PARTICIPANT QUOTES

"I don’t think that anyone in the Asian communities really feels like there are public services that support them so they are making their own communities; providing what the city could be providing an infrastructure for.

BARRIERS

"We are the government, we pay these people to do what we need them to...How do we build these solutions into the fabric so that it’s not programming that will die when the next turn of government happens...how do we engrain this in the community?

CITY GOVERNMENT

"I love the city and I really can’t see myself living anywhere else, and I want to be a part of this change...We have these students that we can help shape. I think that there’s an opportunity to make, help shape, and expand and broaden their worldview.

ACTION & CHANGE

"We have to...build the trust within the Black community and the health systems as well. There’s no trust between healthcare and the community...

ACCESS

"Everyone is still connected with the school system...getting a lot of resources in the school system is...something that should be happening.

EDUCATION

"It’s interpersonal relationships that young people need...Having community relationships with other young people, and maybe you know, people who might be a little bit older than us...those connections are really important to our wellbeing.

WELLBEING

"If somebody is coming across discrimination or stigmatization...What is the role of the city?...If there was a way for folks to take grievances and have them addressed, actually have them addressed...Put teeth in what already exists ... [so it] can cause some change.

RACISM, STIGMA, MARGINALIZATION

Building a Healthy Community:
Reflections of New Haven Residents and Our Together New Haven Collaboration

Maria Crouch, PhD
Audrey Huang, BS
Adriane Jefferson, MA
Kyle Pedersen, MAR
Derrick M. Gordon, PhD

Read the full technical report at this link.
RECOMMENDATIONS

These seven recommendations for the City are based on the goals of this project and the coalescence of commonly-reported sentiments and themes from participant groups.

1. Provide more financial literacy curricula in schools, from Elementary through college.

Provide more financial literacy curricula in schools, from Elementary through college.

2. Invest in more technological resources for young people; create more after-school safe-spaces for youth.

Invest in more technological resources for young people; create more after-school safe-spaces for youth.

3. Create an alternative, non-criminal, mental health hotline; work with communities to adopt strategies for more accessible mental health resources; hire and train more community health workers.

Create an alternative, non-criminal, mental health hotline; work with communities to adopt strategies for more accessible mental health resources; hire and train more community health workers.

4. Decouple social services from religious & healthcare institutions; increase funding to existing direct-service organizations that serve historically marginalized populations; increase translations of service advertisements into diverse languages and target advertising to diverse populations.

Decouple social services from religious & healthcare institutions; increase funding to existing direct-service organizations that serve historically marginalized populations; increase translations of service advertisements into diverse languages and target advertising to diverse populations.

5. Create formal city-wide communication channels focused on resource-sharing.

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6. Commit to antiracism by increasing diverse cultural programming; diversify decision-making bodies within City government.

Commit to antiracism by increasing diverse cultural programming; diversify decision-making bodies within City government.


Invest in neighborhood clean-ups & tree-planting in under-resourced neighborhoods.

BACKGROUND

The project referenced key public health literature on community health and wellbeing to develop 10 questions that assessed definitions and or perceptions of what community health meant to key constituent group members from the larger New Haven community.

Focus group communities:
- Artistic Activist
- LGBTQIA+
- Asian American
- Youth Leaders
- Reentry
- Faith-Based

Across the focus groups, 13 community wellbeing themes emerged:

Community Barriers
Access
Action & Change
City Government
Social Isolation or Connection
Environment
Wellbeing
Culture, Race, Ethnicity
Education
Mental Health
Racism, Stigma, Marginalization
Economic Stability & Food Security

Focus group communities: 16–71 years old Total participants
6 Focus groups
41 Total participants

Total participants

Focus group communities:
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