

2024 Annual Report

Mission:

To achieve equitable access and promote a healthier Aurora for everyone.

Vision:

AHA envisions a community where all residents have an opportunity to achieve optimal health

Aurora Health Alliance's mission remained relevant and of top priority in 2024. Our programming, including work groups — Access to Specialty Care, Aurora Smiles (oral health), and Unhoused— allowed us to focus on continued areas of importance.

In addition to work groups, we hosted topical webinars: New Immigrants: Information & Resources, Understanding Harm Reduction & Opioid Response, Open Enrollment: Coverage Options with Doctors Care, to expand on the amount of resources we could share with our members.

Our quarterly community meetings, half in person and half online, spotlighted organizations and programs aligning with our mission and allowed for numerous networking opportunities.

The Kids Convening returned in 2024 after a pandemic hiatus. Focusing on the health needs of immigrant children, it brought the community together to celebrate successes and highlight additional needed solutions.

Aurora Health Alliance thrives on bringing key partners and communities together to have solutions focused conversations at our various forums, whether it is a networking event, quarterly meeting, webinar, or work group.

We thank our Board members and affiliates for their support, none of which goes unnoticed. Thank you, and we look forward to working with you to advance health access to care for all Aurorans in 2025.

Health Equify Statement

Aurora Health Alliance's commitment to health equity means we strive for and promote the highest possible standard of health for all people.

To Aurora Health Alliance, health equity means everyone has a fair opportunity to be as healthy as possible, regardless of race/ethnicity, socioeconomic status, gender, sexual orientation, immigration status, language, physical and mental ability, and other core aspects of identity. It requires the dismantling of structural racism through the removal of barriers to health. It requires both improving access to the care and resources needed to thrive, along with equitable treatment once that access is gained.

Events & Accomplishments













Kids Convening

Newcomer Health: Children & Youth

In September we joined **Children's Hospital Colorado** to host the first Kid's Convening since before the pandemic. This half-day in person conference focused on timely, youth-focused health issues; over 60 people attended.

Webinars

New Immigrants: Information & Resources

(124 attended)

- Ndeye Ndao & Alisia Moreno, the International Rescue Committee
- Christo Luna & Kadi Kouyate, Aurora Economic Opportunity Center: Migrant Response Network
- Ivon Romo, MIEL Organization
- Jane Kirema, Project Worthmore
- Mireya Davila, Village Exchange Center

Understanding Harm Reduction & Opioid Response

(36 attended)

- Jennifer Mackender, Colorado Consortium for Prescription Drug Abuse Prevention
- Elicia Chacon & Kit Matzke, Arapahoe County Harm Reduction, Opioid Abatement Council
- Ellen Velez, Kelly Weidenbach, & Jody Nowicki, Adams County Harm Reduction, Opioid Abatement Council
- Racquel Garcia, Douglas County Harm Reduction, Opioid Abatement Council

Open Enrollment: Doctors Care Coverage Program

(27 attended)

Laura-Elena Porras, Doctors Care

Watch Webinar Videos

Quarterly Community Meetings

(165 total attended)

At our Quarterly Community Meetings we heard about Children's Hospital CO Black Health Initiative, Veteran Housing Resources, Food Bank of the Rockies, El Grupo Vida, Village Exchange Center, Aurora Wellness Community, and STRIDE. Our Spring QCM was hybrid, and our Summer QCM was in person at Utah Park, where we heard updates from the Health Departments of Adams, Arapahoe, and Douglas counties.

Work Groups



Access to Specialty Care

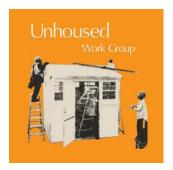
The Specialty Care group focuses on understanding and addressing the barriers to accessing specialty care services. In 2024, **Safety Net Connect** and the **Department of Health Care Policy and Financing** provided timely and informative updates about Colorado's state-wide eConsult platform, which launched in early 2024. Thank you to our Access to Specialty Care Chairs, **Kari Mader** and **Rich McLean**.

Watch Access to Specialty Care Meeting Videos



Aurora Smifes

Our oral health focused group is a collaboration of various organizations focused on improving access to oral health in Aurora. In 2024, AHA partnered with **Vuela for Health** and **Project Worthmore** to trans-create the **Guide to Low Cost Oral Health**, which is now available in **Spanish**, **Dari**, and **Swahili**.



Unhoused

In 2024, the Unhoused group continued to connect and share resources related to housing, homelessness, and health access. We learned about the **Restaurant Meals Program**, the **Aurora Cold Weather Outreach Team (ACOT)**, **Arapahoe County Homelessness Coordinating Committee**, **Housing Employment Assistance Recovery Team (HEART)**, and **City of Aurora** Homelessness Services.

AHA Board

Julie Beaubian

Children's Hospital Colorado

Bonnie DeHart

Arapahoe Co. Early Childhood Council

Laura Don

Arapahoe Co. Public Health Dept

Maisha Fields

Salud Clinic

Rich McLean

Community Advocate

Julia Mecklenburg

Colorado Access

Keith Peterson

University of Colorado Hospital

Regina Richards, PhD, DSW CU School of Medicine

Damian Rosenburg

PASCO

Kathie Snell

Aurora Mental Health & Recovery

Aaron Van Artsen

University of Colorado Medicine

Santos Vera

STRIDE

Virginia Visconti, PhD, MAT

CO School of Public Health















Visit our website: aurorahealthalliance.org



We couldn't do this without them! Our Affiliate organizations demonstrate their commitment to work together across agencies and disciplines to create a more successful, understandable, and effective healthcare landscape for patients and systems alike.































