SWACH’S COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT STRATEGY

- Community engagement is embedded into all we do
- Global, systemic effort throughout the organization
- As HLC and SWACH merge, we honor our roots in HLC by incorporating community engagement as a core value and practice

Community Engagement efforts include:

- Internal Work
  - Conversations with staff and partners about current community engagement practices
  - Review of all work groups, committees, collaboratives SWACH manages and our current practices
  - Assessment of SWACH’s community engagement efforts (selecting and implementing assessment tool, collating results, intentional conversation) and recommendations for improvement
  - Intentional discussion and decision-making about events and meetings practices and policies
  - Review of hiring practices and work to build policy to include community members on hiring panels
  - Practice to include community members on decision-making committees, such as for the rural CCAs and CTP/RFI processes
  - All SWACH staff have a community engagement goal embedded into their work plans
  - Community engagement workshops at RHIP and Board meetings to seek wisdom and support

- External Work
  - Skamania listening session
  - WSU-Vancouver Forum, building a partnership with WSU-Vancouver’s Institute for Public Deliberation and working with students
  - Opioid Action Summit
  - Relationships with CHWs, Peers, CHAs, and community residents through HLC, CHAPS, BHAB
  - Brainstorming Community Leadership Collaborative in all counties and throughout our network and moving to design and implementation
  - Building relationships to host listening sessions in Klickitat County
  - Building relationships to host a listening session in rural Clark County
Health Care Authority Definitions

- **Community engagement**: Outreach to and collaboration with organizations or individuals, including Medicaid beneficiaries, that are not formally participating in project activities and are not receiving direct DSRIP funding but are important to the success of the ACH’s projects.
- **Health equity**: Reducing and ultimately eliminating disparities in health and their determinants that adversely affect excluded or marginalized groups.