



Population Health Trust April Newsletter

Community Advisory Board to the Skagit County Board of Health

April 15, 2022

We are so excited to announce the release of our 2022 COVID Recovery Plan! The plan, which is now available in both Spanish and English on our [website](#), is our call to action to bring the community together in focused efforts to improve the wellbeing of our County in response to the stress the pandemic placed on all of us.

“The plan fairly represents the many communities that make up Skagit County,” said Linden Jordan, President of PFLAG Skagit. “I appreciate being included in these conversations, and I appreciate the proof that we were heard in the report itself.”

The 17 goals and 26 strategies in the COVID Recovery Plan are a direct response to our 2020-2021 [Community Health Assessment](#) (CHA). These goals and strategies are aiming to tackle the key areas the CHA found to be impacting Skagitonian’s health:

- Equity
- Housing
- Access to Care
- Behavioral Health
- Child Care
- Economic and Fiscal Security
- Food Security

The Recovery Plan has a special emphasis on health equity. This was a result of the data from the CHA showing that COVID-19 did not impact all Skagit residents equally. Disease burden disproportionately impacted people of color, older adults, and those who are economically disadvantaged. This begged the question: “Why are some people staying healthy and others are not?”

To address this issue, we used a health equity lens and focused on working towards removing the barriers that result in compromised health and powerlessness. Health equity is not just about helping the most vulnerable, it affects the whole spectrum of our community’s population. For the Recovery Plan, not only did we make health equity its own category of focus, but we also embedded equity strategies into every focus area. The hope is that this will build our community’s capacity to address equity across the wide variety of agencies, organizations, and sectors in Skagit County.

The Board of Health officially endorsed the plan during a special session on March 24, 2022. Commissioner Peter Browning, Chair of the Board of Health stated, “This is a well thought out plan and I look forward to supporting the work that is carried out from it.”

Now that the Recovery Plan has been endorsed and is being released to the public, our goal is to mobilize the community to turn the goals and strategies into action! We would love the opportunity to meet with you, your organization, agency, or business to discuss the plan and generate ideas on how you can contribute to this important work! Remember health happens where we live, work, and play. It does not matter what your line of work is, we can all do our part to improve community health.



[Population Health Trust](#)

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