



# Centering Community in Health Transformation

Investing in an Equitable Health System

"Communities hold the knowledge, the wisdom, and the data we need to **implement policy solutions that actually change our systems and our environments for the better...** The step that it takes to move from health equality to health equity is to center community."

Dr. Seciah Aquino, Latino Coalition for a Healthy California, Executive Director



## IMPACT OF COVID-19

As a response to the nation's reckonings on racial justice and the ongoing devastating impact of the COVID-19 global pandemic on communities of color, The California Endowment issued a historic \$300 million Social Bond in January 2021 to meet the moment and invest in innovative long-term solutions to racial and health inequities.

The pandemic has shown how crucial it is to significantly invest in the state's health and social service infrastructure and to support community-based, community-led efforts to reform health systems and create a transformative path to better health, well-being, and prosperity for all.

## INVESTMENTS IN HEALTH AND WELLNESS

The California Endowment's \$300 million Social Bond supports the grassroots organizers, activists, and advocates building power in our communities and championing movements to reimagine health equity and racial justice for all people in California. To further the impact of the Social Bond, The California Endowment dedicated a portion of the bond to transforming the health system in California, with communities most impacted leading the work.

## GOAL FOR TRANSFORMING THE HEALTH SYSTEM



People across California will have an equity-focused health system that is **rooted in racial justice and promotes well-being for all.**



## FOCUS AREAS OF HEALTH SYSTEM TRANSFORMATION

### HEALTH & WELLNESS

to move toward a system of prevention and well-being, centering communities in public health, and ensuring that public health is rooted in the community.

### HEALTH4ALL REFORMS

to create the conditions to advance and achieve local and state health reforms that would lead to a health system that is accessible, affordable, equitable, prevention-oriented, high-quality, and universal.

### HEALTH WORKFORCE

to advance a culturally responsive, diverse, and inclusive health workforce that reflects the demographics of California.

## HEALTH TRANSFORMATION IN PRACTICE

We envision transforming our health care system to an equitable system that is rooted in racial justice, centers on patients' health and well-being, and focuses on the larger goal of building healthy communities.

### FROM

Community members are viewed as customers

Medical care system is rooted in racism and focuses on how to make the most money

Health plan providers are solely responsible for the health of individual patients

Policy changes only offer minimal and incremental reform

Health care, public health, and social services are siloed and compete for resources



### TO

Community members are viewed as part of a larger goal to creating healthy communities

Medical care system is equitable, anti-racist, and focuses more on well-being than how much money it can make

Health plan providers consider whole communities

Policy changes lead to a transformation of the health system

Health care, public health, and social services are coordinated and integrated in order to improve community conditions and health

[View Our Current List of Health Partners](#)



To learn more about the Social Bond's support for an equitable health system in California, visit [calendow.org/bonds](https://calendow.org/bonds).

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