

Call for Applications: MN Health Equity Leadership Network at bushCONNECT!

Our mission at the Center for Health Equity is to **connect, strengthen, and amplify** health equity efforts within MDH and across the state of Minnesota. We believe that leadership comes from within and across communities and that we are stronger when we bridge differences and unite around commonalities. We are excited to announce that we are partnering with the [Bush Foundation](#) to bring a cohort of leaders to [bushCONNECT](#) (bushCON) in October 2018. These individuals will help MDH to co-create and launch a statewide Health Equity Leadership Network. We are accepting applications for healthy equity leaders from across the state to join our MN Health Equity Leadership Network (HELN) at bushCONNECT.

What is the MN Health Equity Leadership Network and why bushCON?

The MN Health Equity Leadership Network (HELN) is a new initiative of the Minnesota Department of Health, Center for Health Equity (CHE). HELN will bring together health equity leaders, organizations and institutions from across the state and across sectors to strategize, share best practices, and identify common goals to advance health equity in MN. The leaders chosen to participate in bushCON will be among the first to help CHE envision what HELN will look like, with an anticipated launch date of January 2019. We anticipate 20 individuals will be invited to join the bushCON HELN cohort. The cohort will convene around bushCON because bushCON is meant to spark innovation, big ideas, and cross-sector, cross-network pollination. CHE anticipates that this type of event and bringing together a diverse group of health equity leaders will give us the inspiration and energy to co-create and launch the HELN in 2019.

What We Will Provide

Selected leaders will be provided the following:

- Free entry into bushCON – Tickets for bushCON typically sell out within 1 hour, so attending as part of MDH’s HELN cohort guarantees your spot.
- Travel & lodging (for those coming from outside of the 7-county Metro area to attend bushCON in Minneapolis in October 2018 and a pre-convening in Saint Paul in August 2018)

Expectations of Participation

Selected leaders must be able to commit to:

- Participate in an in-person convening with other cohort members in Saint Paul on August 16, 2018
- Participate in bushCON from Sunday, September 30 – Monday October 1, 2018
- Participate in a post-bushCON debrief in person or via video conference on October 4, 2018
- Work with MDH CHE to co-create the MN HELN which will launch in January 2019

Who Can Apply

Anyone over the age of 18 who identifies as a health equity leader is eligible to apply. Applicants must be current residents of Minnesota. Ideal candidates will:

- Come from **communities most impacted by health inequities** in MN, including: Racial and ethnic minority groups including populations of color (Black/African American, Asian American,

Native Hawaiian/Pacific Islander, Hispanic/Latino, Arab American); refugees and immigrants; American Indians; LGBTQ community members; Rural Minnesotans; Minnesotans with disabilities; Culturally and linguistically specific groups; Members of faith communities;

- **Represent a community, organization/group, network or coalition** that works to advance the health of those most impacted by health inequities in the state of MN. This could be a formal or informal group. This could include those working on social determinants of health such as housing, transportation, education, etc...;
- Be **accountable to the communities and/or organizations** that they represent (via reporting back, soliciting feedback, etc...);
- Be able to **articulate needs and issues** with respect to advancing health, racial equity, and equity at its many intersections (which may include economic justice, disability justice, gender justice, etc...); and

* Current MDH staff are eligible to apply if they are committed to advancing health equity and the continuation of this work beyond bushCON.

Timeline

Date	Event
April 11, 2018	Applications available
May 2, 2018	Application deadline
May 28, 2018	Notification letters sent to applicants
August 16, 2018	MN Health Equity Leadership Network Convening (in-person in Saint Paul, MN)
September 30 and October 1, 2018	bushCON! Welcome Reception - 5-7pm on September 30 bushCON - 7:30am - 6:00pm on October 1
October 4, 2018	bushCON Debrief (in-person or virtual)
January 2019	MN HELN launch. Location and date to be determined.

About bushCON

bushCONNECT (bushCON) is a biennial event designed to build stronger and more meaningful connections across networks of leaders in our region. We aim to inspire, equip and connect people to think bigger and think differently about what’s possible in their communities, and to be more effective at leading change in their communities. Over 1,000 individuals attend bushCON. bushCON is organized by the Bush Foundation and created in partnership with more than 30 organizations from Minnesota, North Dakota, South Dakota and the 23 Native nations that share the same geography. For more information: www.bushconnect.org

If you have questions, contact Shor at shor.salkas@state.us.mn or 651-201-5819.

Apply to join us!

To obtain this information in a different format, call: 651-201-5813.