

# Closing the Loop: Working Together

Feedback from the Board of Directors  
to Local Health Involvement Groups

Theme: Healthy Communities

Fall 2017 Consultations



## What We Heard ...

- Bringing a diverse group of people together creates an atmosphere of engagement and change mobilization.
- Creating a healthy community means so much more than a strong health system.
- Healthy communities involves everyone from the grassroots level to government.
- We have an advantage as a rural region because people often know each other in small communities and can move projects and initiatives forward quickly.
- We cannot disregard the impact of the social determinants of health on health outcomes.
- Creating healthy communities requires partnerships between many formal and informal groups and that each perspective is vital.
- Where perspectives are missing, we need to seek them out. We must not forget about the residents of our region who don't regularly participate in engagement activities.
- Peoples' stories are often catalysts for system change. Both positive and negative stories hold important value for quality improvements.
- We need to support the work that other groups and individuals are doing in building healthy communities.
- If we want to improve the health of our communities, we need to address both the health of individuals and the health of the population. This lens is important in our work and is a perspective we must have.

## Staff & Board Liaison Reflections

### FROM STAFF LIAISON

*"I can't over-state how much I appreciated meeting with the members/their attending. For people to come out at all on their own time to contribute to the health of the community is fantastic. And critically important. Population health improvement will absolutely not happen without community engagement."*

### FROM BOARD LIAISON

*"LHIG members in attendance were exceptionally engaged and offered many thoughtful questions and responses. LHIGs provide a real window into public perception and a better understanding of healthcare from various perspectives. We should always keep a pulse on the community, for a real indicator of needs and successes."*

## Board Commitment

**As a Board, we have set the strategic direction to "Optimize community engagement partnership opportunities through a purposeful alignment with our vision." We recognize that many outside of the health system are working to create healthy communities.**

*Because of the LHIG consultations, as a Board, we commit to:*

- empower and encourage organizational leaders to engage in strategic partnerships that benefit community health
- recognize and support community events and initiatives that promote healthy communities
- commit dedicated time to the analysis and understanding of the needs of our residents through the Community Health Assessment
- Sustain the work of the LHIGs as we have seen the benefit of diverse voices coming together into a new understanding

**As a Board of Directors, we value the time and commitment contributed by our Local Health Involvement Groups. We hope that your participation is as meaningful to you as it is to us. As partners, we can truly help achieve our vision of:**

**Together leading the way for a healthier tomorrow.**