

## KEY FUNCTIONS OF THE ACH

Each ACH serves five key functions that permit long-term collective action and systems change, all while strategically advancing equity:

### Elevating Community Voice

- Inform, engage and activate community leaders and residents
- Recruit resident participation
- Ensure residents have a role in decision-making

### Facilitating Action

- Engage employers, sectors, systems and residents
- Convene stakeholders for cross-sector collaboration
- Provide technical assistance
- Facilitate data sharing and analysis
- Identify community assets

### Building Sustainability for Impact

- Design and manage ongoing governance and infrastructure
- Ensure leadership is distributed
- Maintain communications
- Facilitate fundraising and develop sustainable financing
- Monitor progress and conduct evaluations

### Stewarding Systems Change

- Catalyze innovative thinking
- Oversee alignment of stakeholder-defined strategies
- Identify gaps and new solutions
- Adopt new collaborative practices
- Manage power dynamics

### Influencing Policy

- Identify and elevate community issues
- Advocate for local and state policy change



### ACHs ADVANCE EQUITY BY...



*Conducting targeted outreach and engage residents from communities that historically experienced discrimination*



*Ensuring that the ACH decision-making body is diverse, inclusive and equitable*



*Investigating structural causes of inequities by facilitating difficult conversations and collaboratively collecting data from target communities*



*Ensuring funding is prioritized to serve historically under-resourced communities and groups*



*Conducting a power analysis, develop power-sharing practices and intentionally increase—and monitor—community trust and participation*

## BACKBONES ENSURE SUSTAINABILITY

Critical to every ACH is the presence of a strong, skilled and experienced Backbone entity to manage the ACH, deftly working across organizations to shepherd systemic change and develop a shared, collaborative mindset. While partners and residents assume a range of leadership roles within the ACH, it is the Backbone that provides the glue that keeps the ACH together—managing personalities, schedules, priorities and timelines. The Backbone ensures consistency of communications and follow-through in support of sustainable strategies to improve community health, ensure health equity and maintain momentum.