

WePlan 2025

Community Health Improvement Plan for Suburban Cook County, Illinois

November 2021



Cook County DEPT.
of
Public Health



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HEALTH

WePlan

- Not the CCDPH strategic plan
- Long-term, systematic effort to address public health issues
- Serves as a collective roadmap for community health and health equity
- Driven by results of four community health assessments and a planning process with partner organizations



Why WePlan is Important

- Fulfills most requirements for State-certification
- Is a pre-requisite for public health accreditation
- Recognizes and connects efforts by CCDPH and partner organizations that drive community health and health equity



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CCDPH Role

- Facilitate the community health planning process
- Convene and coordinate with partner organizations
- Lead and support implementation
- Monitor progress



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WePlan 2020 Successes

Behavioral Health

- Implementing trauma-informed approaches at Cook County Health
- Offering access to Living Rooms for people with mental health needs
- Launching opioid overdose prevention initiative

Chronic Disease

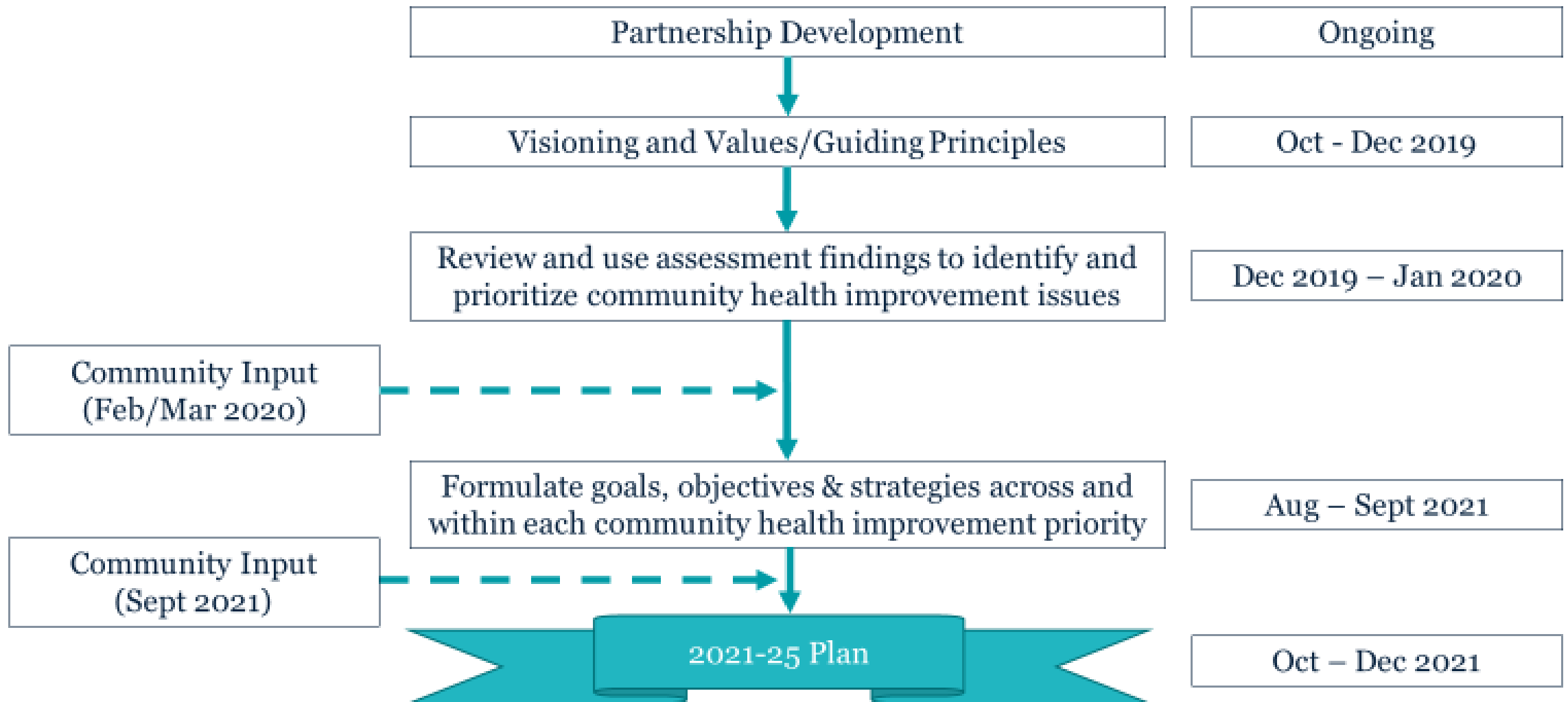
- Providing fresh, locally grown and affordable foods to residents
- Adopting the Good Food Purchasing Policy and Tobacco 21

Health Equity

- Getting municipalities to opt in to Cook County's Minimum Wage and Earned Sick Leave ordinances
- Improving the built environment and increasing active transportation
- Shifting resources and power to communities as part of the COVID-19 response



WePlan 2025: Overview of Process & Timeline



WePlan 2025: Vision

Across suburban Cook County, we envision thriving communities where everyone is valued, feels connected and safe, and has equitable access to resources and opportunities for physical, mental and social well-being.



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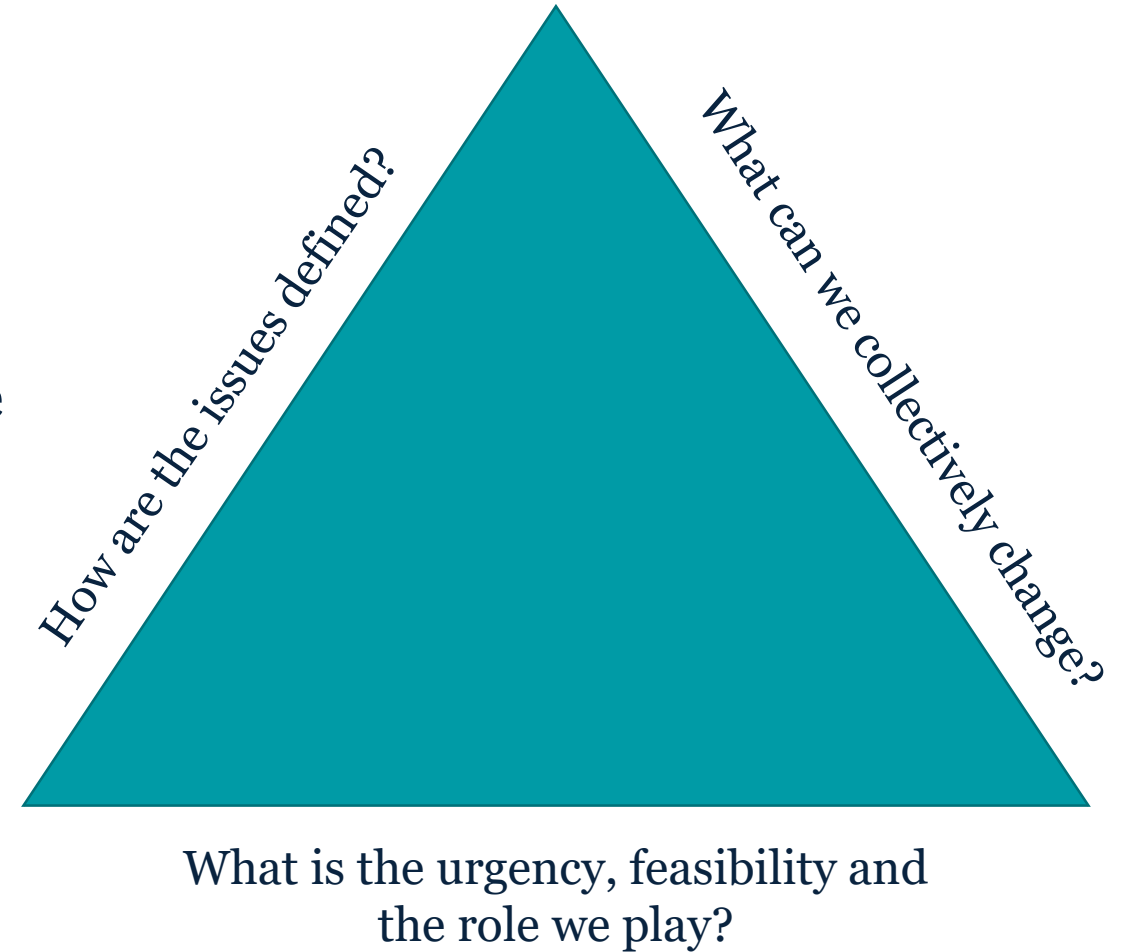


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WePlan 2025: Community Health Improvement Issues

Input informing prioritization of issues and focus of 2025 plan

- Identified cross-cutting issues emerging from multiple assessments
- Considered urgency, feasibility and role of the public health system
- Determined potential impacts on population health and health equity

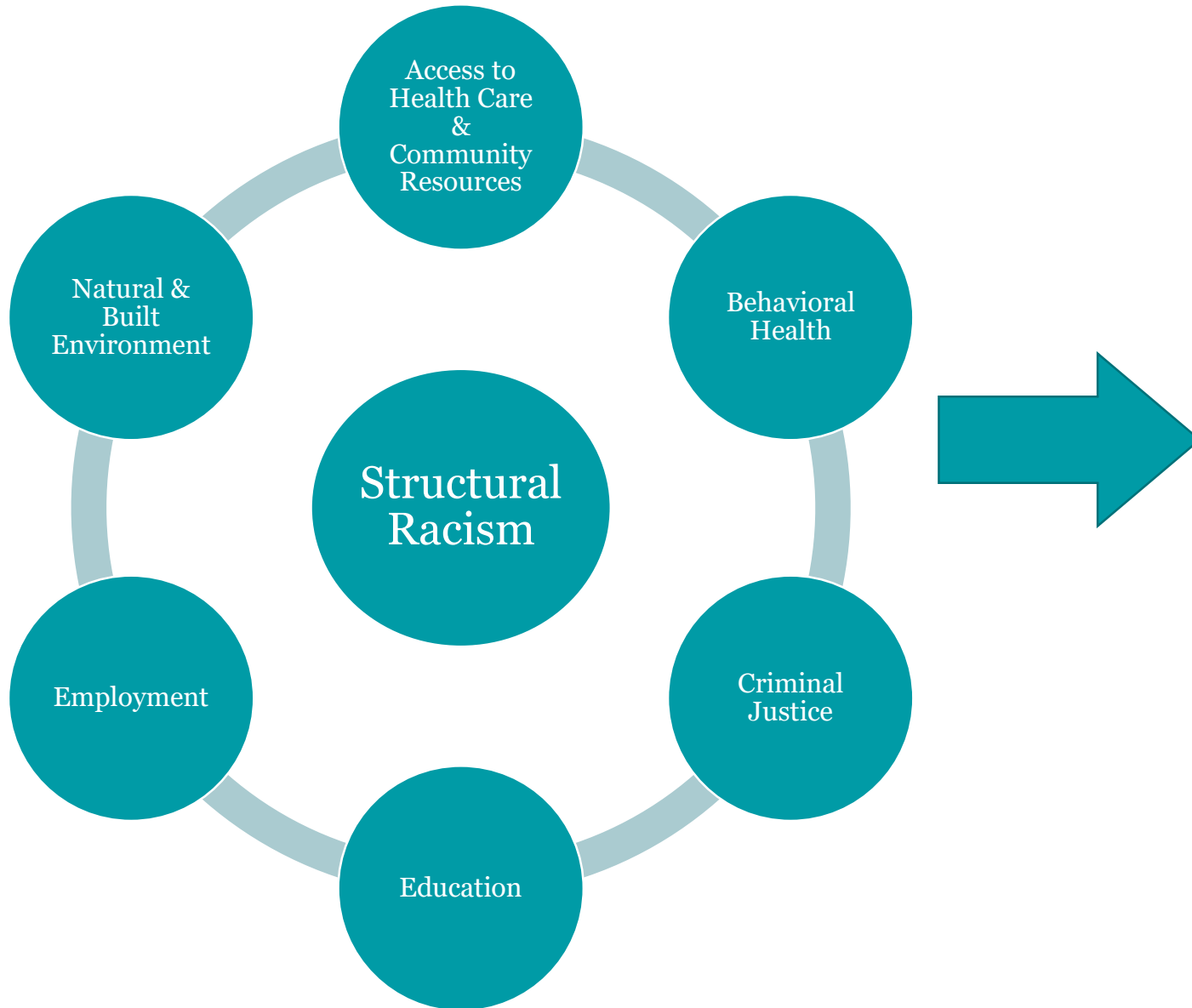


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WePlan 2025: Three Community Health Priorities



1. Improve access to health and behavioral health resources
2. Ensure safe and healthy environments
3. Advance inclusive, healthy education and economic opportunities

WePlan 2025 Outcomes

Priority 1: Access to Health & Behavioral Health Resources

1. Increase access to primary care and behavioral health care services
2. Coordinate systems to better empower and engage communities
3. Promote person-centered, trauma-informed, culturally-appropriate approaches
4. Address substance use using a harm reduction approach
5. Focus on upstream drivers of mental health and substance use



WePlan 2025 Examples

Priority 1: Access to Health & Behavioral Health Resources

- Community residents will have supports to navigate health, social services and other systems
 - Implementation of Community Health Worker initiatives
 - Development of 211 System
 - Expansion of NAMI Chicago's Helpline
- Trauma-informed care
 - will become the norm across different settings (e.g., schools, healthcare settings, internally in our agency)
 - use of best practice models (e.g., Living Rooms)



WePlan 2025 Outcomes

Priority 2: Safe and Healthy Environments

1. Increase access to safe, healthy, inclusive, and affordable housing and active transportation networks
2. Diversify land use to increase and improve access to everyday destinations and healthy food while protecting access to green and natural spaces
3. Support and enhance climate mitigation and resiliency strategies to increase community preparedness



WePlan 2025 Examples

Priority 2: Safe and Healthy Environments

- **Housing** - Increase supply and equitable distribution of affordable, permanent supportive and crisis housing
- **Active Transportation Networks** – Support *Invest in Cook* transportation projects
- **Land Use and Green Space** -
 - Continue to implement the Good Food Purchasing Policy and
 - Partner with the Forest Preserve District of Cook County
 - Land Bank support
- **Climate Mitigation and Resiliency** - Collaborate with the Cook County Dept of Environment and Sustainability to reduce greenhouse gas emissions and industrial pollutants



WePlan 2025 Outcomes

Priority 3: Inclusive and Healthy Education & Economic Opportunities

1. Increase access to and provision of high-quality education and educational supports
2. Expand opportunities for post-secondary education, for workforce and talent development, and for local businesses, women- or minority-owned companies and companies owned by people living with disabilities
3. Advance education and economic opportunities and promote worker rights, health, and safety



WePlan 2025 Examples

Priority 3: Inclusive and Healthy Education & Economic Opportunities

- Support implementation of *Illinois PreNatal to Three* Agenda
- Build a Community Health Worker network
- Align procurement and compliance policies to strengthen minority, women, people with disabilities, and veteran business enterprise programs
- Continue and expand the Suburban Cook County Worker Protection Program



WePlan 2025: Next Steps

- Build community-driven collaborative
- Develop systems and structures to monitor progress and ensure plan stays current
- Continue to implement and support initiatives, programs and activities aligned with WePlan 2025



Thank you!



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