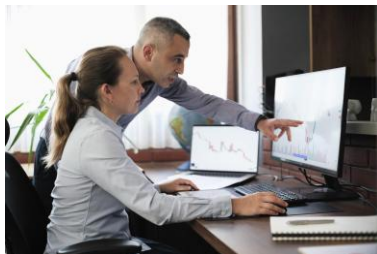




SAVE THE DATE!

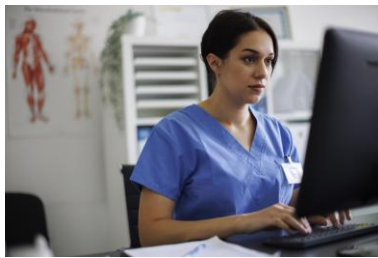
Public health data modernization holds the power to transform public health and improve health for communities. Join us for a three-day virtual summit for insights and guidance on navigating an ever-shifting public health data legal landscape. Get valuable information on legal frameworks and agreements for public health data exchange, the disparate confidentiality protections that apply to public health data, and current enforcement, rulemaking and other developments. Sessions will also examine the role of law and policy in supporting justice and community power in data and data technology, including AI. [Learn more.](#)

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.



Opportunities and Legal Considerations for Data Modernization Through the Rural Health Transformation Program

The Rural Health Transformation Program (RHTP), a federal grant initiative authorized in 2025, provides an opportunity for states to invest in data modernization to improve access to health care and public health services. States and rural health care providers modernizing data systems will need to ensure compliance with applicable information sharing and privacy requirements. Grounding data modernization in clear legal frameworks and strong data governance will reduce legal risk, protect privacy, foster transparency, and promote effective data exchange.

Resources



Difficult Conversations: Context and Considerations for Equity Officers and Their Legal Counsel

The current legal and policy landscape has fueled anxiety and confusion for those involved in work related to diversity, equity, inclusion, and accessibility (DEIA), as well as those who provide them with legal counsel. This issue brief was developed to support these difficult conversations. It provides a high-level overview of changes to the DEIA landscape in recent years, a brief introduction to the concept of the “chilling effect,” as well as some items to consider prior to and during these discussions.



Legality of Dispensing and Administering Naloxone to Minors in Montana

Naloxone can save the lives of minors experiencing opioid overdose. In Montana, opioid education and naloxone distribution programs cluster around Montana’s larger cities which leaves rural Montanans with scant resources. Montana’s 2017 Help Save Lives from Overdose Act explicitly seeks to facilitate the “broadest possible access to lifesaving opioid antagonist medication” like naloxone. This resource discusses Montana law as it relates to the distribution of naloxone to minors.

Webinar



Public Health in Pursuit of Voting Rights for All

Thursday, July 9, 2026 | 12:30 – 2 CT / 1:30 – 3 ET

Attend this webinar to hear from the Southern Poverty Law Center and Institute for Responsive Government about voting rights and public health. The Southern Poverty Law Center will unpack what the U.S. Supreme Court decision in *Louisiana v. Callais* means for voting rights, the public's health, and public health. Speakers will discuss the connections between health and democracy—for individuals, communities, and the public health system—and identify ways for public health to join the voting rights movement to increase civic and voter participation.

Announcements

Racial Health Equity Legal and Policy Cohort Call for Applications

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.

Worth Sharing

NALBOH 2026 Annual Conference

October 12-14, 2026, San Antonio, Texas

Boards of health play a vital role in protecting and improving community health. The National Association of Local Boards of Health (NALBOH) conference is designed to inspire and support both current and future board members by providing practical governance strategies, leadership development, and real-world examples that strengthen board effectiveness. Attendees will include new and experienced board members, community leaders interested in board service, and public health professionals who support boards of health. Sessions will aim to build governance capacity, foster meaningful board engagement, and provide actionable insights that participants can bring back to their communities.

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

Network attorneys can provide consultation and

**REQUEST
ASSISTANCE**

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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Making Polluters Pay: Financial Accountability for the Public Health Impacts of Climate Change

Thursday, June 23, 2026 | 12:00 – 1:30 CT

Join the Network, APHA, Health in Partnership, Health Resources in Action, Public Health for Community Power Coalition and the Prevention Institute for this webinar to learn about the current wave of climate-related policies and lawsuits designed to hold fossil fuel companies accountable for the public health costs of climate change. [Learn more and register.](#)

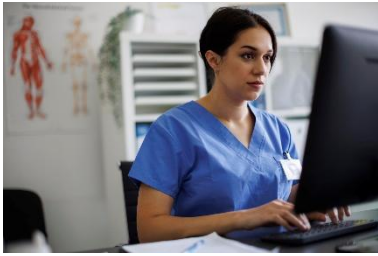
Law & Policy Insights



The Network's Racial Health Equity Legal and Policy Cohort: Using Law and Policy to Address Structural Racism

The Network's Racial Health Equity Cohort has provided guidance to dozens of organizations on the use of law and policy to advance their equity-centered projects and initiatives. It can be intimidating for non-lawyers to use law and policy. We help remove such barriers by creating resources that make law accessible and by providing consistent access to legal and policy public health

experts. The next cohort begins in September 2026 and runs through April 2027. The deadline for applying is Friday, June 26 at 5 p.m. CT.



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Resources



Eight Policies that Promote Health and Health Equity for People in Carceral Facilities

People who are incarcerated are our community members both when they are incarcerated and when they return to our neighborhoods. Laws and policies that impact the health of people who are incarcerated can address many of the same issues faced in the community and can work to reduce health inequities. This policy brief explains eight legal levers that have been adopted to improve health outcomes for people who are incarcerated.

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Worth Sharing

The Data Revolution and Population Health: Tech Tools, Cross-Sector Data, and Community Expertise--A Workshop

June 25, 2026, 10:00 AM - 5:00 PM

Join the Roundtable on Population Health Improvement of the National Academies of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine for a day-long hybrid workshop exploring this timely topic, including issues of data governance, working with cross-sector data sets, navigating the promise and perils of emerging technology, and centering the needs and expertise of diverse communities. Network Deputy Director—Mid-States Region, Meghan Mead, J.D., will be part of the panel discussion on Emerging Data Sources to Inform Public Health.

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