

Community Collaborative Meeting

December 11, 2024

Next meeting:

Zoom Meeting on January 8, 3:30-5:00 PT, Add to Calendar

We are working to find balance in the benefits and costs associated with translation. If you would like to share this or any part of our materials with an audience in another language, please email Community.Collaborative@doh.wa.gov and we will work with you to translate into the language(s) needed.

Estamos trabajando para encontrar un equilibrio entre los beneficios y costos asociados con la traducción. Si desea compartir esto o alguna parte de nuestros materiales con una audiencia en otro idioma, por favor envíe un correo electrónico a Community.Collaborative@doh.wa.gov y trabajaremos con juntos con usted para traducir al idioma o idiomas necesarios.

Agenda

3:30 – 3:40	Welcome, Land Acknowledgement
3:40 – 4:15	Community Partner Dialogue
4:15 – 4:55	Discussion of Department of Health’s Role in Behavioral Health
4:55 – 5:00	Closing Information

Meeting Recap

Opening

Collaborative members were welcomed into the space by Mulki Mohamed, one of DOH’s Community Thought Partners. During the welcome and introduction, participants were asked to add their name and favorite holiday tradition in the chat.

Community Partner Dialogue

Kylin Beeson, Equity and Social Justice Strategist at DOH, introduced the community-driven outreach initiative, which funds 10 partners working with over 100 community-rooted organizations across the state to engage hard-to-reach communities. Mulki then facilitated a dialogue with:

- Van Kuno and Tarseny Aphkas, Refugee and Immigrant Services Northwest
- Kerry Holifield, Center for MultiCultural Health



Each speaker provided a brief background on their organizations and their work as part of the DOH Community Driven Outreach initiative. The ensuing conversation focused on questions such as:

- What activities help you learn from community?
- How do you address some of the barriers with community who have been harmed by the system?
- How do you mentor and support smaller organizations to serve communities?

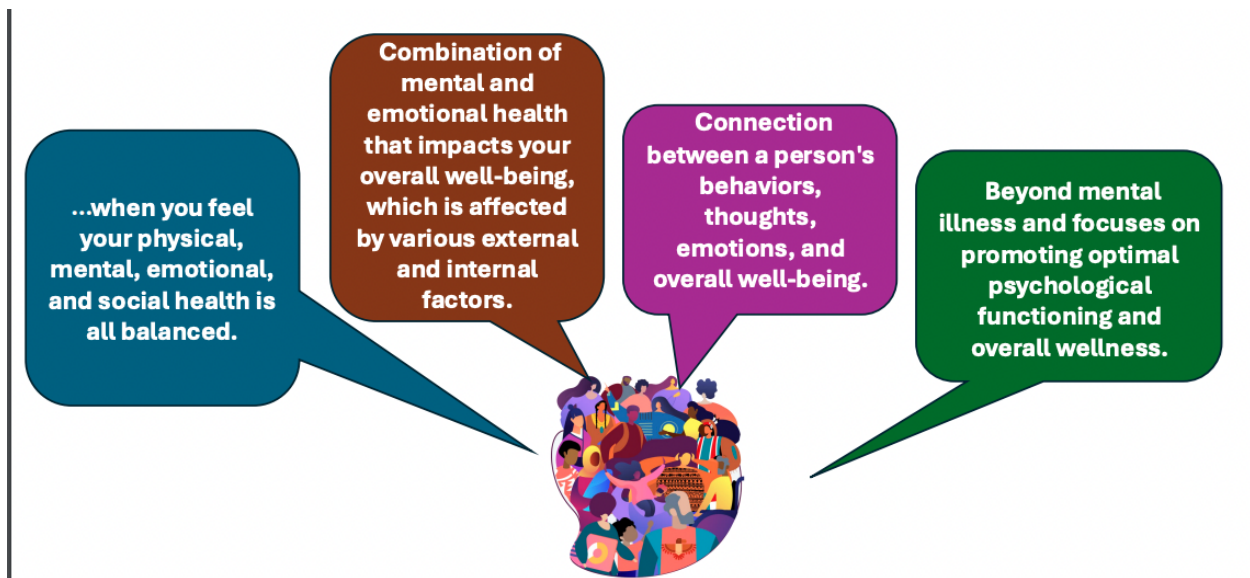
The speakers discussed the importance of trust and how concrete activities such as distributing food and hosting community conversations are fundamental to building trust. They challenged the concept of mentoring smaller organizations—which implies that larger partners know more than they do—while acknowledging that smaller, more informal organizations often need concrete supports to do things such as access funds, meet insurance requirements get seed money to begin new programs or help in how to respond to RFPs.

Resources:

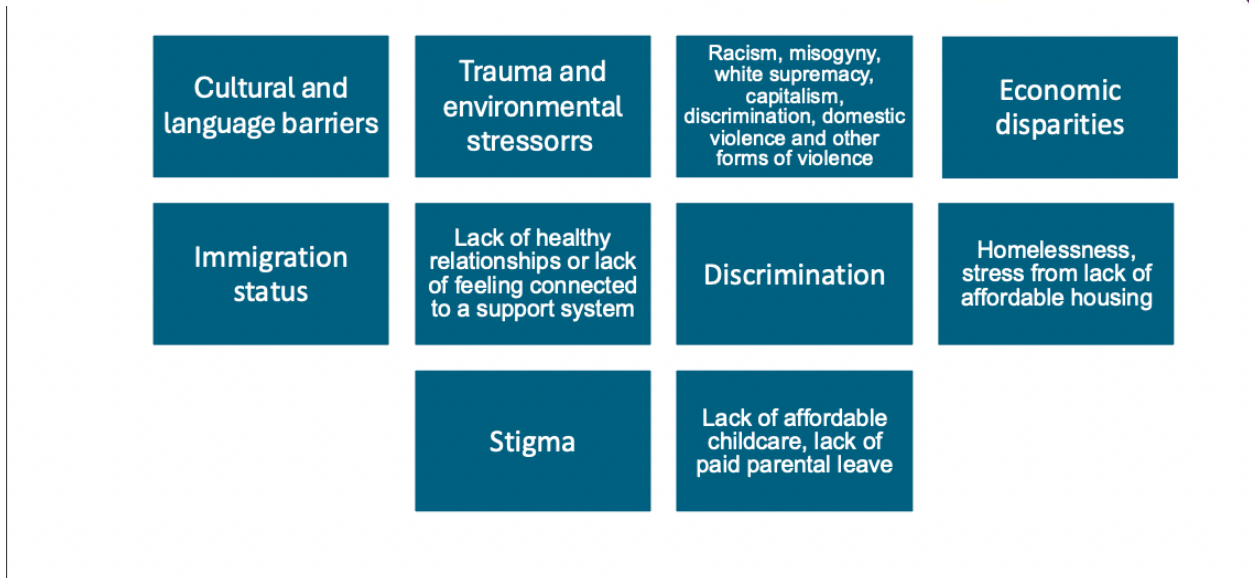
- [Community Driven Outreach Initiative](#)
- [Refugee and Immigrant Services Northwest](#)
- [Center for MultiCultural Health](#)

Behavioral Health

The conversation began with sharing of feedback from Community Thought Partners in response to the question “what does behavioral health mean to you”



Thought Partner responses to the question: “What influences behavioral health in your community was also shared.



Renee Tinder with Center for Behavioral Health and Wellness used this input as a jumping off point to describe the work of the Center. The Center is a new and evolving effort within DOH to connect the dots between the range of behavioral health initiatives in DOH. Renee highlighted the Center’s focus on upstream prevention, the root causes and social determinants of health, and the importance of breaking down silos within the agency. She also discussed the role of the Department of Health in promoting good mental health and addressing stigma.

Kristin McFarland, with the Department of Injury and Violence prevention provided context on violence and injury, and the high percentage of accidental injury deaths due to drug use. She then provided examples of DOH’s violence and injury prevention programs before diving deeper into a discussion of the Communities Building Resilient Youth Initiative. This collaboration between DOH and CBOs focuses on youth mental health and well-being.

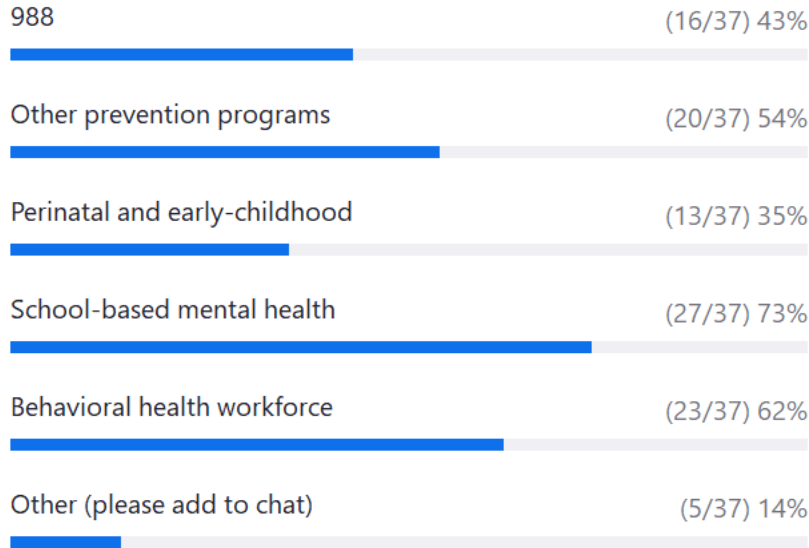
Finally, Astrid Newell, with the Office of Family and Community Health Improvement talked about how their work spans pregnancy through early adulthood, reflecting a life course approach to promoting positive health and development from the start. She highlighted programs supporting perinatal care for parents with substance use disorders, early childhood initiatives aimed at improving family supports, school-based health centers, and behavioral health services, including new peer support models, and efforts to increase access to pediatric mental health care for youth experiencing suicidality in eastern Washington. Astrid introduced the Teen Health Hub, a resource developed in partnership with the Youth Advisory Council and the Adolescent and Young Adult Health Unit. The hub provides health information and resources provided, evaluated and approved by the Youth Advisory Council and subject matter experts.

We recognized that we shared a lot of content and lacked time for discussion so provided a poll in which nearly everyone suggested we raise this topic again. A second poll asked for specifics of what people hope to cover in the future, so we will be having further dialogue in the February Collaborative meeting.



2. What topics are you most interested in discussing further: (Multiple choice)

37/38 (97%) answered



Resources:

- <https://doh.wa.gov/teenhealthhub>

Closing

During the close Melissa shared a number of resources including:

- Information on a new advisory committee for the Workforce Pathways Program
 - An information session will be held on Jan 7th, 11:00-11:30
 - [Interest form for Pathways Advisory Committee](#)
 - [Spanish Interest form for Pathways Advisory Committee](#)
- Information on the [Federal Funds Grant Writing Assistance Program](#).
- As Save the Date for the Washington State Public Health Association 2025 Legislative Education Day on March 6th, 2025

Mulki ended by sharing a quote reminding us of the words of Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. "Of all the forms of inequality, injustice in health is the most shocking and inhumane."