

COMMUNITY THOUGHT PARTNER 2.0 DRAFT CHARTER DISCUSSION

January 13, 2026



AGENDA

- _____
- _____
- _____
- _____
- _____
- _____



- Welcome & Why We're Here
- 5 mins
- DOH Leadership Intros - 10 mins
- Our Draft of the Charter - 20 mins
- DOH Leadership Reflections - 5 mins
- Breakout Session - 5 mins
- Next steps -15 mins



DOH Leadership: In 90 seconds, please share name, pronouns, your role, and what feels meaningful to you about relationships with Community-Based Organizations representing communities who often lack a seat at the public health table?

Thought Partners: (In the chat) Name, pronouns, communities served and a newspaper headline that describes an aspirational impact of the desired relationship between Thought Partners and Dept of Health leadership

Example: New DOH policies reflect the community voices they serve

MISSION

Acting as trusted messengers, our mission is to serve as community-rooted *counsel* to Washington State Department of Health leadership and programs, advancing health justice through lived experience, local insight, and shared accountability in statewide public health decision-making.



MEMBERSHIP, COMPOSITION & TERMS

- Force multipliers
- 15 community leaders that reflect the diverse experiences of Washington communities
 - nine regional and six at large
 - priority community representation
 - rural/urban mix
- Potential to include representative(s) from existing programmatic work
- 3 year staggered terms



GOALS

Goal 1. Community Connection & Trust

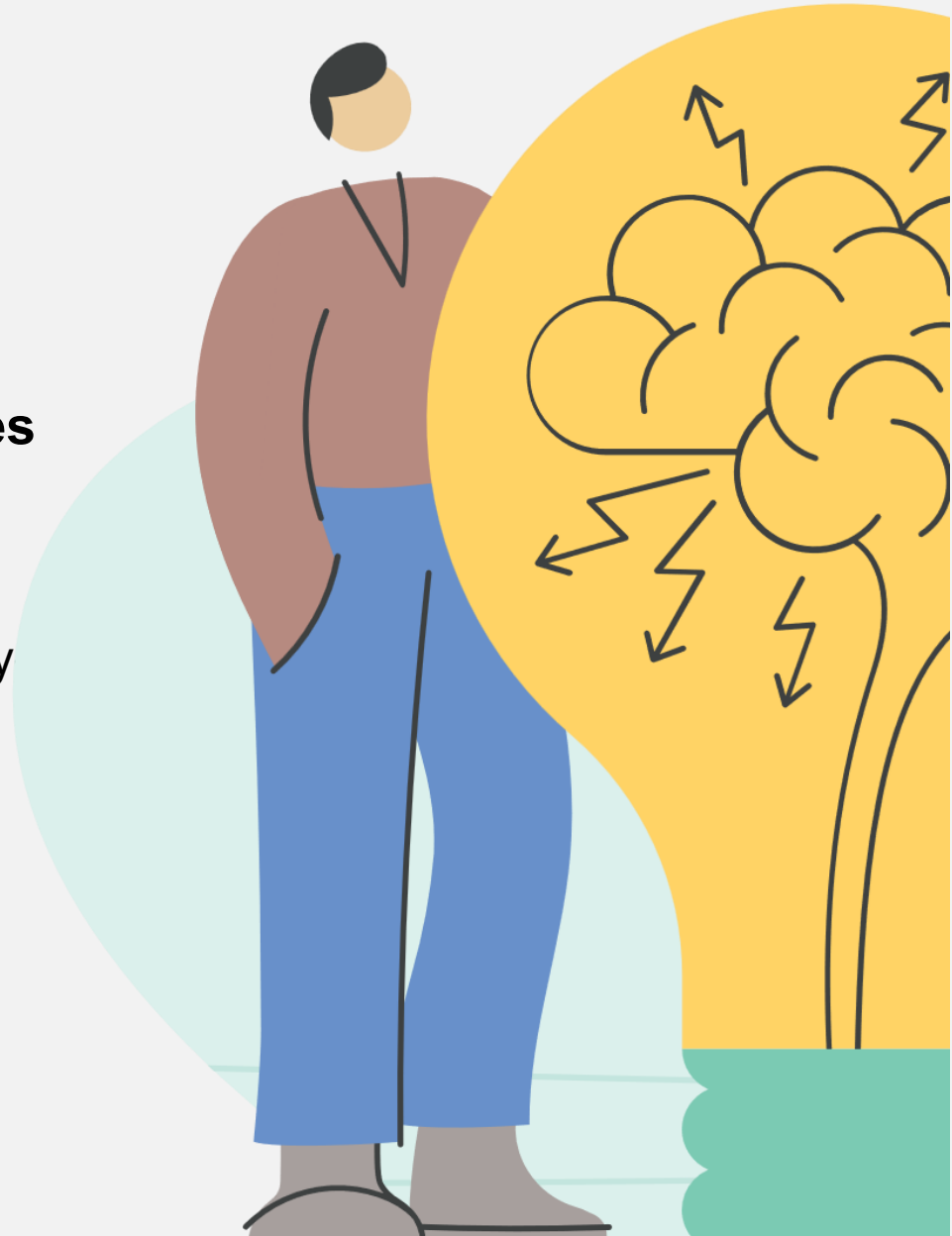
Cultivate authentic, two-way relationships between DOH and Washington's diverse communities by elevating lived experience and building shared accountability and trust.

Goal 2. Advocating the Root Causes of Health Injustices

Advance health justice by giving community leaders a seat at the table and a voice that allows them to weigh in on decisions that impact the root causes of health inequity. Advocate for community led analysis and solutions that improve structural conditions to improve public health and health care systems.

Goal 3. Policy & Systems Influence

Ensure real-world community insight meaningfully informs DOH policy, budget, and program decisions so state health systems reflect community needs, promote healing relationships, repair harm, and advance equitable outcomes.



EXAMPLE

Thought Partners encourage using leadership voice to share a PSA on the health impacts of chronic stress regarding ICE/Immigration onslaught/enforcement.

REQUESTS FOR DOH LEADERSHIP

- By end of March, develop a public-facing commitment
- Build a relationship with individual Thought Partners
- Establish a unique pathway for Secretary of Health and DOH leadership to communicate openly and bi-monthly
- Create a pathway to actively engage Thought Partners on policy, budgets (request for a separate meeting)
- Provide timely access to relevant public health data (example: health care providers per county)
- Participate in onboarding new Thought Partners and contextualizing departmental work at least twice/year
- Support measurement of progress



OUR COMMITMENTS

- Listen to and stay accountable to the community
- Serve as trusted messengers, carrying community insight between DOH & communities.
- Reinforce diverse community inclusion
- Engage actively in shaping and upholding Thought Partner governance
- Participate consistently and follow through on commitments
- Provide input on DOH policies, programs, and decisions
- Support onboarding and mentoring of new Thought Partners
- Help recruit future Thought Partners
- Review, maintain, and revisit this charter annually



REFLECTIONS & QUESTIONS (5 mins)

- DOH leadership: Please share your reflections and questions on what has been presented so far
- After this reflection we will spend time in breakout rooms to discuss further

DOH LEADERSHIP BREAKOUT DISCUSSION

(5 mins)

- What commitments (time, meetings, opportunities, connection points) are you willing to make to support this work?
 - Please share after the breakout what specific commitments you are willing to make



NEXT STEPS/ CLOSING REMARKS (15 min)

- PSA on health impact of chronic stress by mid-February
- Public-facing commitment between the Thought Partners and DOH leadership by March 31st
- Meet with Dennis for feedback on the TP Charter within the next 2 weeks
- Complete the TP Charter by January 31st