

CT Social Determinants of Health Summit 2024

Achieving Health Equity Together

Wednesday, May 22, 2024

Chrysalis Center in Hartford

A convening of community-based and healthcare organizations, local and state agencies, and legislative partners to discuss and promote collaboration and alignment on efforts to address social determinants of health and improve health outcomes.

Agenda

Time	Room	Topic	Speaker	Description
8:30 – 9:00	-- Registration --			
9:00 – 9:05	Main Room	Welcome from the Chrysalis Center	Jill Fletcher, Director of Development and Communications	Welcome participants to the Chrysalis Center and highlight the work the Chrysalis center does to meet SDOH needs of the individuals they serve
9:05 – 9:15	Main Room	Opening Remarks	Deidre Gifford, Commissioner, CT Office of Health Strategy	Commissioner Gifford will welcome attendees to the CT Social Determinants of Health Summit.
9:15 – 9:30	Main Room	SDOH Summit Welcome	Governor Ned Lamont	Governor Lamont will provide opening remarks and welcome attendees.
9:30 – 10:15	Main Room	Keynote Speaker	Dr. Wizdom Powell, Chief Social Impact & Diversity Officer, Headspace Health	Dr. Powell, a psychologist, tenured professor and nationally recognized expert on racial trauma, healing and health equity will speak about her experience in the field and how we can move forward towards achieving health equity.

10:15 – 10:25	Main Room	CT's Office of the State Treasurer – Baby Bonds	Andrea Comer, Assistant Treasurer/Chief of Staff, Office of State Treasurer	Ms. Comer will highlight Connecticut's first-in-the-nation initiative to invest directly in children. Baby Bonds invests funds on behalf of each baby born in Connecticut whose birth was covered by HUSKY.
10:25 – 11:25	Main Room	Health and Human Services Commissioners Panel	<p>Facilitated by Tiffany Donelson, President and CEO, CT Health Foundation</p> <p>Panelists:</p> <p>Andrea Barton Reeves, Department of Social Services Commissioner</p> <p>Jodi Hill-Lilly, Department of Children and Families Commissioner</p> <p>Manisha Juthani, MD, Department of Public Health Commissioner</p> <p>Seila Mosquera-Bruno, Department of Housing Commissioner</p> <p>Nancy Navarretta, Department of Mental Health and Addiction Services Commissioner</p> <p>Amy Porter, Aging and Disability Services Commissioner</p> <p>Jordan A. Scheff, Department of Developmental Services Commissioner</p> <p>Elena Trueworthy, Office of Early Childhood Deputy Commissioner</p> <p>Ronald P. Welch, Department of Veteran Affairs Commissioner</p>	State public health and human services leaders will discuss the administration's approach to tackling health disparities by addressing SDOHs throughout an individual's lifespan.
11:25 – 11:35	-- Transition --			

<p>11:35 – 12:35</p>	<p>Room A</p>	<p>Morning Breakout Session 1 - Leveraging Multistakeholder Participation to Address SDOH Needs Through Community Engagement Track: Communities as Leaders</p>	<p>Moderated by Melissa Corrado, Health Management Associates Panelists: Theresa Argondezzi, Assistant Director of Health, Community Health, Norwalk Health Department Scott Umbel, Vice President of Community Impact, United Way of Southeastern Connecticut Jennifer Muggeo, Director of Health, Health Improvement Collaborative of SECT/Ledge Light Health District Rev. Robyn Anderson, Director, Ministerial Health Fellowship/Cross Street Rebekah Castagno, Director of Health Initiatives, United Way of Central and Northeast CT Katerina Vlahos, Executive Director, United Way/Bridgeport Prospers</p>	<p>This panel will feature several CT Health Enhancement Communities (HEC) across the state. This initiative is focused on breaking down silos and bringing together communities and multi-disciplinary organizations to advance health equity. Communities and engaged stakeholders aim to address the root causes to poor health, including environmental hazards and social needs. Panel participants will share their strategies, lessons learned, and future of HEC work.</p>
<p>11:35 – 12:35</p>	<p>Room B</p>	<p>Morning Breakout Session 2 - Improving Economic Security to Impact Health and Well-Being through Unrestricted Cash Pilots Track: Communities as Leaders</p>	<p>Moderated by Andrea Barton Reeves, Commissioner Department of Social Services Panelists: Sarah Blanton, CEO, 4-CT Cesar Aleman, Director, CT Urban Opportunity Collaborative Abraham Santiago, 4-CT Aleena Durant, Up Together</p>	<p>This panel will highlight guaranteed income pilots in New Haven, Hartford, and Bridgeport working to demonstrate the economic, health, and social benefits of direct cash assistance for vulnerable populations. Panelists will provide information on the impact of guaranteed income, including preliminary feedback from program participants. Featured partners include 4-CT and the CT Urban Opportunity</p>

			Teta Peay, Up Together	Collaborative. 4-CT is an independent 501(c)3 aligning philanthropic efforts and tackling the health and economic disparities of Connecticut's most vulnerable populations. The CT Urban Opportunity Collaborative coordinates work across the state through partnerships with the Hartford Foundation for Public Giving, the Community Foundation for Greater New Haven, and Fairfield County's Community Foundation, developing collective strategies to dismantle structural racism and advance social and economic mobility.
11:35 – 12:35	Room C	<p>Morning Breakout Session 3 - Improving Access to Safe and Affordable Housing for Vulnerable Populations (families and children with low-incomes and individuals with intellectual disabilities)</p> <p>Track: Public-Private Partnerships</p>	<p>Panelists:</p> <p>Jennifer Jones, Education Consultant, CT Office of Early Childhood</p> <p>Dr. Shante Hanks, Senior Advisor for Education & Housing Stability, Director of Head Start on Housing (HSOH), CT Department of Housing; CT Office of Early Childhood; CT State Department of Education</p> <p>Karen Pascale, CT Head Start Collaboration Office Director, CT Office of Early Childhood</p> <p>Elba Caraballo, MSW, Ph.D., Director of Housing, CT Department of Developmental Services</p>	<p>This two-part session will speak to how Connecticut is addressing housing needs for two vulnerable populations.</p> <p>This panel will first describe the CT Department of Developmental Service's approach to meeting the needs of individuals with intellectual disability by combining rental assistance and qualified provider support in an apartment setting.</p> <p>Second, the panel will highlight a first-in-the-nation program that provides housing choice vouchers to children and families experiencing homelessness enrolled in CT Head Start programs through direct linkages to programs and resources</p>

			Steve DiLella, Director, Individual and Family Support Program Unit, CT Department of Housing	available through CT's Department of Housing.
12:35	<i>-- Lunch --</i>			
1:00 – 1:40	Main Room	Spotlight – Accelerating Equity and Achieving Better Health Outcomes Through Effective Use of SDOH Data	<p>Sumit Sajnani, Health Information Technology Officer, CT Office of Health Strategy</p> <p>Jennifer Searls, Executive Director, Connie</p> <p>Tanya Barrett, Executive Director, 211</p>	<p>Social Determinants of Health (SDOH) play a crucial role in shaping health outcomes, influencing approximately 70% of overall health. This understanding underscores the necessity of expanding the scope of health data collection beyond clinical settings. By including demographic information, socioeconomic status, education level, access to transportation, and housing stability, a more comprehensive picture of individuals' health needs can be obtained. Effective utilization of SDOH data requires seamless sharing across the spectrum of care, involving collaboration between healthcare providers, community-based organizations (CBOs) and closed-loop referral services. Best practices for sharing SDOH data include establishing interoperable platforms and integrated systems to facilitate communication between stakeholders. Closed-loop referral services ensure that patients are connected with the necessary community resources, addressing their social needs alongside medical treatment. Integrating SDOH and referral data within statewide HIE can play a pivotal role in facilitating the exchange of</p>

				<p>health information across all settings and allow for identification and evaluation of residents' needs and available services along with effectively addressing health disparities.</p> <p>Through case studies and examples, the panel highlights practical strategies for implementing SDOH data initiatives and overcoming barriers to collaboration.</p>
1:40 – 2:20	Main Room	Spotlight – Community Health Workers (CHWs)	<p>Moderated by Shayna Cunningham PhD, UConn Health</p> <p>Panelists:</p> <p>Milagrosa “Millie” Seguinot, Executive Director, CHW Association of CT (CHWACT)</p> <p>Jessica Hill, Patient Navigator, Yale New Haven Health, New London</p> <p>Fitzritson Ingram, Recovery Support Specialist/CHW, The Village for Family and Children</p> <p>Regina Gibson, CHW</p>	<p>Community Health Workers operating across Connecticut will discuss how they address SDOHs impacting the communities they serve by connecting individuals to resources and support. CHWs representing the Hartford, Bridgeport, and Norwich regions will share the work they do in conjunction with the Community Health Worker Association of CT, The Village, and Yale New Haven Health.</p>
2:20 – 2:30	<i>-- Transition --</i>			
2:30 – 3:30	Room A	<p>Afternoon Breakout Session 1 – Improving Access to Affordable, Nutritious, and Culturally Connected Foods to Promote Health and Well-Being Across Connecticut</p>	<p>Moderated by Aubrey Roscoe, Director, Institute for Hunger Research and Solutions, CT Foodshare</p> <p>Panelists:</p> <p>Jason Jakubowski, President and CEO, CT Foodshare</p>	<p>Across Connecticut, partners are coming together to identify critical and creative ways to improve food security for our residents. In this session, leaders from Connecticut Foodshare, Forge City Works, Hartford Healthcare Food 4 Health Clinic, Husky Harvest at UConn Waterbury and TEEG will discuss approaches to increase</p>

		<p>Track: Communities as Leaders</p>	<p>Ben Dubow, Executive Director, Forge City Works</p> <p>David Juros, Hartford Healthcare Food 4 Health Clinic</p> <p>Chelsea French, Community Programs Manager, TEEG (Thompson Ecumenical Empowerment Group, Inc.)</p> <p>Monica Lattimer, Huskey Harvest at UConn Waterbury</p>	<p>access to nutritious and fresh foods while also meeting the different health and cultural needs of residents in their communities. The session will highlight a few interventions that target food access, affordability, and nutritional value – from strategies to establish the Grocery on Broad in Hartford to deliver fresh and healthful groceries on a sliding scale or in combination with SNAP benefits; to standing up food access points in a hospital and a college campus for patients and students in need of food; to transforming a traditional food pantry into a community market that delivers healthy and nutritious options that support wellness. Connecticut Foodshare will also share recently released, updated state and national food insecurity data.</p>
<p>2:30 – 3:30</p>	<p>Room B</p>	<p>Afternoon Breakout Session 2 - Improving Maternal and Infant Health Outcomes and Social Needs through Universal Nurse & Community Health Worker Home Visiting</p> <p>Track: Public-Private Partnerships</p>	<p>Moderated by Lauren Junge-Maughan, Bridgeport Hospital</p> <p>Panelists:</p> <p>Maura Lynch, RN, Bridgeport Hospital Family Bridge Program</p> <p>Dr. Deborah Poerio, Family Bridge Program Manager, CT Office of Early Childhood</p> <p>Annabelle Melendez, CHW, Bridgeport Hospital</p> <p>Molly McCarthy, Mom and Family Bridge Participant</p>	<p>This panel will discuss CT's most recent effort to improve maternal and infant health outcomes through health and SDOH intervention. Family Bridge is an interagency collaboration and a public-private partnership that led to the implementation of the state's first Universal Nurse Home Visiting and Community Health Worker program in the Greater Bridgeport area. While Connecticut is one of a few states that are piloting universal nurse home visiting programs, and it is the only state that is integrating Community</p>

				<p>Health Workers in their model. Panelists represent key partners from the Office of Early Childhood, an RN and CHW who are implementing Family Bridge, and a new mom who has participated in the pilot. They will discuss how partners are working together to improve health outcomes for mothers and babies in eight towns in Connecticut.</p>
<p>2:30 – 3:30</p>	<p>Room C</p>	<p>Afternoon Breakout Session 3 – Navigating Change: Coordinating Homeless Outreach Systems of Care in CT Track: Public-Private Partnerships</p>	<p>Panelists: Mollie Machado, Behavioral Health Program Manager, DMHAS Diana Palmer, Facility Operation Specialist, CT DOT Mark Packer, Director of Security, Transit America Services, Inc. (TASI) Courtney Dollar, Acting Deputy Director, CT Harm Reduction Alliance Emma Lo, MD, Medical Director, CMHC Street Psychiatry Team, CMHC/DMHAS/Yale James Adu, Program Manager, Street Psychiatry, DMHAS - CT Mental Health Center/Yale, Street Psychiatry Program</p>	<p>This panel discussion, hosted by DMHAS, will explore how state-private partnerships, community-based outreach strategies, and flexible funding streams can be leveraged to address emerging healthcare access issues for some of the most hard-to-reach vulnerable populations. The presentation will highlight the work of the CT Transit HOP (Homeless Outreach Program) and Street Psychiatry/Homeless Outreach.</p>
<p>3:30 – 3:40</p>		<p>-- Transition --</p>		

3:40 – 4:20	Main Room	Spotlight – Healthcare Professionals	<p>Moderated by Rachel Rusnak, Office of Health Strategy</p> <p>Panelists:</p> <p>Thomas Agresta, MD, MBI, Chairman, Professor and Director of Medical Informatics Family Medicine; Director of Clinical Informatics Center for Quantitative Medicine, UConn Health</p> <p>Patrick P. Coll, MD, Geriatrics Section Chief and Professor of Family Medicine & Medicine, UConn Health</p> <p>Kelly Sanchez, Licensed Master Social Worker, Optimus Health Care – emme Coalition</p>	<p>Healthcare providers from across Connecticut will discuss the role of SDOH, its impact on their ability to treat patients, and its implications for health outcomes. Participants will hear from a family medicine physician, a geriatrician, and a licensed clinical social worker representing a community health center, academic medical center, and a primary care practice as they share their experience caring for patients whose SDOHs are challenged and how they work to reduce negative SDOH impacts on their patients.</p>
4:20 – 4:35	Main Room	Closing Remarks	<p>Ayesha Clarke, Executive Director, Health Equity Solutions</p>	<p>Ms. Clarke will provide closing remarks based on discussions and information learned during the Summit.</p>
4:35 – 4:45	Main Room	Meeting Conclusion	<p>Deidre Gifford, Commissioner, CT Office of Health Strategy</p>	<p>Commissioner Gifford will provide remarks to conclude the state's first Social Determinants of Health Summit</p>