



Incorporating Law and Policy into the Healthy People 2020 Initiative

HEALTHY PEOPLE 2020

The Healthy People 2020 (HP2020) initiative provides science-based national objectives for a decade to improve the health of all Americans. The goals of the initiative are to:

- Encourage collaborations across communities and sectors.
- Empower individuals toward making informed health decisions.
- Measure the impact of prevention activities.

HP2020 is managed by the Office of Disease Prevention and Health Promotion (ODPHP) within the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS).

THE LAW AND HEALTH POLICY PROJECT

The HP2020 Law and Health Policy project will use the best available data to inform and advance the discussion about how laws and policies can impact health. This project is a 3 ½ -year long collaborative effort between ODPHP, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), CDC Foundation, and Robert Wood Johnson Foundation (RWJF).

Project leadership will work with subject matter experts and federal partners to develop approximately 10-15 evidence-based reports over the course of the grant cycle. The reports will be shared and disseminated widely to encourage a national dialogue about the potential impact of legal and policy interventions in improving the health of communities.

The reports will highlight laws and policies related to specific topic areas and objectives within HP2020 and

“Public health law and policy have a fundamental impact on our ability to protect and promote the nation’s health. The Law and Health Policy Project will identify evidence-based strategies and interventions that can help meet national Healthy People 2020 objectives.” Don Wright, MD, MPH, Deputy Assistant Secretary for Health

provide practical information to a broad audience — including public health officials and associations, health-related industries, legal practitioners, non-profit organizations, and community leaders — about the use of law and policy to address health factors.

Public health law and policy can have widespread impact on communities. These reports will be resources that communities can use to demonstrate the value of public health law and policy through the best possible, evidence-based strategies and interventions. This project will also foster collaboration among public health and legal professionals.

PROJECT STRUCTURE

The CDC Foundation launched this project with a grant from RWJF, and oversees the financial and administrative aspects of the project. As the lead for HP2020, ODPHP directs project efforts in conjunction with federal groups including the HP2020 Federal Interagency Workgroup (FIW), the HP2020 Topic Area Workgroup Coordinators, and CDC, with input from RWJF and CDC Foundation. These partners are responsible for the overall development and implementation of the Law and Health Policy Project.

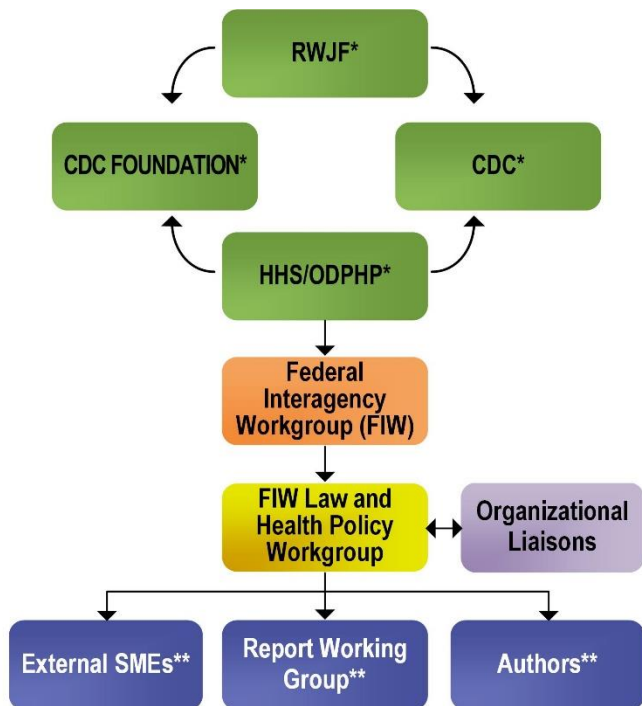
KEY PROJECT PARTNERS

- U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, Office of Disease Prevention and Health Promotion
- Centers for Disease Control and Prevention
- CDC Foundation
- Robert Wood Johnson Foundation

A workgroup of the FIW was established to provide overall guidance on the project. In addition, an ad hoc group of External Subject Matter Experts (SMEs) was established to provide feedback and guidance on the

project processes, report topics and public health legal/policy issues.

Based on their public health and legal expertise, five organizations were identified as Organizational Liaisons. The Organizational Liaisons provide technical support for the overall project, report development and report dissemination.



* Project Partners

** Working Bodies

The development of each topic-specific report is led by a multi-disciplinary and multi-sectorial team of two to three co-authors. The authors may be lawyers, public health leaders and practitioners, researchers, or academics.

In addition, each topic-specific report has its own Report Working Group (RWG). This group includes both federal and non-federal SMEs who assist the co-authors with the development and dissemination of the report.

REPORT DEVELOPMENT AND DISSEMINATION

Reports will be approximately 20-30 pages in length. Key components of the reports include: background information, legal and data analysis, legal and policy surveillance information, potential trends, opportunities and challenges, lessons learned and two to three case studies or “Bright Spots,” which highlight the effectiveness of laws and/or share examples of states or localities implementing legal and policy strategies related to specific HP2020 objectives.

The reports will be housed on the healthypeople.gov website. Additional companion documents, fact sheets, issue briefs, and supplemental resources may also be developed and disseminated along with the reports. To disseminate these reports, project partners will leverage their communication networks, as well as the networks of the RWG members and authors.

REPORT TOPICS UNDER DEVELOPMENT

- Healthcare Associated Infections (HAI) (pilot)
- Nutrition and Weight Status (NWS) (pilot)
- Substance Abuse (SA)
- Oral Health (OH)
- Mental Health and Mental Disorders (MHMD)

This initiative provides a valuable opportunity to work with key partners and stakeholders to show the value of law and policy to improving health and to provide resources to communities interested in learning more about evidence-based public health approaches.

For more information about Healthy People 2020 please visit healthypeople.gov

For more information about the HP2020 Law and Health Policy Project, please contact:

Angela K. McGowan, JD, MPH
 Project Director, Law and Health Policy Project
 Office of Disease Prevention and Health Promotion
Angela.McGowan@hhs.gov

Tiffani N. Mulder, MPH
 Public Health Analyst, Law and Health Policy Project
 Office of Disease Prevention and Health Promotion
Tiffani.Mulder@hhs.gov



Robert Wood Johnson Foundation

