

HEALTH EQUITY COMMISSION

Colorado Department of Public Health and Environment

The Health Equity Commission (HEC) *serves as an advisor to the Office on Health Equity issues, specifically focusing on alignment, education and capacity-building for state and local health programs and community-based organizations. The commission is dedicated to promoting health equity and eliminating health disparities.*

WE DO THIS BY:

- Providing a formal mechanism for the public to give input to the Office of Health Equity.
- Advising the department through the Office of Health Equity on:
 - (A) Determining innovative data collection and dissemination strategies;
 - (B) Aligning the department's health equity efforts and the Health Disparities Grant Program (HDGP);
 - (C) Strengthening collaborative partnerships with communities impacted by health disparities to identify and promote health equity strategies; and
 - (D) Promoting workforce diversity.
- Appointing a review committee to review the HDGP applications received and making recommendations regarding the entities that may receive grants and the amounts of the grants;
- Finalizing the recommendations for funding and providing them to the State Board.

MEMBERS (15):

1 member of the House of Representatives	1 member of the Senate	10 members who represent, to the extent practical, Colorado's diverse ethnic, racial, sexual orientation, gender identity, disability, aging population, socioeconomic and geographic backgrounds
3 members from the state departments of public health, human services, and health care policy and financing		

HISTORY:

- The Office of Health Equity and the Health Equity Commission were codified in statute through Senate Bill 242 in May 2007.
- In 2013, House Bill 13-1088 changed the name of the office to the Office of Health Equity and expanded it to serve lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender (LGBT), aging, disabled, low-socioeconomic and geographic populations.
- The Minority Health Advisory Commission and the Interagency Health Disparities Leadership Council were consolidated into the Health Equity Commission.

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www.colorado.gov/cdphe/health-equity-commission