

# Cross-sector Innovation Initiative Profile: Minneapolis Health Department (MN)

## Project Title and Tagline

Minneapolis Highrise Health Alliance: *Leadership and action for healthier Minneapolis Public Housing Authority residents.*

## Project Summary

Since 2014, the Minneapolis Health Department, Minneapolis Public Housing Authority, Minneapolis Highrise Representatives Council and Volunteers of America have collaborated to increase health amenities and integrate community health workers (CHWs) into public housing highrise buildings. To increase impact and sustainability, this partnership has begun healthcare sector partner engagement and is poised to initiate a sector alignment effort. The partnership will formalize into the Minneapolis Highrise Health Alliance (Alliance) that will work toward sector alignment to improve physical and mental healthcare coordination and health outcomes for highrise residents. In the first year, the Alliance will establish a formal structure including a leadership committee and workgroups. Through this structure Alliance members will gather and use data on highrise residents' health to set priorities and identify strategies to achieve alignment that leverage the CHWs as an onsite resource. The Alliance will choose at least two short-term alignment strategies to fund, implement and evaluate in year two. Residents will be continuously engaged and their voices will drive the work. By the end of year two, the Alliance will have tested some alignment strategies and developed an effective structure to sustain the work.

## Community Description

The Alliance will serve the 5,300 people who live in Minneapolis Public Housing Authority's highrise buildings. More than three-quarters of these residents are African American, 57% are foreign-born (primarily from East African countries) and 83% are elderly or disabled. The residents exercise leadership and advocate for their needs through the Minneapolis Highrise Representatives Council.

## Expected Impact on Systems Alignment, Population Health, and Health Equity

1. Alliance members will leverage existing, onsite community health workers to help residents navigate services and improve health-related self-management skills
2. Minneapolis Public Housing Authority residents will receive health, mental health and social services in a system they helped to design
3. Entities experiencing financial benefits from aligned services and healthier residents will be financially supporting alignment strategies
4. Health and related data will be available and used for ongoing assessment and evaluation

## Key Partners

- Minneapolis Highrise Representatives Council
- Minneapolis Public Housing Authority
- UCare
- Volunteers of America

Grantees are working toward population health and health equity priorities, as well as addressing one or more pillars of alignment (as indicated by a checkmark below).

## Population Health and Health Equity Focus

- ✓ Access to care
- ✓ Chronic disease
- ✓ Mental and behavioral health, substance use disorders
- ✓ Food access and security
- Injury and violence prevention, trauma informed care
- ✓ Obesity, nutrition, physical activity

## Systems Alignment Areas

- ✓ Share a vision and a set of priority outcomes
- ✓ Create a shared data and measurement system
- ✓ Establish appropriate financing with incentives and accountability
- ✓ Strong governance with leadership and defined relationships driven by the voice and participation of community members

## Cross-sector Innovation Initiative Overview

With funding from the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation, the Center for Sharing Public Health Services and the Public Health National Center for Innovations are co-leading the Cross-sector Innovation Initiative, a joint effort that aims to understand and support innovative multi-sector partnerships between public health, healthcare, and social services that ultimately transform practice towards working in alignment to improve population health, wellbeing, and equity for all.