HealthPoint CHC Health Equity Council

The Purpose of the Health Equity Advisory Council:

To proactively identify and seek to understand the root cause of health disparities leading to poor health outcomes in the patients and the communities we serve. To promote the elimination of those disparities for equitable health.

HealthPoint, is a community health center with locations distributed throughout King County [https://www.healthpointchc.org/](https://www.healthpointchc.org/)

HealthPoint is committed to the concept that healthcare organizations can best support health if equity is the lens through which decisions are made and priorities are set. As a community health center Healthpoint is actively recentering around it's roots in the civil rights movement to build stronger systems designed to acknowledge and reduce health disparities that are adversely impacting our community. Our work in this area has included new governance structures like the Health Equity Advisory Council and the Diversity Equity and Inclusion Workforce Council. Those structures have supported numerous interventions for both staff and community including an internal Health Equity Learning Collaborative that encourages healthcare teams to work directly with community and patients on a health issue that impacts them, an investment in stratified data to bring transparency to disparities in populations for key health outcomes, and opportunities for staff and community to discuss how the social construct of race has impacted their work and their health.

Health Equity is a top priority for HealthPoint as we work towards creating a more welcoming experience for all cultures and backgrounds, while eliminating barriers to quality care. As we work towards our goals, we created a Health Equity Advisory Council (HEAC). The purpose of this council is to proactively identify and seek to understand the root cause of health disparities leading to poor health outcomes in the patients and the communities we serve. To promote the elimination of those disparities for equitable health. HealthPoint used the Institute of Healthcare Improvement (IHI) tool as a process to identity priorities and address greatest need. Additionally, the council analyzes health disparities by leveraging an approach that is data driven but grounded in the voices of the patients and communities we serve. One of our main focuses is to advise our learning collaborative groups who are working on healthcare improvement, community engagement and health equity projects.
The Health Equity Advisory Council plays a huge role in our Health Equity Learning Collaborative project. A total of 10 different clinics are participating in this project and have researched and compiled data for the following populations: Black/African American, Hispanic, Punjabi/Hindi, Pacific Islander, Nepali, and Asian. When looking at the data, we were able to identify the priority health metric for each population in regard to clinic location.

One of HealthPoint’s strategic priorities is Equity and the Health Equity Advisory Council will continue to work with the HealthPoint DEI Workforce Council and its Senior Leadership over time. HealthPoint is continuing to learn about how to partner with our community to address health equity and Healthpoint continues to grow in these areas but these structures have already had an impact.