Minnesota Department of Health

# Identifying interested parties for assessment and planning

Local public health assessment and planning

Interested parties are internal or external individuals or groups with an interest in the planning process and its results. Identifying partners and interested parties can help you determine who could or should be part of your planning team/partnership, and who you should keep informed as planning occurs.

| Group or person | Interest(s) | Desired input | Involvement with planning process | Actions to take |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Who has knowledge about the factors (social, economic, policies, systems, etc.) that influence health? Who is impacted by decisions and policies that affect their ability to live healthy lives? Who can influence decisions and policies that impact health? Who has data and information to contribute to understand health outcomes and the factors contributing to poorer health outcomes for marginalized populations? This list may include multi-sector community partners, funders, community members, and decision-makers. Consider whose support you would like to strengthen or gain. | Identify each group or person’s interests in the process or plan, and what they care about. | Identify the input your planning team desires from each group or person, such as information, knowledge, data they can offer, or important/diverse perspectives. | Identify how you want each group or person involved in the planning process. You may actively involve some (e.g., advisory committee members, facilitated session participants, key informants, etc.); you may just keep others informed (e.g., via check-ins, FYI communications, etc.). |  |
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## Resources

* Spectrum of public participation – International Association for Public Participation (<https://cdn.ymaws.com/www.iap2.org/resource/resmgr/pillars/Spectrum_8.5x11_Print.pdf>)
* For help identifying partners and interested parties for assessment and planning work, consider reaching out to your public health system consultant, the CHA-CHIP community of practice, or the Center for Public Health Practice for consultation.

This document was formerly called “Identifying stakeholders.” The MDH Center for Public Health Practice has phased out the term “stakeholder” as we work to align our language with our mission and vision centered on equity. If you’d like to learn more, please feel free to contact us.

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