

The Commonwealth Fund
PUBLIC HEALTH
GRANTEES & PARTNERS CONVENING
Friday, October 14, 12:00-1:30 pm ET

Meeting objective:

Discuss public health policy windows at the federal and state level, identify research needed to drive policy action, and re-connect grantees and partners to foster collaboration.

Background:

*Bipartisan efforts in Congress, the administration, and at the state level demonstrated a policy window for rethinking how we collectively rebuild our public health infrastructure in the wake of the COVID-19 pandemic. In recognition of this opportunity, the Fund established a **focus area** on public health, with the aims of:*

- (1) Identifying policy opportunities to simplify and align federal, state, and local public health authorities*
- (2) Exploring real vs. perceived legal barriers to public health coordination and advancing policy solutions*
- (3) Identifying successful models to coordinate public health services and health care delivery, particularly in safety-net systems*
- (4) Advancing models of care that incorporate and incentivize the use of community-based organizations and resources*
- (5) Identifying federal and state levers to ensure that the U.S. is equipped to provide high-quality, core public health services in the face of pandemics and national health emergencies.*

AGENDA

12:00-12:10

Welcome, Introductions, and Goals for Discussion

Rachel Nuzum, Christina Ramsay

12:10-12:25

Overview of Policy Landscape

- Federal landscape (Josh LaRosa)
- State landscape (Katie Greene)
- Legal landscape (Michelle Mello)

12:25-1:25

Interactive Discussion

- Federal policy opportunities
Opening comments: Johns Hopkins University (Commission project team)
- State policy opportunities
Opening comments: NASHP; Columbia University; University of Michigan
- Messaging and Momentum - Health Affairs blog series
Opening comments: Johns Hopkins University (Commission project team)
- Grantee collaboration
Opening comments: Rachel Nuzum

1:25-1:30

Wrap Up & Next Steps

PARTICIPANTS

- Hemi Tewarson, Katie Greene, Sandra Wilkness, *National Academy for State Health Policy (NASHP)*
- Michael Sparer, Larry Brown, *Columbia University*
- Josh Sharfstein, *Johns Hopkins University*
- Jeff Levi, *George Washington University*
- Nicki Lurie, *Coalition for Epidemic Preparedness Innovations*
- Michelle Mello, *Stanford University*
- Nancy Baum, Marianne Udow-Phillips, *Center for Health and Research Transformation at the University of Michigan*
- Eric Toner, Tener Veenema, *Center for Health Security at Johns Hopkins University*
- Matthew Eckel, *Young Invincibles*
- Alison Galvani, Meagan Fitzpatrick, *Yale University Center for Infectious Disease Modeling and Analysis*
- Chris Jennings, *Jennings Policy Strategies*
- Melanie Nathanson, *Nathanson+Hauck*
- Josh LaRosa, Alyssa Llamas, Dawn Joyce, *Wynne Health Group*
- Joel White, Brett Meeks, *Horizon Government Affairs*

Overview of Current Commonwealth Fund Public Health Projects

Grantee	Project Date	Project Focus	Target Audience
Columbia University	11/1/21 – 2/28/23	<p>Evaluate how state and local public health departments are using ARPA funds to improve public health infrastructure across key strategic areas (workforce, data acquisition/exchange, equity, coordination with health systems, etc.).</p> <p><i>See related: Two red states show how the nation's public health system can be fixed</i></p>	State and federal policymakers responsible for appropriating public health dollars.
NASHP	2/1/22 – 7/31/23	<p>Develop resources (toolkit and state learning collaborative) to support state policymakers in modernizing public health systems by improving cross-sector alignment, coordination, and collaboration with health system stakeholders on key public health goals.</p> <p><i>See related: Key Priorities and Opportunities for Building Linkages Between Public Health and the Health Care System</i></p>	State policymakers, HHS officials, other stakeholder and policy audiences as identified.
Stanford	5/1/22 – 4/30/24	<p>Monitor and explain COVID-19-related legal challenges to public health authorities and explore how precedents set will affect future federal/state efforts to modernize public health laws and systems.</p>	State and federal policymakers, public health policy/law stakeholders.
Johns Hopkins University	10/1/22 – 6/30/23	<p>Support the advancement of recommendations from the <i>Commonwealth Fund Commission on a National Public Health System</i> through legislation, administrative action, and policy implementation in the public and private sectors.</p> <p><i>See related: Meeting America's Public Health Challenge; Building a National Public Health System in the United States</i></p>	Federal policymakers in Congress and the administration, state policymakers, public health foundations, other public health stakeholders (e.g., health systems, community-based organizations, public health experts).

Health Affairs	10/1/22 – 6/30/23	Series of up to 12 blogs in Health Affairs <i>Forefront</i> , featuring pieces from diverse viewpoints that reinforce or provide illustrative examples for policy recommendations made by the <i>Commonwealth Fund Commission on a National Public Health System</i> .	Federal policymakers in Congress and the administration, state policymakers, other public health stakeholders (e.g., health systems, community-based organizations, public health experts).
Center for Health Security at Johns Hopkins University	10/1/22 – 12/31/23	Identify federal levers and policy opportunities to advance public health and primary care integration (specifically on payment reform, collaboration, and data sharing).	Federal policymakers in Congress and the administration.
Center for Health and Research Transformation at the University of Michigan	10/1/22 – 4/30/23	Develop actionable guidance for states to assist them in designing and implementing efforts to integrate public health and primary care systems.	State policymakers, primary care providers, public health practitioners.
Yale	9/1/22 – 11/30/22	Inform current and future pandemic response efforts by (1) analyzing the economic/public health impacts of accelerating COVID-19 booster vaccination, and (2) producing a review paper on lessons from the COVID-19 response that can be applied to other emerging infectious diseases. <i>See related: A Fall COVID-19 Booster Campaign Could Save Thousands of Lives, Billions of Dollars</i>	Federal and state public health policymakers.
Young Invincibles	7/1/21 – 9/30/22	Ensure access to trusted information about the COVID-19 vaccine for young people by (1) conducting focus groups to identify drivers of vaccine hesitancy, and (2) incorporating learnings into public health messaging tailored to young adults.	Public health officials and health system leaders, young adult advocacy groups, young adults.