, and build support among policymakers, funders, and community leaders.
- Advocate for policies, reimbursement pathways, and funding mechanisms that support long-term sustainability and scale.
- Build partnerships with organizations, leaders, and communities that can help sustain and expand effective approaches over time.
- Participate in regional or statewide networks that share lessons, resources, and successful approaches across communities, especially those beyond Georgia's major metro areas.

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Action 4: Leverage Broad Cross-Sector Partnerships



Basic Needs for Health and Safety

What is the action?

Leverage broad, cross-sector partnerships, including partners not traditionally engaged in health improvement efforts, to increase awareness of coordinated, holistic stabilization approaches. This action focuses on expanding who is involved in the conversation, building shared understanding across sectors, and using trusted relationships and consistent messaging to elevate coordinated approaches throughout Georgia.

Why does this matter?

- Increasing awareness of coordinated, holistic approaches helps more organizations recognize their role in addressing complex community challenges and encourages broader adoption of effective strategies.
- Expanding engagement beyond traditional health partners brings new perspectives, resources, and influence to efforts that support community stability and well-being.
- Strong cross-sector relationships can reduce silos, strengthen collaboration, and create opportunities for shared investment, learning, and action.
- When partners across sectors and regions operate from a shared understanding, existing efforts can be strengthened, expanded, and connected rather than duplicated.
- Broader awareness and alignment help integrate holistic health considerations into decision-making and improve equitable access to support across communities.

What does success look like?

- **Partnership Strength, Inclusion, and Alignment:** Partnerships are sustained, inclusive, and aligned across sectors, with broad participation, shared ownership, and coordinated action.
- **Decision-Making and Practice Integration:** Holistic approaches are consistently reflected in policies, programs, investments, and decision-making processes across sectors.
- **Equity, Responsiveness, and Community Relevance:** Efforts reflect local needs, respond to community priorities, and effectively reach underserved populations and high-need areas.
- **Care Coordination and Access Infrastructure:** Cross-sector partnerships strengthen connections between organizations, improving awareness of available resources and creating more coordinated pathways to support.

What things should be considered?

Implementation Considerations

- Coordinated efforts are more successful when partners have opportunities to share input, align resources, and develop a shared understanding of the value each organization brings.
- Sustaining engagement requires clear pathways for participation, meaningful roles for partners, and regular opportunities for collaboration and relationship-building.
- Consistent messaging is strengthened when communication responsibilities are clearly defined and partners reinforce key messages across multiple settings and touchpoints.

Geographic and Population Considerations

- Approaches should reflect differences in existing partnership infrastructure, organizational capacity, and community context across urban, suburban, rural, and regional communities.
- Special attention should be given to engaging trusted messengers and utilizing engagement strategies tailored to organizations and communities serving populations that face disproportionate barriers to health, care, and opportunity.

Key Stakeholders

- Public health agencies and healthcare systems
- Local and state government partners
- Community-based organizations and nonprofit networks
- Schools, school nurses, and educational institutions
- Cross-sector coalitions, policymakers, and community leaders

In what ways can this action be moved forward?

- Introduce new and non-traditional partners into conversations about coordinated, holistic stabilization efforts.
- Share examples, stories, and successes that help others understand the value of coordinated approaches.
- Use your networks, organization, or role as a trusted messenger to increase awareness and build support for holistic approaches.
- Align messaging, outreach, or engagement efforts with partners to reinforce a shared understanding across sectors and communities.
- Create opportunities for partners to connect, collaborate, and contribute to coordinated action in your community or region.

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