



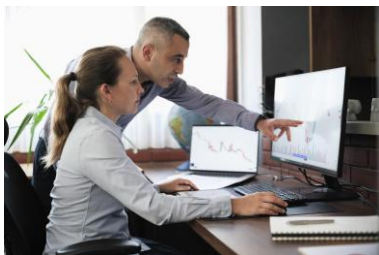
Racial Health Equity Legal and Policy Cohort Call for Applications

Applications Open: Friday, May 1, 2026, at 8am CT

Submission Deadline: Friday, June 26, 2026, at 5pm CT

The Network's Racial Health Equity Legal and Policy Cohort (RHE Cohort) helps participants strengthen strategies, navigate complex legal landscapes, and build durable, equity-centered solutions that serve communities most impacted by structural racism. The Network invites public health and community-based organizations working on projects or issues that prioritize racial health equity to apply for participation in the program. There is no cost to apply or to participate if selected. Attend the upcoming [RHE Cohort webinar](#) to learn more, or download the application materials [here](#).

Law & Policy Insights



Why Law and Policy Are Essential to Public Health Data Modernization

Public health data modernization holds the power to transform public health, facilitating real-time or near real time disease detection, data-driven decision making and greater health equity. Although the discussion around data modernization often centers on systems, technical infrastructure, and data standards, there are many reasons why law and policy are indispensable components of the movement to modernize public health data.



Continued Efforts to Exclude Immigrants from Title X Threaten Access to Essential Reproductive Health Services and Undermine Health Equity

Amidst a wave of anti-immigrant policies, recent changes impacting the Title X Family Planning Program, an essential source of free and low-cost reproductive health services, are likely to further impede access, exacerbate health risks for immigrant communities, and undermine health equity. It remains crucial for clinics, community groups, policymakers and others to zealously advocate for inclusive services that promote reproductive health and health equity within immigrant communities.

Resources



Celebrating 10 Years of Detroit's Community Benefits Ordinance: How CBAs Can Improve Public Health

Community benefit agreements (CBAs) are binding agreements between private developers and community coalitions that secure meaningful benefits — such as local hiring, affordable housing, and environmental protections — for those living in a project's impact area. Though CBAs have largely been discussed outside the public health context, this resource examines how this community-led movement maps onto the social determinants of health and its promise as a mechanism for building community power.

Webinar



2026 Racial Health Equity Legal and Policy Cohort Informational Webinar

May 7, 2026 | 12:00 - 1:00 p.m. CT

The Network's Racial Health Equity Legal and Policy Cohort (RHE Cohort) is a comprehensive legal technical assistance opportunity that helps public health departments, community organizations, and advocates strategically use the power of law and policy to advance their racial health equity goals through tailored one-on-one support, training, and peer learning. Join us for a webinar to learn more about the Cohort program and how to apply.

Announcements

The Indian Health System: the Role of State and Local Partners in Advancing Tribal Health Equity

May 18th 12:00 p.m. - 1:30 p.m. CST

Join us for the next Network Equity Officer Peer Group Learning Session where we will be joined by the National Indian Health Board's Chief Executive Officer, A.C. Locklear II, who will introduce the foundations of the Indian health system: what it is, why it exists, and how it is tied to Tribal sovereignty. You will also obtain an understanding of the role of state and local partners in the Indian health system and how you can support Tribal priorities and progress health equity.

If you currently work in a state, Tribal, local, or territorial government working to promote equity, you can request to join the Equity Officer Peer Group and receive a registration link, [here](#).

Worth Sharing

Legal Library Landscape Analysis: Legal Resources to Support Data Sharing

Developed through a collaboration between the Network and Data Across Sectors for Health (DASH), this analysis provides an expanded and modernized collection of legal resources to support public health professionals and cross-sector partners in their data sharing efforts. Integrated into the [DASH Knowledge Base](#) (DKB), the [Legal Library](#) includes 171 current and publicly available resources that move beyond compliance checklists to deliver actionable guidance. The collection contains practical tools such as templates, model agreements, and governance frameworks, while highlighting data sharing approaches that are equity-driven, elevate community voice, and foster collaboration across sectors.

Call for Presentations: 2026 NALBOH Annual Conference

The National Association of Local Boards of Health invites presenters and trainers to submit proposals for their October 2026 Annual Conference, focused on equipping boards of health with the knowledge, tools, and confidence needed to lead effectively. They are seeking presentations that will

empower board members to better understand their responsibilities, navigate complex public health challenges, and serve as strong partners to their local health departments. By sharing your expertise, you will help strengthen the leadership and impact of boards of health across the country—ensuring they are well prepared to guide local public health systems and advance healthier communities. The deadline for submissions is May 11, 2026.

APHA Policy Action Institute

June 9-10, 2026 Arlington, Virginia

The 2026 Policy Action Institute will take place June 9-10 at the Hilton Arlington National Landing and online. Through panels, hands-on workshops and networking sessions with top public health policymakers, attendees will learn how to navigate funding cuts, influence policy to drive change and secure critical resources for their initiatives. There will be an optional Hill Day on June 11, where participants will be given the opportunity to meet directly with policymakers and their staff and advocate for public health priorities.

Tell Us What You're Working On. We're Ready to Help.

REQUEST
ASSISTANCE

Network attorneys can provide consultation and guidance to:

- Identify the ways in which laws and policies may or may not impact a particular project or community; or the potential impact on different populations within a community.
- Provide examples of and compare public health laws or policy strategies from other jurisdictions.
- Analyze the legal authority to implement a policy or law, or reforms.
- Apply equity tools to laws and policies.

Thank you!

Your interest in the work of the Network is important. Together, we can advance law as a tool to improve public health. **Please forward the Network Report and encourage others to [join the Network!](#)**

The Network for Public Health Law provides information and technical assistance on issues related to public health. The legal information and assistance provided in this document does not constitute legal advice or legal representation. For legal advice, readers should consult a lawyer in their state.



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