



de Beaumont

# Public Health Leadership Academy

## Application Information Session

Wednesday, February 11, 3:30 pm ET

# NACo Health and Human Services Programming



Supporting the Whole Child:  
**Counties Strengthening Prenatal-to-Three Wellbeing**



## Youth-Focused Prevention

A NACo Opioid Solutions Strategy Brief

### What does effective youth-focused prevention look like?

**"We all have the power to make a difference when it comes to substance misuse prevention."**

—Dr. Miriam Delphin-Rittmon, Assistant Secretary for Mental Health and Substance Abuse Services

Adverse childhood experiences (ACEs), such as poverty, childhood abuse or neglect, and family separation are associated with increased risk of mental health concerns and substance use in adulthood.<sup>2-5</sup> Youth-focused programs, including school-based programs, may help support young people and their families, strengthen community connections and mitigate the long-term negative impacts of ACEs.

Scan the QR code to watch a brief video about how to prevent ACEs and their consequences.



Youth-focused programs may involve a variety of components<sup>6-8</sup> including, but not limited to:



## The County Role in Public Health

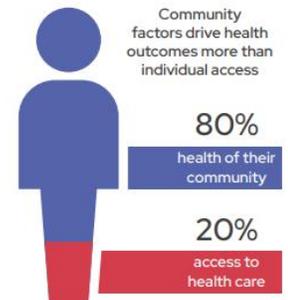


Building Your Legacy

**Public Health Investments with a High Return**

Public health promotes health and well-being at the population level rather than treating individual patients. Where people are born, live, learn, work, play, worship, and age – known as the social determinants of health – has a greater impact on health outcomes than how often one goes to the doctor. With 20% of a person's health being determined by access to health care, the other 80% is driven by the health of their community.

Not all public health interventions are created equally. Below are examples of investments that can transform community health and produce strong returns on investment for local economies.



# de Beaumont Foundation

- Vision: A nation where every person in every community has the opportunity to achieve their best possible health, regardless of where they live.
  - Portfolios that span policy, workforce development, and partnerships
  - History of partnering with NACo
- Prioritize cross-sector partnerships and systems change
- Focus on building relationships and maximizing collective strengths for action

# Formative Research

- Among 21 county elected officials and county health department officials, participants asked for:
  - A greater understanding of public health at the local level across the country
  - A guide to increasing collaboration between elected officials, appointed health officials and community-based organizations
  - Strategic public health communication toolkits and trainings
  - County examples of programs that exemplify best practice
  - Solutions and policies to make public health cost-effective

# What is the Public Health Leadership Academy?



A new cohort program to help county leaders build knowledge and shared understanding, strengthen collaboration and develop actionable strategies to improve public health in their communities.



An opportunity to develop and strengthen relationships between county elected officials and the health department

# PHLA Activities

Virtual  
learning  
sessions

In-person  
convening

Action plan  
development

Technical  
assistance  
and coaching

Peer learning  
and  
networking

# Who Should Apply?

- **One county elected official or designee**, such as a commissioner, supervisor or county executive, or a senior staff member focused on health policy (e.g., chief of staff, director of health policy)
- **One local health department representative** with decision-making authority, such as a local health official, deputy director or health administrator



# Application Overview



Names, positions, contact information, and description of role for both team members



County context and public health priorities



Impact of participation



Signed letter of commitment

# How to Apply

## Public Health Leadership Academy

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Apply for NACo's inaugural Public Health Leadership Academy to strengthen county leadership in advancing public health. County teams participating in the learning cohort will identify new strategies to improve health outcomes and develop an action plan to address a health priority in their county through both virtual and in-person trainings. View the PDF application and letter of commitment below and then use the form to submit your application.

[Apply Today](#)

[Application Information](#)

[Commitment Template](#)

## NACo Public Health Leadership Academy Application

Instructions: The following questions are required for the Public Health Leadership Academy application. Only one application should be submitted per county team. Applications are due Friday, March 13, 2026, at 11:59 pm ET. Applications submitted after this time will not be accepted. **Please read ALL evaluation criteria attached in the PDF application before completing the form.** Please submit 1 application per team.

PDF application: <https://naco.sharefile.com/share/view/s52b672c4784f41c2a2e37c2fb219b90e>

If you have any questions or technical issues with the online application form, please contact Amy Maxson ([amaxson@naco.org](mailto:amaxson@naco.org)) and Alex Waskiewicz ([awaskiewicz@naco.org](mailto:awaskiewicz@naco.org)).

Description: The National Association of Counties (NACo), in partnership with the de Beaumont Foundation, announces a call for applications to the inaugural Public Health Leadership Academy to strengthen county leadership in advancing public health. This cohort-based program will support county elected officials and public health leaders from 12 counties to build knowledge and shared understanding, strengthen collaboration and develop actionable strategies to improve public health in their communities.

When you submit this form, it will not automatically collect your details like name and email address unless you provide it yourself.



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# Important Dates and Deadlines

- Application deadline: Friday, March 13, 2026
- Announcement of selected teams: The week of March 30, 2026
- Academy dates: April 6 - August 31, 2026
- Kick-Off Call: April 21, 2026, at 3:00 pm ET
- Virtual sessions: May 13 and 20, 2026, at 3:00 pm ET and two additional virtual sessions scheduled following cohort selection
- In-person convening: June 3-5, 2026

A scenic view of a park with a lake, trees, and people, overlaid with a green semi-transparent rectangle containing the text "Any questions?". The background shows a lush green park with a large body of water in the distance. Several people are visible: some are sitting on benches, one is riding a bicycle, and others are walking or standing. The scene is captured during the day with soft lighting. The text "Any questions?" is written in a large, white, sans-serif font, centered within the green overlay.

**Any questions?**



# Thank you for joining!

Send any additional questions to:  
Amy Maxson ([amaxson@naco.org](mailto:amaxson@naco.org))  
Alex Waskiewicz ([awaskiewicz@naco.org](mailto:awaskiewicz@naco.org))