Policy and HLC Committee Application

Who we are:

The HLC brings together multiple sectors and community leaders to focus on policy, systems and environmental change that promote health equity and strengthen underrepresented community voices.

We are a program under Southwest Washington Accountable Community of Health (SW ACH) but we serve a five-county area: Including Clark, Cowlitz, Wahkiakum, Skamania, Klickitat.

At the core of the HLC’s work are the beliefs that 1) we best serve our most vulnerable communities if we work together and 2) our work must be done with communities, not to or for them.

We focus on promoting health equity by crafting solutions that support community-based initiatives to improve health and wellness and strengthen families, neighborhoods, and systems. As part of our commitment to community engagement, we launched our network of neighborhood-based Community Health Workers (CHWs).

Focus of our work:

Policy and Systems Change: HLC convenes its collaborative and community members to create a shared policy agenda which promotes health as a priority for decision-making and assists its members to advocate at local, regional, and state levels to change public policy to focus on health as a path to long-term change.

Convening: HLC brings cross-sector partners and diverse communities together to address health inequities. Together we promote healthy environments, economic and social development, and improved healthcare delivery.

Community Engagement and Action: Through our innovative Community Health Worker (CHW) program, HLC works to elevate community voices and support their strength and power. CHWs are trusted members of their communities who serve as frontline public health workers to build community capacity to improve health.

Shared Learning: HLC evaluates all our work and shares our successes and challenges widely because we all work better when we share our experiences.

Strengthening our work:

We have identified a need to strengthen the makeup of our leadership committees to be more representative of our region. We are seeking a committee that represents different ages, disability status, race/ethnicity, and socioeconomic status. We are seeking members that are deeply connected to the communities they serve or represent.
HLC Committee Options

The HLC has two leadership committees with members serving two-year terms. Both are key to the collaborative’s effectiveness and sustainability. Positions are unpaid and require, on average, a commitment of about 5 hours per month. In both committees, we strive to have a diverse mix of members representing the rich and varied communities we serve.

**Healthy Living Collaborative Committee:**

**HLC Committee:** HLC Committee will advise on HLC’s overall direction, and making sure work stays true to its vision and mission and ensuring long-term viability of HLC. The HLC Committee will range from 7-13 members, will represent HLC’s geographical region and will include organizational and community partners. We will be seeking at least 2 CHWs to sit on the committee.

- Attend meetings which will occur at least quarterly.
- Oversee core functions of HLC.
- Ensure HLC stays true to its vision and mission.
- Ensure long-term viability of HLC mission via appropriate funding streams.
- Resolve issues/conflicts with SW WA Accountable Community of Health (SWACH), if necessary.
- Nominate HLC committee member to serve on SWACH board of directors.
- Ensure at least one HLC committee member serves on Regional Health Improvement Plan Council (RHIP) of SWACH.
- Maintain relationships with existing and future donors.
- Engage in policy and advocacy work selected by Policy Committee, as appropriate.

**Policy Committee**

The Policy Committee provides leadership on current and proposed policy and system change strategies. It has between 9 - 13 members. Policy committee seeks to represent HLC’s geographical region and will include organizational and community partners.

**Policy Committee Roles and Responsibilities**

- Attend monthly meetings.
- Provide analysis and leadership on current and proposed policy and system change strategies to the full collaborative.
- Assess policy opportunities.
- Make priority recommendations to the HLC or full collaborative.
- Act on the priority work (prepping letters, testimony, outreach to other stakeholders; keeping an eye on implementation and enforcement of current policy items, convening and facilitating work groups as needed to act on policy agenda).

We are pleased you are considering joining one of our committees and look forward to reviewing your application (see attached). If you have any additional questions or need assistance completing your application, please contact Diana Avalos-Leos or Jamie Smeland (diana.avalos-leos@southwestach.org or Jamie.Smeland@southwestach.org).
REQUIRED INFORMATION

HLC Committee Application

Name:  
Title (optional):

Phone:  
Email:

Agency/Organization/Community you represent:

Which committee are you interested in joining?  HLC Committee___  Policy Committee ___ Either ___

Are you able to participate in lobbying and advocacy efforts?  Yes_____ No_______

Are you employed or a volunteer of your agency/organization?

What interpretation assistance, if any, would be supportive?

Communities you work or live in (include county and/city/zip code):

What sector/community do you represent?

What geographic area do you represent?

Are you willing to fulfill the above roles and responsibilities of the committee you are interested in?

Lobbying means any communication with an official of the executive or legislative branch of government ... for the ultimate purpose of influencing any executive, legislative, or administrative action

Advocacy is defined as the “Act of speaking, writing, or acting in support of something or someone
Why is the work of the HLC important? (word limit 300)

Why do you want to participate as a committee member? Answer based on the committee(s) you are interested in. (HLC Committee or Policy Committee) (word limit 300)
What unique skills, experience, and perspectives would you bring to a HLC committee? (word limit 300)

OPTIONAL INFORMATION

By providing this information, you will help us ensure that appointments represent a broad cross-section of the community. You are under no obligation to provide this information. State and federal law prohibit the use of this information to discriminate against you. The Healthy Living Collaborative will treat this information as confidential to the fullest extent allowed by law.

Age:  
☐ 19 and under  ☐ 20 to 34  ☐ 35 to 49  
☐ 50 to 64  ☐ 65+

Identification:  
☐ American Indian or Alaska Native  ☐ Asian  
☐ Black or African-American  ☐ Hispanic or Latino  
☐ Native Hawaiian or other Pacific Islander  ☐ White  
☐ Other (please specify) __________________________

Disability:  ☐ No  ☐ Yes  If yes, please specify if you are comfortable:  
__________________________________________  
__________________________________________

_____________________________