Health District

Partnership Investment Framework:

Building a Transformational Partnership Model

Board of Directors Meeting

August 19, 2026

Why We're Here

The Board's role is to establish clear policy direction regarding how public dollars and resources are invested to deepen partnerships over time.

Assessing and strategizing through the lens of health equity, we ensure our partnerships are in alignment with organizational priorities.

A new framework to help decision-makers...

- Understand that we have a framework and a process for how we are distributing funding
- Know if we are dispersing our partnerships in a way that makes sense vs. bulking in specific areas
- Ensure our partners are aligned with our direction as informed by the board's current work on mission, vision, and values so we are clear on what we are seeking to transform

Level 5
Transform

Level 4
Integrate

Level 3
Collaborate

Level 2
Coordinate

Level 1
Inform

Partnerships Exist Along a Continuum

Partnerships exist along a continuum of increasing trust, shared accountability, and community impact.

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How the Continuum Works
(Slide 1 of 2)

- Every partnership tier represents an organizational investment, even when financial resources are limited
- Investment increases with shared accountability, not simply with relationship longevity

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How the Continuum Works
(Slide 2 of 2)

- Different investments require difference governance practices. Board oversight grows with public investment.
- The continuum is dynamic. Partnerships may deepen, maintain, or shift based on community needs.

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Build awareness, trust and understanding of the Health District's mission, services, and community priorities.

Investment philosophy:
Invest organizational expertise, communications, outreach, and staff capacity to a be a trusted and accessible community resource

Typical investments:
Community education, outreach, relationship cultivation, information sharing. Supported through existing program infrastructure including budgets and FTE.

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Strengthen relationships by connecting organizations, reducing duplication, and improving service coordination across the community.

Investment philosophy:
Dedicate staff time, convening authority, and collaborative planning that improve alignment across organizations

Typical investments:
Coalition participation, referral systems, ad-hoc convening, technical assistance, shared learning. Supported through existing program infrastructure including budgets and FTE.

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Align services, resources, and decision-making around shared community outcomes.

Investment philosophy:
Strategically invest staff capacity, direct services, and financial support to deepen partnerships with shared accountability

Typical investments:
Multi-year partnerships, coordinated service delivery, responsive opportunities

Governance:
Board approves significant investments and establishes policy for strategic and responsive funding.

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Integrate

Advance shared goals through joint initiatives, projects, and targeted resource investments.

Investment philosophy:
Combine organizational capacity with flexible financial investments to accelerate shared work and address identified needs.

Typical investments:
Capacity-building funding, pilots, hiring incentives, client assistance, joint initiatives.

Governance:
Board governance through budget process.

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Level 5

Transform

Create sustainable systems change through shared leadership, continuous learning, and collective stewardship.

Investment philosophy:

Make long-term investments of funding, leadership, and organizational influence to improve community health outcomes through transformational partnerships

Typical investments:

Collective impact, shared governance, systems redesign, policy innovation, multi-year co-investment

Governance:

Board provides strategic oversight and stewards sustained public investments.

2027: Learning and growth year

- Building and improving on infrastructure for long-term success
- Finalizing partnership investment policies
- Implementing standardized partnership assessment tools
- Establishing outcome measures and evaluation
- Developing governance and approval process
- Testing the continuum through real-world application

The Transition

The intent is to transition from primarily relationship-based funding decisions to a **transparent, policy-driven investment model** that strengthens accountability while preserving the flexibility needed to respond to community needs.

Partnership as public investment

Board guidance requested on current direction, investment parameters at collaborate and integrate levels, and governance expectations.

Questions and Discussion

Thank you

awilliams@healthdistrict.org