



THE EQUITYSCOOP



December 2025

A newsletter for Local Health Jurisdictions (LHJs) brought to you by the Equity Technical Assistance (TA) Team, Office of Health Equity, CDPH, every first Friday of the month.

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Want to offer us a recommendation or be an LHJ spotlight? Please submit an inquiry via the [Equity Portal](#).

Best viewed in your browser or the latest version of Outlook.

Reflecting Forward: A Note from the Equity Technical Assistance Team



As 2025 draws to a close, we reflect on a year of steady progress, shared learning, and deepened commitment to equity in public health.

Across California, Local Health Jurisdictions (LHJs) have taken bold steps to embed equity into their systems. From the launch of health supply vending machines to the publication of new Community Health Assessments (CHA), Community Health Improvement Plans (CHIP), and Health Equity Action Plans (HEAP), equity work is becoming more visible and impactful. Data dashboards are helping LHJs within the state track progress and tell their stories with clarity and purpose.

Throughout the year, the Equity Technical Assistance (TA) Team has walked alongside LHJs as thought partners, sounding boards, and co-strategists. We have supported teams navigating staffing transitions, aligning cross-sector partnerships, and translating community voice into action. We have seen equity move from the margins to the center of planning conversations.

This work is not easy. It requires persistence, humility, and trust. But it is also hopeful. Every site visit, consultation call, and shared resource is a reminder that transformation is possible, and already underway.

As we look ahead, we carry forward the lessons of this year: that equity is a daily practice, not a one-time plan; that relationships are the foundation of systems change; and that our collective strength lies in showing up together.

Thank you for your vision, your persistence, and your partnership. We are proud to be in this work with you.

Latest News & Program Reminders



December 8, 2025, at 11:30 AM PST

Communicating about Public Health with Policymakers: Barriers, Strategies, and Tested Messages



Effective public health practice starts with effective communication. Every policy, decision, and investment in public health directly shapes people's daily lives, from the water that flows from our taps, to the safety of our neighborhoods, to the opportunities we have to live full and healthy lives.

Yet too often, public health is seen — and sometimes positions itself — as an invisible force that prevents crises rather than a proactive force that creates well-being and prosperity.

In December 2025, the [de Beaumont Foundation](#) will release *Communicating About Public Health with Policymakers: A Toolkit for Public Health Professionals*, a toolkit based on new research with former elected officials and senior aides, which provides tested messages, framing strategies, and practical tools to help public health professionals engage decision-makers with confidence and clarity.

The research revealed three main barriers to effective communication with policymakers: public health is often seen as zero-sum, ideological rather than practical, and dismissive of individual agency.

Join the de Beaumont Foundation, CityHealth, the National Association of Counties, and the American Public Health Association for a conversation on ways to overcome these barriers, strategic and on-the-ground tips for engaging policymakers, and ways to make every interaction with policymakers more productive, persuasive, and impactful.

Registration: [Communicating about Public Health with Policymakers: Barriers, Strategies, and Tested Messages](#)

Save the Date!

January 27, 2026, at 1:00 PM PST

Equity Learning Collaborative



Equity Technical Assistance (TA) Team will be hosting the first Equity Learning Collaborative of 2026 on **Tuesday, January 27th from 1:00-2:00pm.**

The Equity TA Team will present an overview of the results for the 2025 Organizational Assessment for Equity Infrastructure. This presentation will also provide insights into how other Local Health Jurisdictions (LHJs) have adapted this assessment to meet their specific requirements, as well as provide guidance on how to continue using this assessment in the future.

Registration information for the upcoming learning collaborative will be made available soon.

Training of the Month

Communicating for Change: Strategic Communications for Public Health



Courtesy of the [Public Health Communications Collaborative \(PHCC\) Academy](#)

This free training is designed to provide a foundation in strategic communications for public health professionals. In this course, participants will walk through the layers of strategy needed to craft a strategic communications plan.

What You'll Learn

- The role of strategic communications in improving public health outcomes.
- How to develop an overall strategy and a communications plan to support this strategy.
- Why framing matters for racial and health equity, and what makes a message compelling.
- The many different communications channels we have available to reach target audiences and how to decide which is best for your particular goals.

Course Enrollment: [Communicating for Change: Strategic Communications for Public Health](#)

Equity Essentials



The Innovation Hub

From the Office of Data and Innovation



The [Office of Data and Innovation \(ODI\)](#) helps departments meet Californians where they are. ODI uses data, human-centered design and technology to create services that are easier for everyone to use.

The Innovation Hub is a growing collection of equity-focused tools, templates, best practices, across state agencies developed by the Office of Data and Innovation. Whether you are looking to strengthen community engagement, apply equity frameworks, or access practical implementation guides, the Innovation Hub offers free, curated resources to support your work in government.

Access the Innovation Hub: [Tips and tools for improving service delivery](#)

Technical Assistance (TA) Services Available:

For general inquiries or to schedule a 1:1 consultation, submit an inquiry to your Equity TA Specialist (below) via the [Equity Technical Assistance Portal](#):

Rural North | Haley Ni
Greater Sierra-Sacramento | Claudia Medina
Central California | Haley Ni
Bay Area | Salina Ramachhita
Southern California/ Los Angeles | Jessica Medina

To share an event, resource, job opportunity, or highlight a success story from your LHJ, please contact us through the [Equity Portal](#) by the 20th of the month.

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