

Program Philosophy

The Central Valley Health Policy Institute is committed to addressing the interconnected systems that touch health equity through the creation of a network of leaders in the region. The Health Policy Leadership program, established in 2005, brings together diverse yet like-minded individuals from multiple sectors who are dedicated to achieving health equity and addressing system change. Each year, we select up to 30 participants into this competitive nine-month program, and enhance their leadership skills to address and eliminate racial and ethnic health disparities through systems change.

The Health Policy Leadership participants network comprises 300 diverse leaders who are currently spearheading change in their places of employment, their local communities, and statewide to advance this important issue.

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Health Policy Leadership Program: Health Equity Cohort



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Health Policy Leadership Program: Health Equity Cohort

Since 2005, the **Health Policy Leadership Program (HPLP)** at Fresno State's **Central Valley Health Policy Institute** has offered professional growth and development opportunities to emerging local and regional leaders as they explore key issues in health policy. Rapid changes have occurred in state and federal policy and financing for health care and public health forcing communities and institutions to re-evaluate and re-imagine core activities. Despite this turmoil, public health and social services remain committed to ensuring the health and well-being of all persons. Addressing inequalities in health and well-being across population groups and communities is increasingly recognized as a key component of this commitment. Communities and institutions within the San Joaquin Valley are now expected to lead development and implementation of public health, social service policies and neighborhood initiatives that promote equity. The **HPLP 2017-2018: Health Equity Cohort 13** will provide specific directions for public health, social service, emerging community leaders and other professionals with responsibility for enhancing organizational capacity to address health inequalities. These directions will include building capacity to transform practice in order to be more effective partners with communities and other allies, and to be able to make more significant contributions.

Projects

Each session will combine presentations of data and discussions of theory, methods, practice and policy implications by program faculty with opportunities to interact with regional public health, Social and human service and public policy leaders. Participants will work in small groups with shared interests to develop to develop group or individual projects. Projects can be recommended by referring organization, program facilitators or selected by participants. Group projects could focus on priority issues such as meeting the needs of the uninsured, improving the supply of health professionals, addressing environmental health concerns, civic engagement and building resident and neighborhood capacity in partnership with established local community institutions and organizations for system and policy change on enhancing organizational capacity to address health inequalities. or other topics. The details of the small group or individual projects will be worked out between HPLP faculty, the participant, and the participant's organizational sponsor.

Program Overview

The Health Policy Leadership Program consists of **9 mandatory**, full-day seminars from June 16th 2017 to April 20th 2018 with the Months of August and November off, the completion of a group/individual leadership project, implementation of the learning between sessions, and outside coursework. Each Organization can select two leaders to participate. Participants should submit a letter of support from their supervisor indicating agreement to required time commitment. We foster a learning-intensive environment for our participants to challenge themselves and each other as we learn together through practice. **Our single strongest requirement for our candidates is a demonstrated commitment to achieving health equity in the San Joaquin Valley region. Ideal candidates will possess the necessary grit to talk about racial issues in a learning environment, an ability to align with and inspire others, strong critical thinking skills, access to professional and community-based opportunities to implement change, and a desire for ongoing learning.**

Our program is targeted towards individuals from all career paths including public health, social services, community based and grass-root organizations who want to have an impact on this important issue.

In this program, you will develop skills and knowledge to-

- Develop a clear understanding of health equity for underrepresented/underserved population and how we can expand it through health in all policies strategies and health reform
- Hone your ability to effectively engage others and strategically communicate about a complex, polarizing issue
- Organizational assessment techniques
- Adapting BARHI and MAPP tools to local conditions and resources
Receive capacity building and technical assistance in using multiple datasets to address health equity
- Employ health equity tools to guide program development
- Access research data and geographic information systems to identify groups and communities with the greatest needs for healthy interventions
- Inform communities and policy makers about social determinants of health and their impact on health outcomes.