



2021-2022 Tennessee State Health Plan

A Year in Review

Tennessee Department of Health | Division of Health Planning

February 2023



Table of Contents

- Introduction.....3
- Foreword3
- Executive Summary4
- State Health Plan Update and Year in Review5
- State Health Plan Purpose and Use5
- Legislative Review6
- COVID-19 Efforts.....8
- Department Focus9
- Economic Efficiency9
- Health Equity12
- Community-Led Partnerships14
- Future of the State Health Plan15
- 2023-2025 State Health Plan Framework15
- 2023-2025 State Health Plan Process16
- Appendix.....17
- Appendix A: Statutory Authority for the State Health Plan18
- Appendix B: Local Health Department Capital Investments.....20
- Appendix C: Healthcare Staffing Assistance Totals by Hospital21

Introduction

Foreword

The State Health Plan serves as a tool to identify needs and collaborate with public and private partners to effectively address those needs and improve health in the State. However, given the significant short term increase in federal funding coming to the Department and the growing awareness of the role of underlying health disparities in the disproportionate impact of COVID-19 on rural and racial minority populations, the 2021-2022 State Health Plan is structured as an overview of major ways in which the Department has integrated new funding to better serve all Tennesseans. The Department recognizes the responsibility that is associated with receiving new public funding and is working to ensure it is used to effectively and efficiently advance its work to increase access to care and reduce burdens on the healthcare system, ensure that all populations are able to achieve their healthiest potential, and foster community-led partnerships to improve the health of Tennesseans in all communities. Additionally, this review will prepare the Department for setting new priorities and recommendations in future editions of the State Health Plan.

Through reflection on these key areas of the Department's work, the State Health Plan further the Department's mission to ***Protect, promote, and improve the health and prosperity of people in Tennessee*** and push us closer to our vision of ***Healthy People, Healthy Communities, Healthy Tennessee***.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "R. Alvarado". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a long horizontal stroke at the end.

Ralph Alvarado, MD, FACP
Commissioner, Tennessee Department of Health
Tennessee State Health Plan: 2021-2022 Edition

Executive Summary

The 2021-2022 State Health Plan reviews how the Tennessee Department of Health is efficiently and effectively using new funding, addressing health disparities and health equity, and strengthening partnerships and community impact. By reflecting on the Department's work and strengths, this review serves as a foundation for building out future priorities, recommendations, and interventions for the Department. This State Health Plan also includes information on how future editions of the Plan will integrate these lessons learned with community and stakeholder input to guide the Department's efforts going forward. This Plan serves to support the mission of the Tennessee Department of Health (TDH), "to protect, promote, and improve the health and prosperity of the people in Tennessee."

State Health Plan Update and Year in Review

Over the past year, the Department has continued to respond in force to the COVID-19 pandemic and ensure Tennesseans have access to testing, vaccination, and treatment. The Department has also had two successful legislative initiatives in addition to aiding stakeholders in the general assembly.

Department Focus

The 2021-2022 State Health Plan reflects on key areas of growth and focus including:

- **Economic Efficiency:** In 2022, the Department received over \$675 million through the American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) allocated by the Governor's Fiscal Stimulus Accountability Group (FSAG). This increased funding allotted to the Department of Health and other state agencies and localities will have transformational impacts felt for years to come.
- **Health Equity:** New initiatives further the department's work by supporting mechanisms of ongoing engagement from disproportionately affecting communities to provide feedback for existing programs and advise future plans across TDH programs.
- **Community-led Partnerships:** Throughout the pandemic the Department was able to build on existing partnerships to meet community needs as well as establish new community-led partnerships.

Future of The State Health Plan

Future editions of the State Health Plan will incorporate data to provide an annual update on the health status of Tennesseans and introduce the new framework for the State Health Plan. This framework will be aligned with Department's strategic plan and will use data and community guidance to inform statewide priorities and recommendations for improving the health of Tennesseans.

State Health Plan History

State Health Plan Purpose and Use

Recognizing the need for the state to coordinate its efforts to improve the health and welfare of the people of Tennessee, the General Assembly passed Public Chapter 0942 in 2004 (Appendix A). This act created the Division of Health Planning that was charged with developing a State Health Plan. The Public Chapter required the State Health Plan to be annually revised and approved and adopted by the Governor.

The State Health Plan utilizes the Five Principles for Achieving Better Health that are informed by Tennessee law to serve as the framework of the State Health Plan. The Five Principles are as follows:

1. **Healthy Lives:** The purpose of the State Health Plan is to improve the health of the people in Tennessee.
2. **Access:** Every citizen should have reasonable access to health care.
3. **Economic Efficiencies:** The State's health and health care resources should be developed to address the needs of Tennesseans while encouraging competitive markets, economic efficiencies, and the continued development of the State's health care system.
4. **Quality of Care:** Every citizen should have confidence that the quality of health care is continually monitored, and standards are adhered to by providers.
5. **Workforce:** The state should support the development, recruitment, and retention of a sufficient and quality health and health care workforce.

The State Health Plan serves as a tool for improving the health of people in Tennessee. Since 2009, the Division of Health Planning has developed annual editions of the Plan that are designed to serve the needs of the people of the state and to uphold the mission of the Department of Health (TDH or the Department):

“To protect, promote, and improve the health and prosperity of people in Tennessee.”

Health impacts every aspect of our lives. From our ability to learn to our ability to work, the quality of our lives and our ability to meaningfully contribute to our communities depends heavily on how healthy we are. The State Health Plan exists to contemplate the factors that determine health, consider the resources that can be utilized to improve health, and coordinate the people who lead the way in making Tennessee healthier. By functioning in this way, the State Health Plan also supports the vision of the Department of Health:

“Healthy People, Healthy Communities, Healthy Tennessee”

Year in Review

The Department of Health has had the opportunity to make significant strides in improving the health of the state throughout the past year. This review of the Department's legislative work, COVID-19 efforts, and use of new funding to improve health and healthcare access across the state not only provides transparency, it also creates an opportunity to catalog existing initiatives and identify opportunities to better serve the people of the state. This information will be used to guide the priorities and recommendations that are set forth in future editions of the State Health Plan.

Legislative Review

During the 2022 session of the 112th Tennessee General Assembly, the Department's Office of Legislative Affairs worked diligently to develop the Department's annual legislative package and assist members of the Tennessee General Assembly to ensure passage of key departmental initiatives. Additionally, the Office of Legislative Affairs serves as a resource for the general assembly on health-related topics.

Health Administration Bills

During this session, two Health administration bills passed, related to local county health departments and the Controlled Substance Monitoring Database (CSMD).

Local County Health Departments¹

Public Chapter 786—SB2409/HB2156—Johnson/Lamberth

Effective as of April 8, 2022

Public Chapter 786 clarified executive authority with respect to county health departments and clarified that a county health officer is appointed by the Commissioner of the Department of Health. This public chapter also authorized county health officers to issue orders and make rules necessary for county-level health and safety matters unrelated to Covid-19.

Controlled Substance Monitoring Database²

Public Chapter 825—HB2171/SB2421—Lamberth/Johnson

Effective as of April 14, 2022

Public Chapter 825 created data protection and pathways through the Controlled Substance Monitoring Database (CSMD) for reporting of Part 2 data and methadone. This public chapter also expanded data sharing within the CSMD committee process but required that the Commissioner enter into agreements in order to disseminate such data.

Other Legislative Highlights

During this session, the Department served as a resource for stakeholders in the general assembly on several other health related bills including:

¹ TN Public Chapter 786. <https://publications.tnsosfiles.com/acts/112/pub/pc0786.pdf>. Accessed September 2022.

² TN Public Chapter 825. <https://publications.tnsosfiles.com/acts/112/pub/pc0825.pdf>. Accessed October 2022.

Telehealth³

Public Chapter 766—SB2453/HB2655—Yager/Hawk

Effective as of April 1, 2022

Public Chapter 766 ensured healthcare providers can continue to utilize telehealth and receive reimbursement for telehealth services. This public chapter extended the ability for healthcare providers to receive reimbursement for healthcare services provided during a telehealth encounter. This public chapter also clarified that a healthcare provider acting within the scope of a valid license is not prohibited from delivering services through telehealth. Lastly, this public chapter added that the requirement of an in-person encounter between the healthcare services provider, the provider's practice group, or the healthcare system and patient within sixteen months prior to the interactive visit is tolled for the duration of a state of emergency declared by the Governor provided that healthcare services provider or patient, or both, are located in the geographical area covered by the state of emergency.

Creation of ETSU Nursing Center⁴

Public Chapter 885—SB2401/HB2148—Johnson/Lamberth

Effective as of July 1, 2022

Public Chapter 885 created the Tennessee Center for Nursing Advancement at East Tennessee State University (ETSU). The Center will address issues of nursing workforce development and may utilize data collected from healthcare facilities licensed under Titles 68, 33, and the Tennessee Higher Education Commission (THEC).

Creation of Health Facility Commission⁵

Public Chapter 1119—SB2466/HB2500—Reeves/Boyd

Effective as of July 1, 2022

Public Chapter 1119 created the Health Facilities Commission (HFC) by combining the Health Services and Development Agency (HSDA) and the division of health licensure and regulation within TDH. The Commission is empowered to issue licenses and regulate hospitals, recuperation centers, nursing homes, homes for the aged, residential HIV facilities, assisted living facilities, home care organizations, hospices, birthing centers, prescribed childcare centers, renal dialysis clinics, ambulatory surgical centers, outpatient diagnostic centers, adult care homes, and TBI residential homes. This public chapter also clarified that the Health Facilities Commission handles the certificate of need process.

³ TN Public Chapter 766. <https://publications.tnsosfiles.com/acts/112/pub/pc0766.pdf>. Accessed September 2022.

⁴ TN Public Chapter 885. <https://publications.tnsosfiles.com/acts/112/pub/pc0885.pdf>. Accessed October 2022.

⁵ TN Public Chapter 1119. <https://publications.tnsosfiles.com/acts/112/pub/pc1119.pdf>. Accessed September 2022.

COVID-19 Efforts

Since the beginning of the COVID-19 pandemic, the Department of Health has evolved with emerging evidence and stepped up to meet the needs of Tennesseans. COVID-19 testing continues to be available for free at all local health departments.

The Tennessee Department of Health's Vaccine Preventable Diseases and Immunization Program leads the state's vaccination activities for COVID-19 and other vaccine-preventable diseases.⁶ Equity has been a center of the COVID-19 vaccination plan since its inception and the Department has continuously engaged with community partners to outreach to minority and underserved populations. When allocating limited doses of the COVID-19 vaccine in early 2021, the Department focused on Tennessee's 35 counties with the highest Social Vulnerability Index values.⁷ By April 2021, less than 5 months after the first vaccines became available to Tennesseans, over 1 million Tennesseans had been fully vaccinated against COVID-19. The Department has continued this through in-person appointments, drive-thru initiatives, and partnerships to bring vaccines to homebound Tennesseans.

As vaccinations became widely available, the Department also sought to address vaccine hesitancy. In Spring 2021, results from a third party, statewide quantitative and qualitative survey indicated that Tennesseans were hesitant mostly due to safety concerns and unknown long-term and short-term effects.⁸ The survey also found that Tennesseans most trust their physicians and medical staff. Using these findings, the Department coordinated messaging to better inform Tennesseans about the safety, efficacy, and availability of COVID-19 vaccines. This work continues today as new boosters become widely available. At the end of September 2022, 57.7% of Tennesseans had received at least one dose of a COVID-19 vaccination, 52.3% of Tennesseans were fully vaccinated, and 23.5% of Tennesseans had a booster dose.



Michelle Nuchols, RN (left) and Annie Baker, RN (right), Blount County Health Department.

COVID-19 vaccines for Tennesseans aged 6 months and older are available for free at all local health departments.

⁶ <https://www.tn.gov/health/news/2021/3/2/checks-and-balances-in-place-for-covid-19-vaccine-management.html>

⁷ <https://www.tn.gov/health/news/2021/4/1/one-million-people-fully-vaccinated-against-covid-19-in-tennessee.html>

⁸ <https://www.tn.gov/health/news/2021/4/14/market-study-explores-tennessean-s-perspectives-on-covid-19-vaccine.html>

Department Focus

The 2021-2022 State Health Plan highlights opportunities that have enabled the Department to grow and improve health in Tennessee throughout the pandemic. Through economic efficiency, health equity, and partnerships, the Department continues to work towards a vision of A Healthy Tennessee.

Economic Efficiency

As one of the Five Principles for Achieving Better Health outlined in Tennessee state law, economic efficiency is a pillar in the work of the Department and state government at large. Since the start of the pandemic, the Department has received multiple federal funding awards to address COVID-19 and boost public health infrastructure. This funding has been used effectively and efficiently to serve Tennesseans through the public health emergency and is now being used to double down the Department's goals and strategic plan.

American Rescue Plan Act

In 2022, the Department received over \$675 million through the American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) appropriated through the Governor's Fiscal Stimulus Accountability Group (FSAG).⁹ As outlined in the Tennessee Resiliency Plan issued by the FSAG, investments were made in multiple areas of public health that went directly to the Tennessee Department of Health:

- State Public Health Laboratory Replacement (\$200,000,000.00)
- Local Health Department Capital Investments (\$128,966,391.00)
- Healthcare Facility Staffing Assistance Grants (\$120,000,000.00)
- Healthcare Resiliency Program: Strategic Investments to Enhance Healthcare Capacity
 - 1. Capital Investments (\$151,600,000.00)
 - 2. Practice Transformation and Extension (\$78,400,00.00)

State Public Health Laboratory Replacement

During the pandemic, the State Public Health Laboratory (SPHL) rapidly incorporated new testing and equipment to meet the needs of Tennesseans. However, the increase in demand for services strained the SPHL's electrical system and exhausted equipment. Through the SPHL replacement the Department will:

- Expand services to include increasing volume of new tests and technologies
- Improve safety and efficiency of laboratory operations
- Increase surge capacity for emergent events

Funding allocated to the SPHL will enable the Department to prepare for future public health events and ensure routine operations run smoothly.

⁹ Tennessee Department of Finance and Administration. Financial Stimulus Accountability Group. <https://www.tn.gov/finance/looking-for/stimulus-financial-accountability-group.html>. Accessed September 2022.

Local Health Department Capital Investments

Local health department capital investments are allocated to the 89 non-metro counties in Tennessee. With 87 counties accepting funding, there will be 17 new county health department facilities built and renovations at 70 county health departments (Appendix B). Renovations include new clerical and clinical remodels to improve efficiency, HVAC, LED lighting, LVT flooring, roof replacement, window and door replacement, furniture, paving, and more.

Outcomes of these investments include:

- Improved access to care
- Reduction in time to next available appointment
- Improvement in staff and patient satisfaction

To ensure funding is being used appropriately, the State has hired a third-party accounting firm, Ernst and Young, to assist with the federal procurement contracting, legal and documentation requirements.

Healthcare Facility Staffing Assistance Grants

The Healthcare Facility Staffing Assistance has been administered through three rounds of funding, made available through both the CARES Act and the \$120,000,000.00 from the American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA).

This funding aims to:

- Ensure Tennessee's acute care hospitals and other long-term care facilities have the capacity to maintain and grow essential staff
- Support healthcare facility staffing needs resulting from the pandemic
- Improve outcomes such as reduction in turnover amongst critical staff positions

In total, over \$168 million has gone directly to 80 healthcare facilities in Tennessee to maintain and grow the workforce (Appendix C).

Healthcare Resiliency Program: Strategic Investments to Enhance Healthcare Capacity

The Department is administering the Healthcare Resiliency Program: Strategic Investments to Enhance Healthcare Capacity. Through Capital Investments and Practice Transformation and Extension Grants, this funding will bolster the State's healthcare system by:

- Increasing floor and ICU beds to respond to crises
- Reduce wait times for services offered
- Increase number of patients served in person and remotely

Capital Investments will directly fund facility upgrades and improvements. Funds are allocated to:

- A. Acute Care Hospitals
- B. Long-term Care Facilities

Practice Transformation and Extension Grants are for technology, practice upgrades, improvements to delivery models, and administrative support. Funds are allocated to:

- A. Acute Care Hospitals
- B. Long-Term Care Facilities
- C. Other Health and Healthcare Providers

The Healthcare Resiliency Program will enhance services to those most in need, particularly in rural communities with limited access to healthcare. Through improvements resulting in expanded access to high-quality and afforded services, this program will work towards improving the health and prosperity of rural Tennessee.

Funds to Other State Agencies that Enhance Health

Funds the FSAG distributed to other state agencies will also have positive impacts on the health of Tennesseans. As an example, the FSAG awarded \$500,000,000.00 to the Department of Economic and Community Development (ECD) to focus on expanding broadband infrastructure across the state of Tennessee. Access to telehealth and mobile medicine are a necessity to increase access to healthcare. This increased funding allotted to the Department of Health and other state agencies and localities will have transformational impacts felt for years to come.

Workforce Development and Retention Grant

In 2021, The Tennessee Department of Health received a \$42 million Workforce Development and Retention Grant from the Centers for Disease Control. This grant will expand opportunities for the Department of Health to better support employees and foster a strong public health workforce. Funding is being used for a variety of projects including:

- Developing and implementing a Learning Management System (LMS) for public health staff. Using curriculum developed in partnership with Tennessee's schools of public health, this system will house opportunities to further learning and earn continuing education units (CEUs).
- Developing and implementing a student loan reimbursement program for a variety of public health staff.
- Funding the training of Mental Health First Aid Instructors across the state who will offer Mental Health First Aid Trainings at the regional and community level.
- Providing statewide emergency preparedness-based trainings to public health staff.

Health Equity

Health equity is a cross-cutting value of the Department's strategic plan and state health plan. The Division of Health Disparities Elimination houses the Offices of Rural Health, Minority Health, and Faith-Based and Community Engagement.¹⁰ Collectively, these offices aim to expand the Department's capacity to conduct outreach, engage and support minority, rural and vulnerable populations across the state, and work to improve the availability and accessibility of health services within communities. Advancing health equity ensures that all Tennesseans, regardless of age, race, gender, place, or disability, have the opportunity to achieve their optimal health. The Department's approach to advancing equity is through meaningful engagement with communities, building and strengthening partnerships, and implementing evidence-informed initiatives.

Health Equity Advisory Team

As part of the Department's strategic plan to address Health Equity, the Department formed the Health Equity Advisory Team (HEAT) in 2020. The Division of Health Disparities Elimination leads the Health Equity Advisory Team, whose membership is comprised of a diverse team of representatives from all TDH divisions and all levels of staffing from senior leadership to front line employees in local health departments. This team is charged with drafting and implementing the Department's Health Equity Strategic Plan, but also offers numerous learning opportunities to support workforce development via Lunch and Learn webinars, panel discussions, and most recently the health equity Book Series featuring nationally recognized authors.

Health Disparities Task Force

The Division of Health Disparities Elimination facilitates the Health Disparities Task Force, whose membership is representative of faith communities, academia, non-profit organizations, community members, and other local and state government officials. The weekly Health Disparities Task Force was first established in 2020 to address disparities which were highlighted during the pandemic as the disproportionate impact COVID-19 and other health, and social inequalities has on communities of color became apparent. This communication channel included community outreach which provided access to COVID-19 testing and later vaccination. The Tennessee Health Disparities Task Force was recognized by the Centers for Disease Control as a best practice for building community trust and battling misinformation.

The Task Force has expanded its scope to focus on disparities across multiple areas including chronic disease, mental health, infectious disease, and environmental health.¹¹ The task force has grown to over 1400 partners from every corner of the state and all sectors from faith-based organizations to academia. The members of the Task Force work collaboratively to create responsive solutions that facilitate change management, encourage innovation, and recommend policies that address social determinants, eliminate health disparities, and improve health outcomes for our most vulnerable Tennesseans.

¹⁰ Tennessee Department of Health. Division of Health Disparities Elimination. <https://www.tn.gov/content/tn/health/health-program-areas/division-of-health-disparities-elimination-.html>. Accessed September 2022.

¹¹ Tennessee Department of Health. Tennessee Health Disparity Task Force. <https://www.tn.gov/content/tn/health/health-program-areas/division-of-health-disparities-elimination-/tennessee-health-disparity-task-force.html>. Accessed September 2022.

Health Equity Plan

The Health Equity Plan (HEP) provides a foundation for starting practices, procedures, and resources that effectively and equally support the wellness and well-being of all the people, populations, and communities the TDH serves and its workforce. The HEP supports the TDH mission “to protect, promote, and improve the health and prosperity of the people in Tennessee.” Health equity is at the organization’s center and is the building block that supports individuals and communities to grow, thrive, and maintain positive wellness and well-being.

The HEP lays the groundwork for ongoing collaboration with all partners to develop a more effective public health system. The end goal is to convene partners, develop and share resources, and lead divisions and programs toward equity that supports better health and well-being for all Tennesseans.

The five domains of the HEP are:

1. Community-Led Approaches
2. Placed-Based Initiatives
3. Workforce Development and Infrastructure
4. Data-Driven Management
5. Finance Systems

Disparities Grant

In 2021, the Department received a \$38.8 million award from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) to address COVID-19 health disparities.¹² The two-year, non-research grant is funded through the Coronavirus Response and Relief Supplemental Appropriations Act. The overall aim is to address COVID-19 related health disparities and advance health equity by expanding state health department capacity and services to prevent and control COVID-19 infection (or transmission) among populations at higher risk. With this funding, the Department of Health engages existing and new partners in a coordinated and holistic approach. Building on this approach, the Department of Health uses culturally, linguistically, and locally tailored strategies and best practices to reduce COVID-19 risk” in underserved and rural communities. The strategies of the grant are to:

- Expand existing and/or develop new mitigation and prevention resources and services to reduce COVID-19 related disparities among populations at higher risk and that are underserved.
- Increase/improve data collection and reporting for populations experiencing a disproportionate burden of COVID-19 infection, severe illness, and death to guide the response to the COVID-19 pandemic.
- Build, leverage, and expand infrastructure support for COVID-19 prevention and control among populations that are at higher risk and underserved.
- Mobilize partners and collaborators to advance health equity and address social determinants of health as they relate to COVID-19 health disparities among populations at higher risk and that are underserved.

¹² Tennessee Department of Health. Tennessee Department of Health to Address COVID-10 Health Disparities: Division of Health Disparities Elimination Receives Funding. <https://www.tn.gov/health/news/2021/6/4/tennessee-department-of-health-to-address-covid-19-health-disparities.html#:~:text=NASHVILLE%20%E2%80%93%20The%20Tennessee%20Department%20of,and%20Relief%20Supplemental%20Appropriations%20Act>. Accessed October 2022.

Community-Led Partnerships

The Department recognizes the importance of listening and responding to the needs of communities and their leaders. Responding to the pandemic required building new partnerships outside of public health and healthcare sectors to improve the health of Tennesseans. This type of partnership is necessary beyond infectious disease outbreaks and the Department has worked for years to bring stakeholders outside public health into the public health conversation. Two partnerships that exemplify the Department’s approach to cross-sector collaboration are the Tennessee Livability Collaborative and County Health Councils.

Tennessee Livability Collaborative

The Tennessee Livability Collaborative is a working group consisting of 21 Tennessee state agencies, departments, and commissions.¹³ The mission of the Collaborative is to improve “the prosperity, quality of life, and health of Tennesseans through state department collaboration in the areas of policy, funding, and programming.”

Through the Collaborative, member agencies:

- Learn about one another’s work
- Identify opportunities for collaboration
- Develop new policies and initiatives to support the development of livable communities across the State

Since the Collaborative formed in 2015, interagency collaboration has increased between members. Examples of collaborative action include establishing new positions to increase cross-sector engagement, developing formal collaboration agreements with member agencies, and changing policies and procedures to better align with member agency’s policies.

County Health Councils

Tennessee County Health Councils were first established in the 1990s and now exist in every county in the state.¹⁴ County Health Councils consist of community members from school nurses to law enforcement. Members work together to plan and assess the needs of their community and pick priorities through a County Health Assessment (CHA). Action items to work on improving health in each priority area are formulated into a 3-year County Health Improvement Plan (CHIP). In 2022, 52 counties are in the CHA process and currently composing their respective CHIPs. To date, councils are heavily selecting mental health, substance use disorder, and access to childcare as CHIP priority areas.

In 2022, the Tennessee Department of Health is offering financial support to County Health Councils across the state and local initiatives focused on improving the health of communities. The County Health Council

¹³ Tennessee Department of Health. Tennessee Livability Collaborative. <https://www.tn.gov/health/health-program-areas/office-of-primary-prevention/redirect-opp/livability-collaborative.html>. Accessed September 2022.

¹⁴ Tennessee Department of Health. County Health Assessment. <https://www.tn.gov/health/health-program-areas/tennessee-vital-signs/redirect-tennessee-vital-signs/county-health-assessment.html>. Accessed September 2022.

Collaborative Action for Resilience and Equity (CARE) grants are made available through the Department's Disparities Grant from the CDC.

In addition to offering funding opportunities, the Department continues to support County Health Councils through continuous evaluation of the CHA and CHIP processes and development of the Tennessee Vitality Toolkit. The Tennessee Vitality Toolkit will serve as a public-facing resource ecosystem that promotes community resilience and supports County Health Councils as they transition from community health assessment and planning to collective action and impact. Spearheaded by the Department's Office of Strategic Initiatives, these efforts seek to empower local communities by growing capacity.

Future of the State Health Plan

The Division of Health Planning is conducting an extensive strategic planning process to develop a new State Health Plan framework and process. While the Plan continues to serve as an external facing tool to compliment the Department's strategic plan, these changes ensure the Plan is a useful tool for the Department's public and private partners moving forward.

The goals of the updated State Health Plan are:

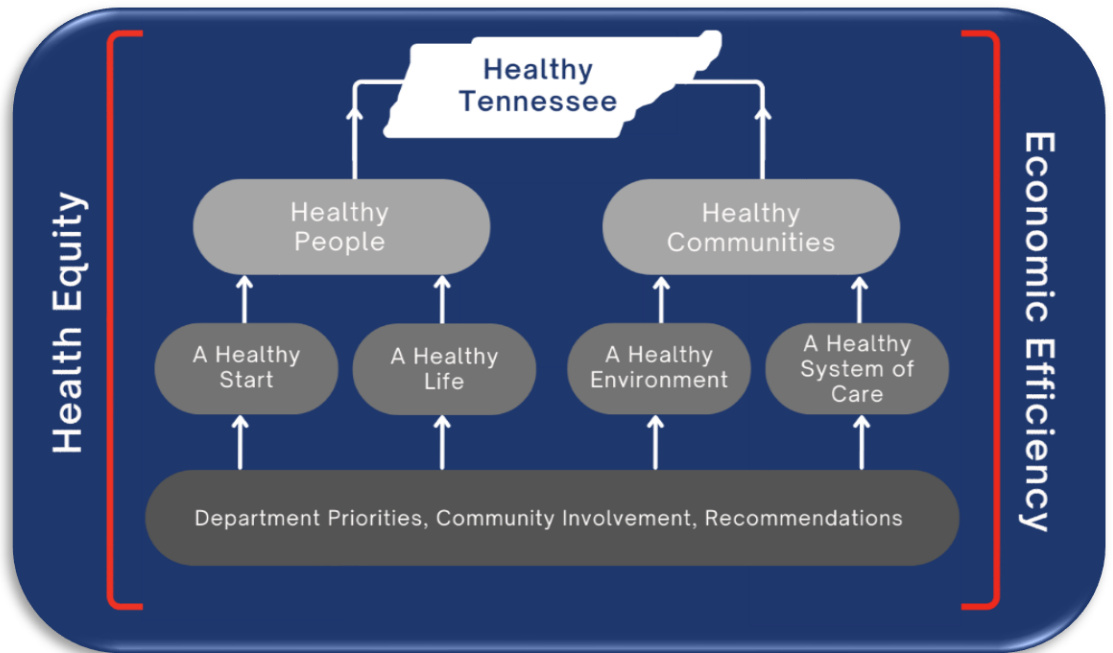
- Promote the Department's Vision: "Healthy People, Healthy Communities, Healthy Tennessee."
- Create opportunities for external partners to align with the mission and vision of the Department.
- Provide state leadership with information on the health status of Tennessee and use high quality data to set priorities and inform actionable recommendations.
- Collaborate with and support state-level partners including, state agencies, non-profits, safety-net providers, faith-based institutions, healthcare facilities and providers, and associations.

2023-2025 State Health Plan Framework

The newly developed framework of the State Health Plan focuses on the social determinants of health and integrating the cross-cutting themes of health equity and economic efficacy. Using a variety of actions (the Department's priorities, Community Involvement, and Recommendations from internal and external stakeholders), the State Health Plan will seek to address four key areas:

1. A Healthy Start: What is the state of health among Tennessee's children and youth? How can we ensure Tennesseans are able to have A Healthy Start in life?
2. A Healthy Life: What is the state of health among Tennessee's adults and older adults? How can we promote Tennesseans' health across the lifespan?
3. A Healthy Environment: What is the state of health in Tennessee's communities? How can we ensure Tennesseans are able to thrive where they live, work, and play?
4. A Healthy System of Care: What is the state of Tennessee's healthcare system? How can we ensure Tennesseans have access to quality and affordable healthcare when they need it?

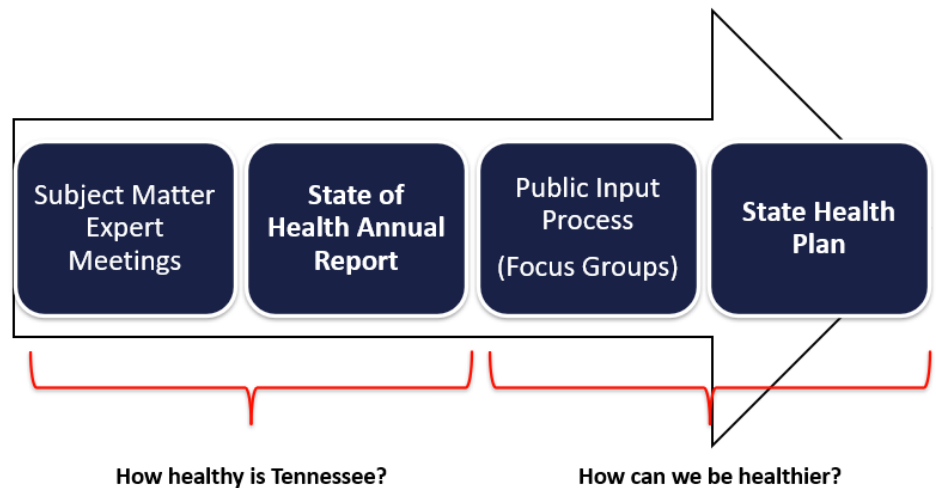
The new framework guides the State Health Plan to consider Health Equity and Economic Efficiency at each step. Working towards health equity remains a priority for the Tennessee Department of Health. The Division of Health Planning will work closely with the Department's Division of Health Disparities



Elimination to ensure the State Health Plan planning process is inclusive, and data and recommendations within the State Health Plan reflect and address the needs of all Tennesseans. As one of the Five Principles for Achieving Health, economic efficiency is already a component of the existing State Health Plan. Continuing to focus on upstream social determinants of health and primary prevention will further promote economic efficiency.

2023-2025 State Health Plan Process

The 2023-2025 State Health Plan development process seeks to be more inclusive and further partnerships to increase the useability of the Plan. Throughout 2022, the Division has met with over 50 staff members across 17 internal Department divisions, sister state agencies, and organizations outside of state



government to discuss how to measure health. In these subject matter expert meetings, discussions focused on selecting data for inclusion in the State of Health Report. The State of Health Report will use approximately 100 metrics to assess the health status of the State. This assessment will be used to inform focus groups who will craft actionable recommendations for inclusion in the State Health Plan. The Division will work with partners across the state to build cross-sector collaboration and alignment to ensure these priorities and recommendations represent the needs of all Tennesseans and effectively target the social determinants of health that impact health outcomes in the state.

Appendix

Appendix A: Statutory Authority for the State Health Plan

The Division of Health Planning was created by action of the Tennessee General Assembly and signed into law by Governor Phil Bredesen (Tennessee Code Annotated § 68-11-1625). The Division is charged with creating and updating a State Health Plan. The text of the law follows.

- a. There is created the state health planning division of the department of finance and administration¹⁵. It is the purpose of the planning division to create a state health plan that is evaluated and updated at least annually. The plan shall guide the state in the development of health care programs and policies and in the allocation of health care resources in the state.
- b. It is the policy of the state of Tennessee that:
 1. Every citizen should have reasonable access to emergency and primary care;
 2. The state's health care resources should be developed to address the needs of Tennesseans while encouraging competitive markets, economic efficiencies and the continued development of the state's health care industry;
 3. Every citizen should have confidence that the quality of health care is continually monitored and standards are adhered to by health care providers; and
 4. The state should support the recruitment and retention of a sufficient and quality health care workforce.
- c. The planning division shall be staffed administratively by the department of finance and administration in a manner that the department deems necessary for the performance of the planning division's duties and responsibilities, which may include contracting for the services provided by the division through a private person or entity
- d. The duties and responsibilities of the planning division include:
 1. To develop and adopt a State Health Plan, which must include, at a minimum, guidance regarding allocation of the state's health care resources;
 2. To submit the State Health Plan to the Health Services and Development Agency for comment;
 3. To submit the State Health Plan to the Governor for approval and adoption;
 4. To hold public hearings as needed;
 5. To review and evaluate the State Health Plan at least annually;
 6. To respond to requests for comment and recommendations for health care policies and programs;
 7. To conduct an ongoing evaluation of Tennessee's resources for accessibility, including, but not limited to, financial, geographic, cultural, and quality of care;

¹⁵ The state health planning division is now located in the Tennessee Department of Health.

8. To review the health status of Tennesseans as presented annually to the Division by the Department of Health, the Department of Mental Health and Substance Abuse Services, and the Department of Intellectual and Developmental Disabilities;
9. To review and comment on federal laws and regulations that influence the health care industry and the health care needs of Tennesseans;
10. To involve and coordinate functions with such State entities as necessary to ensure the coordination of State health policies and programs;
11. To prepare an annual report for the General Assembly and recommend legislation for its consideration and study; and
12. To establish a process for timely modification of the State Health Plan in response to changes in technology, reimbursement and other developments that affect the delivery of health care.

Appendix B: Local Health Department Capital Investments

Counties Receiving New Facility: (Award Range: \$2.8 million to \$11.7 million)			
Blount	Hamblen	Macon	Polk
Coffee	Hancock	McMinn	Sumner
DeKalb	Henderson	Moore	Warren
Dickson	Lawrence	Overton	White
Grundy			
Counties Receiving Renovations: (Award Range: \$450,000 to 1.6 million)			
Anderson	Franklin	Lewis	Rutherford
Benton	Gibson	Lincoln	Scott
Bledsoe	Giles	Loudon	Sequatchie
Bradley	Grainger	Marion	Sevier
Campbell	Greene	Marshall	Smith
Cannon	Hardeman	Maury	Stewart
Carroll	Hardin	McNairy	Tipton
Carter	Hawkins	Meigs	Trousdale
Cheatham	Haywood	Monroe	Unicoi
Chester	Henry	Montgomery	Union
Claiborne	Hickman	Morgan	Van Buren
Cocke	Houston	Obion	Washington
Crockett	Humphreys	Perry	Wayne
Cumberland	Jackson	Pickett	Weakley
Decatur	Jefferson	Putnam	Williamson
Dyer	Johnson	Rhea	Wilson
Fayette	Lake	Roane	
Fentress	Lauderdale	Robertson	

Appendix C: Healthcare Staffing Assistance Totals by Hospital

Hospital	Total by Facility
Athens Regional Medical Center DBA Starr Regional Medical Center	\$1,245,840.25
Baptist Memorial	\$4,536,000.00
Baptist Memorial Hospital Tipton	\$388,799.67
Baptist Memorial Hospital Union City	\$259,200.00
Baptist Memorial Hospital-Collierville	\$4,147,200.00
Blount Memorial Hospital	\$1,369,063.77
Bristol Regional Medical Center	\$4,924,800.00
Chi Memorial Glenwood Campus	\$4,536,000.00
Claiborne Medical Center	\$620,437.45
Cookeville Regional Medical Center	\$3,514,770.28
Cumberland Medical Center	\$2,773,784.36
Erlanger Baroness Campus	\$3,887,378.98
Erlanger East	\$475,150.42
Erlanger North	\$133,496.00
Fort Loudoun Medical Center	\$519,848.01
Fort Sanders Regional Medical Center	\$3,853,951.03
Franklin Woods Community Hospital	\$1,737,812.53
Greeneville Community Hospital East	\$1,865,430.06
Henderson County Community Hospital	\$499,656.21
Henry County Medical Center	\$3,542,363.01
Holston Valley Medical Center	\$4,921,621.96
Jackson-Madison County General Hospital	\$4,924,800.00
Jefferson Memorial Hospital	\$561,907.21
Johnson City Medical Center	\$4,276,800.00
LeConte Medical Center	\$2,559,038.41
Legacy LifePoint Health (Livingston Regional Hospital)	\$900,199.83
Legacy LifePoint Health Hillside Hospital	\$909,064.44
Lincoln Medical Center	\$419,330.79
Marshall Medical Center	\$48,679.38
Maury Regional Hospital	\$4,119,912.26
Methodist Hospital - Germantown	\$4,536,000.00
Methodist Hospital - North	\$4,924,800.00
Methodist Hospital - South	\$5,054,400.00
Methodist Med Center of Oak Ridge	\$2,154,691.31
Methodist University Hospital	\$4,795,200.00
Metro Nashville General Hospital	\$2,592,000.00
Morristown Hamblen Hospital	\$1,708,990.82
Newport Medical Center	\$488,406.91
North Knoxville Medical Center	\$341,876.00
Parkridge East Hospital	\$3,628,800.00
Parkridge Medical Center, Inc.	\$2,592,000.00

Parkwest Medical Center	\$2,982,176.71
Regional One Health	\$2,980,800.00
Roane Medical Center	\$928,871.55
Saint Thomas River Park Hospital	\$128,187.16
Southern Tn Regional Health System Lawrenceburg	\$874,835.07
Southern TN Regional Health System Pulaski	\$58,109.50
Southern TN Regional Healthcare Winchester	\$873,126.80
St. Francis Bartlett Medical Center	\$3,085,915.09
St. Francis Hospital	\$3,547,369.06
St. Thomas Midtown Hospital	\$2,686,892.25
St. Thomas River Park Hospital	\$23,306.65
St. Thomas Rutherford Hospital	\$1,979,474.19
St. Thomas West Hospital	\$3,099,745.77
Sumner Regional Medical Center	\$2,655,060.76
Sweetwater Hospital Association	\$1,900,729.67
Sycamore Shoals Hospital	\$1,820,805.92
Tennova Healthcare - Clarksville	\$674,750.92
Tennova Healthcare - Cleveland	\$641,068.00
Tennova Healthcare - Lafollette Medical Center	\$199,468.50
Tristar Centennial Medical Center	\$3,110,400.00
Tristar Hendersonville Medical Center	\$3,628,800.00
Tristar Horizon Medical Center	\$2,758,661.89
TriStar Northcrest Medical Center	\$463,398.01
Tristar Skyline Medical Center	\$3,174,929.71
Tristar Southern Hills Medical Center	\$3,240,000.00
Tristar Stonecrest Medical Center	\$3,499,200.00
Tristar Summit Medical Center	\$3,110,400.00
Trustpoint Hospital	\$50,141.07
Turkey Creek Medical Center	\$341,657.25
Unity Medical Center	\$497,749.19
University of Tennessee Medical Center	\$1,792,457.47
Vanderbilt Tullahoma - Harton Hospital	\$714,642.55
Vanderbilt University Hospitals	\$4,847,411.72
Vanderbilt Wilson County Hospital	\$2,223,355.65
Wayne Medical Center	\$72,670.33
Wellmont Hawkins County Memorial Hospital	\$8,576.79
West Tennessee Healthcare Dyersburg Hospital	\$766,925.32
West Tennessee Healthcare Volunteer Hospital	\$95,918.00
Williamson Medical Center	\$2,103,115.94
GRAND TOTAL:	\$168,930,605.81



Tennessee State Health Plan

2021-22 Edition



Approved this 13th day of March 2023

Bill Lee

Bill Lee, Governor