

The Alliance for Community Health in San Antonio and Bexar County

In October 2002, the San Antonio Metropolitan Health District (Metro Health) organized a community health planning group called the Alliance for Community Health in San Antonio and Bexar County (*Alliance*). The Alliance was formed to carry out a strategic process to improve the community's health and quality of life, through the development of a community health improvement plan. In order to achieve a successful health improvement plan, the Alliance is using a tool called **Mobilizing for Action through Planning and Partnerships (MAPP)**. (The MAPP tool was developed by the National Association of County and City Health Officials in cooperation with the Public Health Practice Program Office of the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention.) Using MAPP, the Alliance seeks to achieve optimal community health by identifying and using the community's resources wisely, and by forming effective partnerships for strategic action. The key to the success of MAPP is the diversity represented in the membership of the Alliance. The Alliance includes representatives from local hospitals, health care systems, community clinics, schools districts, public health agencies, social service agencies, non-profits, higher education, military, local business community, and others.

Sub-committees of the Alliance

Sub-committee for Access to Care

Purpose: To define the issue of access to health care in San Antonio and Bexar County, and better understand the delivery system for health services in our community. In addition, the sub-committee works to identify the gaps in health care services, and strives to develop collaborative strategies to ultimately assure access to health care to all.

Sub-committee for Healthy Lifestyles

Purpose: To help facilitate infrastructure improvement and environmental change in support of physical activity. To achieve this, the sub-committee seeks to work collaboratively with existing local programs already working toward this goal.

Sub-committee for Public Policy

Purpose: To develop a process for identifying and advocating important health policy issues. In addition, the sub-committee will disseminate information to public health partners on important policy issues.

Sub-committee for Promoting a Sense of Community

Purpose: To identify how people typically define their community, and identify methods for promoting a sense of community. In addition, the sub-committee seeks partners that are established "community builders" in order to follow best practice techniques. The sub-committee also plans to educate partners on the role of the Public Health System.

Sub-committee for Tracking Change

Purpose: To conduct an inventory of existing health data tracking systems in order to develop a list of appropriate indicators to consider in the development of an on-line community health report card.

Sub-committee for a Safe Environment

Purpose: To create a community-based environmentally concerned coalition called the Community Health Environmental Coalition (CHEC). The Coalition will collaboratively define project focus and target areas based on the completion of a series of environmental assessments.

Alliance For Community Health in San Antonio and Bexar County

VISION: A SAFE, HEALTHY AND EDUCATED COMMUNITY IN WHICH ALL INDIVIDUALS CAN ACHIEVE THEIR OPTIMUM PHYSICAL, CULTURAL, SOCIAL, MENTAL AND SPIRITUAL HEALTH- TODAY, TOMORROW, AND EN EL FUTURO.

MEMBER ORGANIZATIONS

<p>Alamo Breast Cancer Foundation</p> <p>American Cancer Society</p> <p>American Diabetes Association</p> <p>American Heart Association</p> <p>Any Baby Can</p> <p>Archdiocese of San Antonio</p> <p>Barrio Comprehensive Family Health Care Center</p> <p>Bexar County Environmental Services</p> <p>Cancer Therapy & Research Center</p> <p>Annie E. Casey Foundation / San Antonio Making Connections Office</p> <p>Catholic Charities of San Antonio</p> <p>Child Guidance Center</p> <p>CHRISTUS Santa Rosa Health Care</p> <p>City Public Service</p> <p>City of San Antonio-Emergency Medical Service</p> <p>City of San Antonio-San Antonio Metropolitan Health District</p> <p>Daughters of Charity San Antonio</p> <p>Edgewood Independent School District</p> <p>El Centro del Barrio</p> <p>Family Service Association of San Antonio</p> <p>Greater SA Chamber of Commerce</p> <p>Greater SA Hospital Council, Inc.</p> <p>Mental Health Association in Greater San Antonio</p> <p>Methodist Health Care Ministries</p> <p>Methodist Health Care System</p> <p>Metropolitan Planning Organization</p> <p>Mission Road Developmental Center</p>	<p>Mexican-American Physicians Association</p> <p>Our Lady of the Lake University</p> <p>Parent-Child, Inc.</p> <p>Physicians Management Services</p> <p>Presa Real</p> <p>Healthy Start - San Antonio Metropolitan Health District</p> <p>SAMM Ministries</p> <p>San Antonio Area Foundation</p> <p>San Antonio College</p> <p>San Antonio Public Library</p> <p>Services By Vital Signs, Inc.</p> <p>South San Independent School District</p> <p>Southwest Mental Health Center</p> <p>Texas Department of Health, Region 8</p> <p>United Way of San Antonio and Bexar County</p> <p>University Health System</p> <p>University Health System -Texas Diabetes Institute</p> <p>University Health System – Care Link</p> <p>University of Texas at San Antonio</p> <p>University of Texas Health Science Center at Houston School of Public Health – San Antonio Campus</p> <p>University of Texas Health Science Center at San Antonio</p> <p>University of Texas Health Science Center at San Antonio – San Antonio Fire Department / EMS</p> <p>University of the Incarnate Word</p> <p>United States Air Force SAM/GE Brooks, AFB, TX</p> <p>Veterinary Medical Association of Bexar County</p> <p>ViA Metropolitan Transit</p> <p>Western Hills Christian Church</p>
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