



INTERACT  
FOR HEALTH

STRATEGY UPDATE

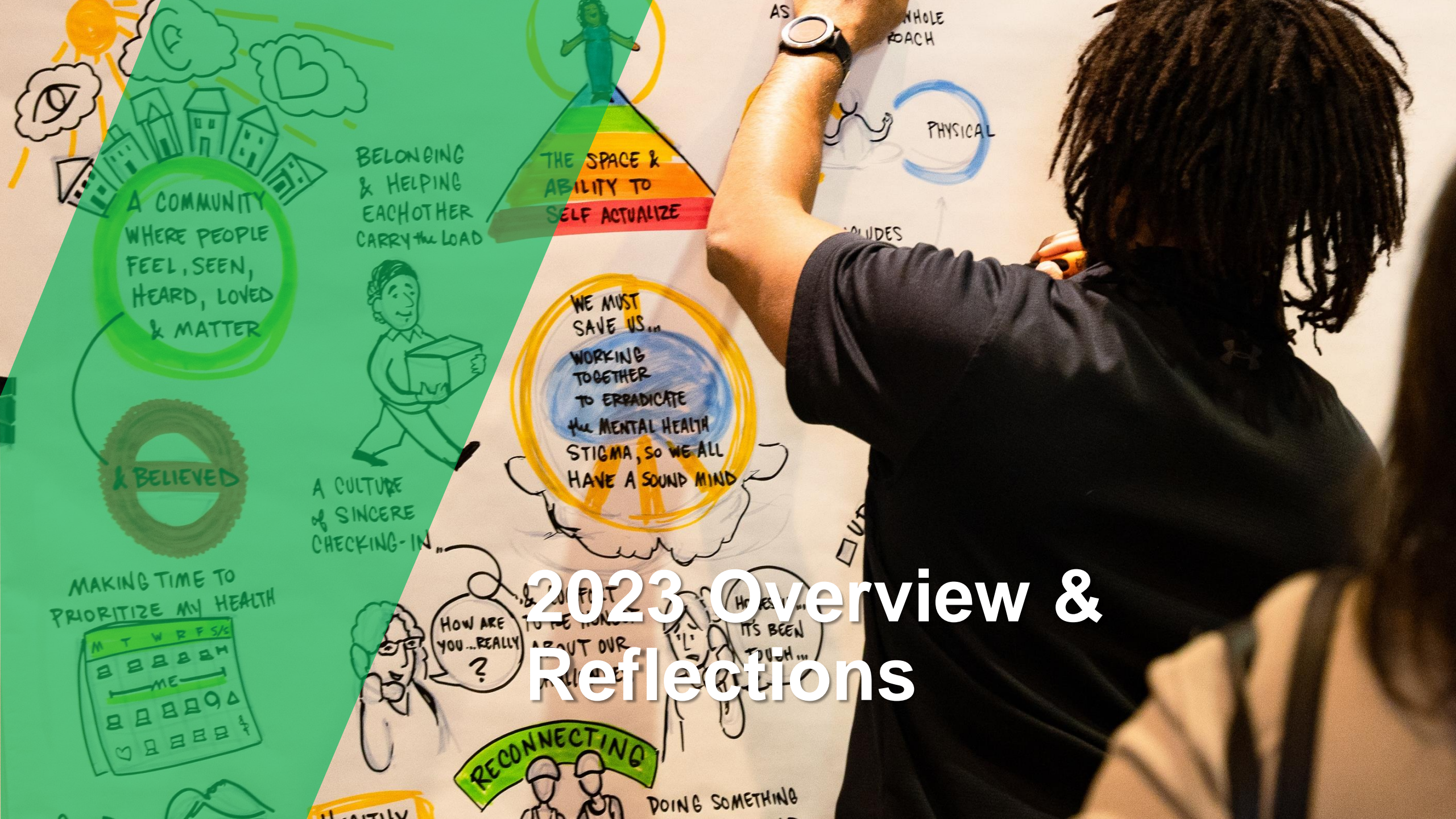
FEBRUARY 12, 2024



# Agenda

- Welcome
- 2023 Overview & Reflections
  - Values, Roles, Principles, Strategic Framework, Grantmaking Snapshot, Reflections
- 2024 Plans
  - Key Refinements, Strategic Priorities, Goals Grantmaking Plans, Key Dates, Office Hours
- Q & A





# 2023 Overview & Reflections





# Our Why

## Vision

People in our region are healthy and thriving, regardless of who they are or where they live.

## Mission

To ensure people in our region have a just opportunity to live their healthiest lives.





# Our Values



**WE TACKLE ROOT CAUSES**



**WE AMPLIFY COMMUNITY POWER**



**WE SPEAK OPENLY**



**WE PARTNER WITH TRUST**



**WE ARE RELENTLESS PROBLEM SOLVERS**



**WE STRIVE FOR IMPACT**



# Our Roles: How We Work



**Flexible, catalytic funder**



**Trusted, non-partisan voice for change**



**Independent, regional convener**



**Amplifier of community voice**



**Go-to resource for data on health and health justice**



# 2023-2027 Strategic Priorities

- 1. Community Power Building:** We support efforts that shift power dynamics to ensure that those most impacted by health inequities are leading and deciding.
- 2. Policy & Systems Change:** We support public policy changes that improve health equity and mental health, and we work to elevate community voices and change narratives to address the root causes of inequities.
- 3. Mental Health & Well-Being:** We aim to improve mental health and well-being by strengthening systems and supports for young people and removing systemic barriers in mental health overall.



# 2023 Grantmaking Snapshot

## BY THE NUMBERS

Total RFP Grantees: **54**

Avg. Amount: **\$97,058**

Avg. Duration: **16 months**

General Op. Support: **44%**

New Partners: **57%**

BIPOC-Led: **37%**

Invited: **25** of 79 grants; **\$2.5M**

## RFP SUMMARY

Advancing Health Justice

*20 grantees; \$2.1M total*

Mental Health Equity

*17 grantees; \$1.5M total*

Amplifying Youth Voice

*11 grantees; \$600K total*

School Based Prevention

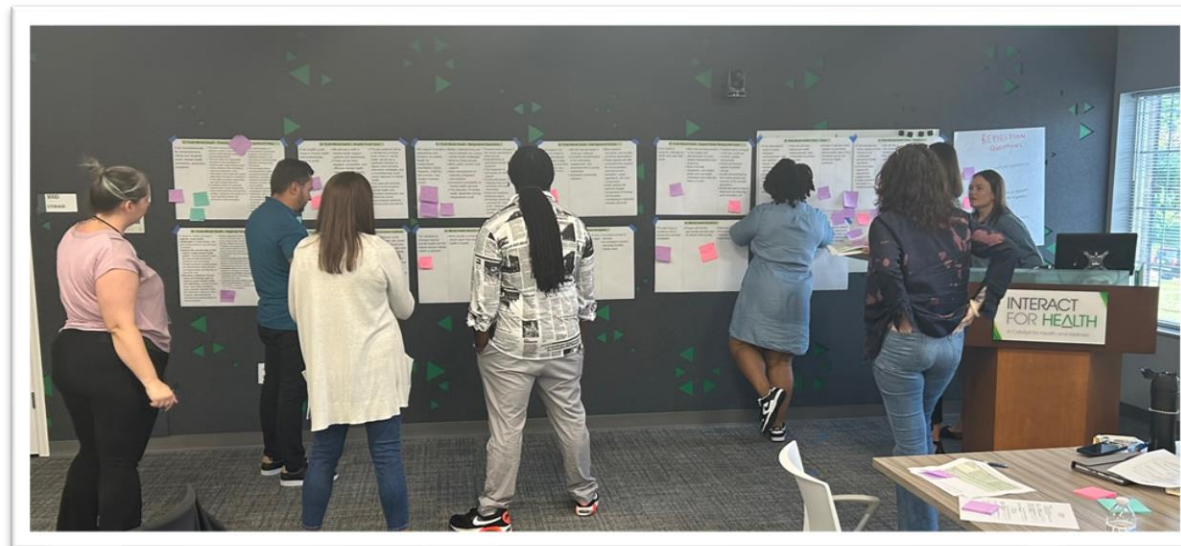
*6 grantees; \$1M total*





# 2023 Strategy Review Process

- New strategic plan is an **adaptive strategy**
- Our strategies are **hypotheses** that we test, learn from, & adapt with grantees and partners
- We **hold ourselves accountable** to our mission & values





# 2023 Reflections

- Community momentum aligned with this strategy, as evidenced by the strong response to our RFPs
- Increased community engagement in our grantmaking via community reviewers and office hours led to better decision-making
- Opportunity to be more intentional with engaging our rural communities, as well as our Hispanic and LGBTQ+ communities
- Opportunity to further align our strategy with the growing community momentum around youth mental health





# 2024 PLANS





# Key Refinements in Our 2024 Strategy

- Launching an intentional, comprehensive **rural investment strategy**
- Focusing on 2-3 communities within the urban/suburban core to **support community-identified priorities** that advance health equity
- Focusing primarily on **youth prevention** within our mental health strategy
- Moving towards **larger, multi-year grants** with aligned partners
- Revamping our **event sponsorship** process to be more accessible

## VISION

People in our region are healthy and thriving, regardless of who they are or where they live.

## MISSION

To ensure people in our region have a just opportunity to live their healthiest lives.

## VALUES



**We tackle root causes**



**We amplify community power**



**We speak openly**



**We partner with trust**

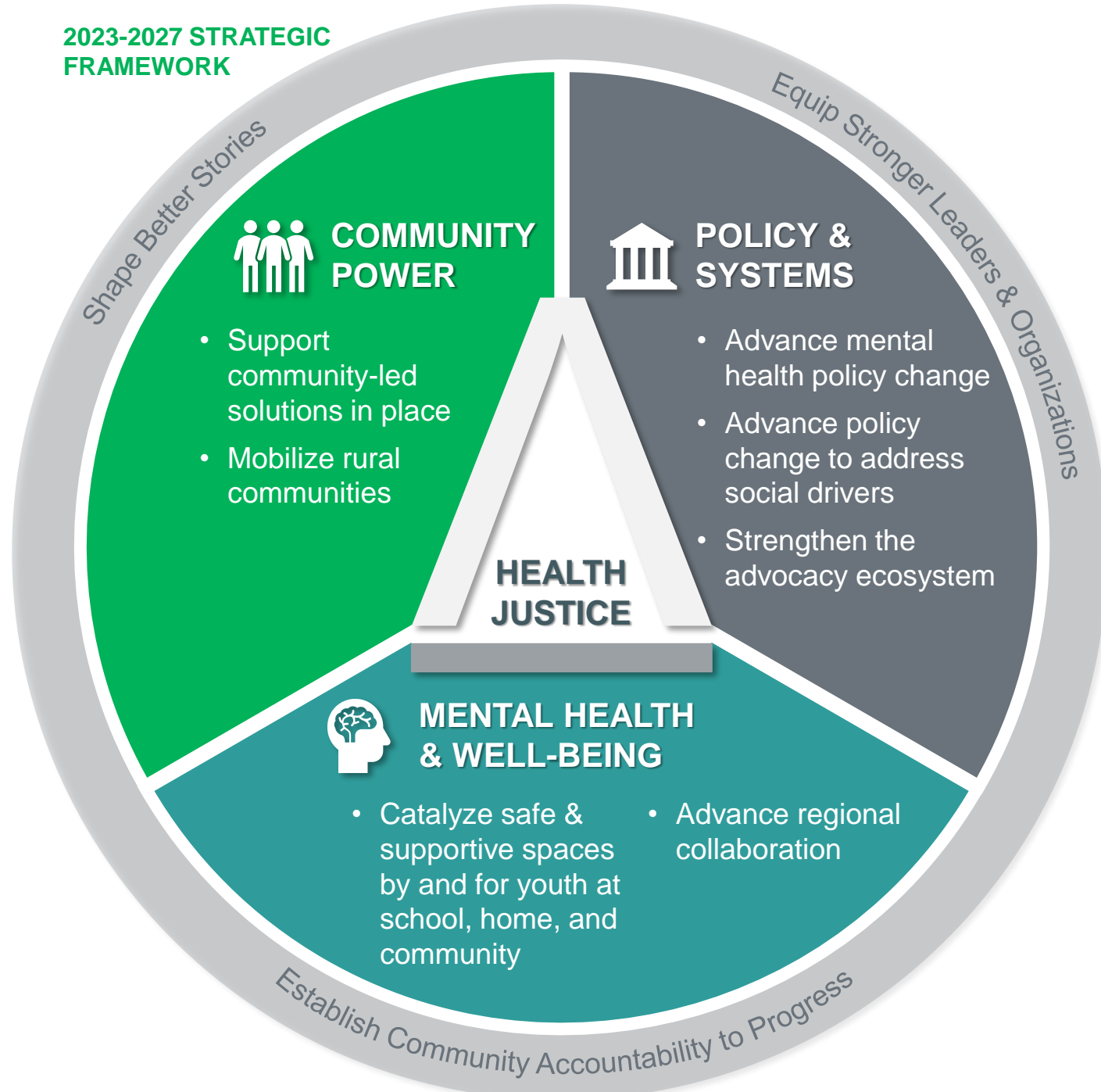


**We are relentless problem solvers**



**We strive for impact**

## 2023-2027 STRATEGIC FRAMEWORK



## PRIORITY POPULATIONS

- Black communities
- Hispanic communities
- Low-income families
- Rural communities

## HOW WE WORK

- Flexible, catalytic funder
- Trusted, nonpartisan voice
- Independent, regional convener
- Amplifier of community voice
- Go-to resource for data

## GENERATIONAL IMPACT

**Health justice is achieved when a person's health is no longer determined by who they are or where they live.**

We strive for a system that produces overall improvement and reduced disparities in:

- ↑ Life expectancy, quality of life
- ↑ Mental health, well-being
- ↓ Racism, discrimination, social drivers of health
- ↓ Deaths of despair and premature death



# Community Power

## Strategies:

- Community-Led Solutions in Place
- Mobilize Rural Communities

## Goals:

- Increase the number of community-led policy, system, and physical changes
- Increase the voice, agency, and resources to community-led plans





# Community Power

## 2024 Grantmaking:

- Invited RFP focused on forming deep, trusted, long-term partnerships in 2-3 communities within the urban/suburban core to support community-identified priorities that advance health equity.



# Community Power

## 2024 Rural Investment Strategy:

- **Rural Changemaker RFP** provides strategic funding that enhances and supports grassroots work addressing community-identified challenges related to health in our rural regions.
  - Deadlines - March 4, June 3, September 2, November 4
- **Event Sponsorships** will be available to support rural events. Funding opportunities will support local initiatives and collaborations, increasing the impact in our rural regions.
  - Deadlines - March 31, May 31, July 31, September 30, November 30
- **Rural Community Councils** is the convening of community members from our rural regions in Ohio, Kentucky, and Indiana that will inform our grantmaking and rural strategy.



# Policy & Systems

## Strategies:

- Advance mental health policy change
- Advance policy change to address social drivers
- Strengthen the advocacy ecosystem





# Policy & Systems

## Goals:

- Increase the pace, number, and quality of advocacy and policy wins
- Expand and strengthen the capacity, skills, and collaboration of organizations advancing health equity policy efforts



# Policy & Systems

## 2024 Grantmaking:

- Open RFP will be released focused on advancing local policy and advocacy efforts that address the social, economic, and environmental factors that shape health.
- Invited RFP focused on supporting organizations to engage in equitable advocacy and policy change efforts that address the social drivers of health and promote mental health and well-being.



# Mental Health & Well-Being

## Strategies:

- Catalyze safe & supportive spaces by and for youth at school, home, and community
- Advance regional collaboration



# Mental Health & Well-Being

## Goals:

- Expand evidence-informed prevention policies, practices, and/or programs to priority schools and communities that promote mattering, belonging, and other factors that support positive mental health and resilience in youth
- Increase the number of young people informing and deciding upon policies, practices, and/or programs that impact them





# Mental Health & Well-Being

## 2024 Grantmaking:

- Invited RFP for current and new partners to catalyze safe & supportive spaces by and for youth at school, home, and community
- Investing in implementation of the regional youth mental health strategy



# Cross-Cutting Strategy

## Strategies:

- Equip grantees, partners, and communities to deepen their impact in advancing health justice by:
  - Shaping better stories
  - Strengthening leaders and organizations
  - Establishing community accountability to track progress



# Cross-Cutting Strategy

## Goals:

- Launch strategic approach to strengthen grantee and partner capacity in key areas
- Conduct the Grantee Perception Survey and improve ratings from 2021 to 2024
- Launch inaugural State of Health Equity report, increasing understanding of community progress toward health equity





# Summary of Key Dates

- **Rural Changemaker RFP:** Deadlines - March 4, June 3, September 2, and November 4
- **Local Policy RFP:** anticipated April 2 release; May 14 deadline
- **Event Sponsorships:** Deadlines - March 31, May 31, July 31, September 30, and November 30

→ [Open RFPs are posted here](#)

→ [Apply for event sponsorships here](#)



# Community Office Hours

## General Office Hours

- Monday, February 26. 10am-noon. Interact for Health office.
- Thursday, March 7. 1-3pm. Virtual.

## Rural Office Hours\*

- Wednesday, February 21. 1-4 pm. Grant County Library (KY)
- Thursday, February 22. 1-4 pm. Brown County Library (OH)
- Friday, February 23. 1-4 pm. Tyson Library (IN)

*\*Held quarterly. Visit our Rural Strategy page for more dates.*







Q & A





# Contact us to learn more



*Rural Strategy*  
**Caitlin Bentley**



*Community Power*  
**Julian Collins**



*Local Policy*  
**Megan Folkerth**



*Mental Health Policy*  
**Sonya Carrico**



*Youth Mental Health - Community*  
**Deanna Hilliard**



*Youth Mental Health - Schools*  
**Lisa Myers**





# Contact us to learn more



*President & CEO*  
[Kate Schroder](#)



*Community Power,  
Policy & Systems*  
[Ashlee Young](#)



*Mental Health &  
Well-Being*  
[Ross Meyer](#)



@InteractForHealth



@Interact4Health

[www.interactforhealth.org](http://www.interactforhealth.org)