

Faith-Based Partners



Faith-based partners may include individual communities of worship (e.g. churches, temples, mosques) as well as larger faith-based associations.

Which parts of the 2024-2026 State Health Plan relate to faith-based partners?

100% of the **Priority Areas**

14 of the **17 Goals**



+ **25**

Recommendations

As trusted community voices who are invested in community well-being, faith-based partners are key to informing and enacting meaningful public health action.

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Are you a faith-based partner looking to help us create a Healthy Tennessee?

Potential actions may include congregant level interventions or larger community outreach and investment. Here are some initial steps you can take:

1

Use this packet to see what State Health Plan recommendations apply specifically to faith-based partners!

2

Stay up to date on State Health Plan actions and resources by subscribing to the State Health Plan **newsletter**!

3

Share your good work with us! Are you working on one of the below priorities? Let us know and your work could be featured in an upcoming State Health Plan newsletter or update! Share your story **here**!

4

Connect with your local County Health Council and engage in the Community of Practice, a structured space seeking to share best practices, build skills, and foster connections among community members and County Health Councils. Learn more **here**!

5

Engage with the Health Disparities Advisory Council by registering for meetings and signing up for newsletters with opportunities for learning, funding, and networking. Learn more **here**!



Priority
Area

Framework
Section

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Nutrition Security

Goal 1.1. Reduce childhood food insecurity while supporting programs and policies that increase access to nutritious food.

Goal

Support programs that offer nutrition supports, including education on preparation, and align with the 2020-2025 Dietary Guidelines for Americans.

1.1.3. Reduce weight-associated stigma by ensuring healthy living education for children and guardians focuses on how to establish a healthy relationship with food, eating, physical activity, and self-image without emphasizing weight change.

Maternal and Infant Health

Goal 2.2. Reduce pregnancy-related mortality while supporting programs and policies that address maternal health disparities.

2.2.1. Increase awareness of maternal warning signs through public and partner education.

Recommendations



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Nutrition Security

Goal 1.1. Reduce childhood food insecurity while supporting programs and policies that increase access to nutritious food.

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Maternal and Infant Health

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Nutrition Security

Goal 3.1. Reduce food insecurity among adults and older adults.

3.1.2. Reduce enrollment barriers to government supported nutrition programs (e.g., SNAP) within eligible populations through public and partner education and outreach while increasing awareness of online shopping/delivery for beneficiaries.

3.1.4. Examine how intergenerational programming and supports can increase nutrition security across all ages including through education on food preparation. (e.g., school-based programs assisting in meeting needs of both children and grandparents raising grandchildren).

Goal 3.2. Increase accessibility of nutritious foods.

3.2.1. Support programs that reduce hunger for all (children, families, college students, older adults, working adults) including mobile food pantries while expanding transportation services to grocery stores, food pantries, and congregate meal settings.

3.2.2. Explore opportunities to pair grocery support services with existing services including higher education events, career fairs, home health visits, and senior center activities.

3.2.3. Support the identification and execution of locally tailored solutions that reduce the prevalence of food deserts while supporting the local economy.

3.2.4. Examine methods that support a sustainable food system, increasing access to nutritious foods while limiting food waste and supporting local farmers.



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Chronic Conditions

Goal 4.1. Improve care coordination among adults living with multiple chronic conditions.

4.1.2. Increase programs that support access to services in rural Tennessee including medical transportation programs and telehealth appointments with specialists.

Goal 4.2. Support programs and policies that reduce the risk of cardiovascular disease while promoting care for individuals living with cardiovascular disease.

4.2.1. Increase awareness on methods to improve overall cardiovascular health through the implementation of behavior modification strategies (e.g., medication adherence, tobacco and alcohol cessation, healthy diet, increased physical activity).

4.2.2. Increase access to and promotion of self-management education and lifestyle change programs that support living well with cardiovascular disease.

Goal 4.3. Support programs and policies that reduce the risk of Type II Diabetes while promoting care for individuals living with Type II Diabetes.

4.3.1. Increase awareness on methods to reduce risk of diabetes, including through increasing accessibility to lifestyle change programs (e.g., Diabetes Prevention Program).

4.3.2. Increase access to and promotion of self-management education and behavioral modification strategies that support living well with Type II Diabetes.



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Older Adults

Goal 5.1. Support and empower formal and informal caregivers of older adults.

5.1.1. Increase access to, awareness and use of evidence-informed interventions, services, support groups and peer-driven support for caregivers to enhance their health and well-being.

Goal 5.2. Promote brain health across the lifespan while supporting individuals living with dementia.

5.2.1. Increase awareness on how to identify and prevent abuse, neglect, and exploitation (e.g., financial fraud) of older adults, specifically those experiencing cognitive decline.

5.2.3. Expand designated age-friendly health systems, age-friendly public health systems, and age-friendly livable communities across the state.



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Transportation

Goal 6.1. Support programs and policies that increase access to convenient and affordable transportation for Tennessee residents and visitors.

6.1.1. Promote existing public transportation available in all counties through TDOT.

6.1.2. Increase availability and promotion of transportation programs that assist individuals with traveling to health, wellness, and social service appointments.

Goal 6.2. Increase access to active transportation (e.g., walking, biking, rolling, and public transit) for Tennessee residents and visitors.

6.2.3. Encourage increased use of public transportation through streamlined instructions, increased public understanding of how to access and use public transportation, sharing first-hand stories from public transportations users, and incentive-based programs from employers and service providers.



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Cancer Screenings

Goal 7.1. Increase the percentage of Tennesseans receiving their recommended breast cancer screening and colorectal cancer screening.

7.1.1. Increase non-digital and digital outreach, education, and promotion on the importance of early cancer detection and screening and the availability of financial resources for uninsured and underinsured patients in various languages.

7.1.3. Identify trusted and representative community voices to share first-hand experiences on the benefits of early detection and screening and ensure these stories and educational materials are shared in non-traditional settings.

7.1.4. At breast cancer mobile screening events, share next steps for post-screening care and resources including transportation and financial assistance options.

Workforce

Goal 8.1. Improve the oral health of Tennesseans through broadening access to high-quality, low-cost dental care.

8.1.3. Raise awareness of the importance of oral health to overall health.

Goal 8.2. Enhance and strengthen Tennessee's health professional workforce, including community health workers, nurses, and supportive care staff.

8.2.2. Support employers in promoting community benefits during recruitment and retention activities to demonstrate opportunities to “make your life where you make your living.”

