



2026

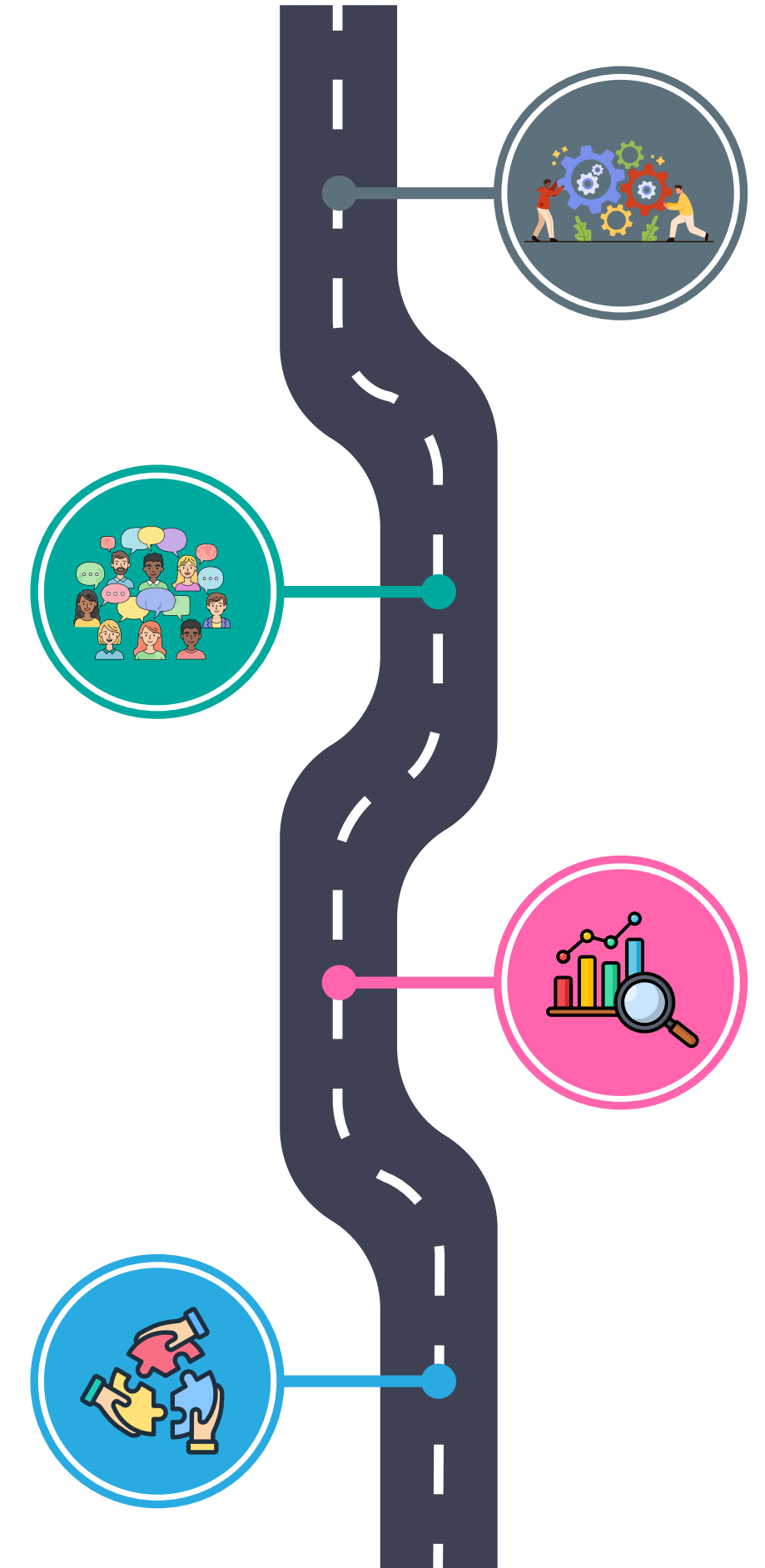
Community Health Improvement Plan

**Del Norte County
Overview**

What is a Community Health Improvement Plan (CHIP)?

*A community-driven roadmap for improving health and well-being
Built through collaboration, local data, and community input*

- The CHIP is community-driven – Public Health is tasked with convening the CHIP
- The CHIP is informed by Public Health's 2024 Community Health Assessment (CHA) & other prior work
- The CHIP identifies priority health issues, coordinates community partners, and aims for measurable outcomes
- The next CHA/CHIP cycle will start in 2028 and be completed mid-year 2029



Community Voices Shaped the Plan

Using findings from the Community Health Assessment (CHA), stakeholder input, and community engagement activities, three priority areas were identified



Access to Healthcare Services



Behavioral Health



Child Abuse and Adverse Childhood Experiences (ACEs)

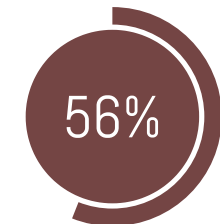
Community Survey Highlights



Ranked: Improved access to medical care would have the greatest impact on health



identified drug and alcohol use as a leading concern



identified emotional and mental health as a major struggle



of adults reported experiencing at least one Adeverse Childhood Experience (ACEs)

CHIP Infrastructure and Community Partnership

CHIP Core Team: DHHS Public Health, Resilient DNATL, Partnership Health Plan of CA

Steering Committee: Community and Agency Stakeholders

Priority Issue Subcommittees:



Access to Healthcare Services



Behavioral Health



Child Abuse and ACES



Chair Ellie Popadic
Sutter Coast Hospital



Chair Shiann Hogan
DHHS Behavioral Health Branch



Chair Pamela Wilder
EPIC Center DNUSD

Priority Area: Access to Healthcare Services

CHIP Strategies



Provider shortages



Transportation barriers



Long travel distances



Goal #1: Strengthen recruitments and retention of healthcare professionals

Strategy: Establish a recruitment and community connection collaboration workgroup healthcare



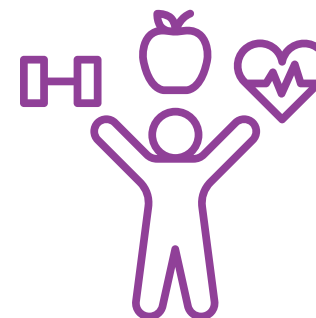
Goal #2: Enhance communication and coordination of care

Strategy: Launch a local healthcare navigation coalition and community engagement



Goal #3: Expand access to telehealth and mobile services

Strategy: Identify high-need areas/population and create action plan leveraging existing stakeholder expertise



Goal #4: Create a culture of wellness

Strategy: Engage and empower the community to take action led by community

Priority Area: Behavioral Health

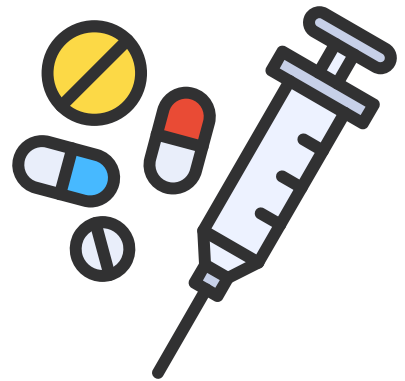
CHIP Strategies



Mental Health



Tobacco Prevention



Substance Use



Goal #1: Increase access to overdose prevention through education, intervention, and diversion.

Strategy: Strengthen engagement in prevention, early intervention, and diversion through coordinated referral pathways and data-informed improvement.

Strategy: Create a standing cross-sector group to align prevention, education, and diversion efforts.



Goal #2: Improve the mental health of Del Norte County community members

Strategy: Expand evidence based mental health literacy, prevention, and early identification training

Strategy: Implement coordinated stigma-education and awareness efforts.



Goal 3: Decrease nicotine use and addiction in the community

Strategy: Cross-sectoral collaboration through evidence-based prevention, education, and youth leadership projects.

Priority Area: Children, Families & ACEs

CHIP Strategies



Adverse Childhood Experiences (ACEs) Prevention



Connection and Belonging



Violence Prevention



Goal #1: Increase positive childhood experience and reduce Adverse Childhood Experiences (ACEs) in Del Norte County.

Strategy: Increase the number of ACEs and Resilience screenings

Strategy: Establishment of workgroup to increase participation of parenting supports and community programming available to community members



Goal #2: Increase connection and belonging within the community

Strategy: Create a cross-sector workgroup to build and implement framework to increase connection and belonging in the community



Goal #3: Decrease interpersonal violence (IPV) in Del Norte County

Strategy: Create a cross-sector workgroup to build and implement framework to increase connection and belonging in the community.

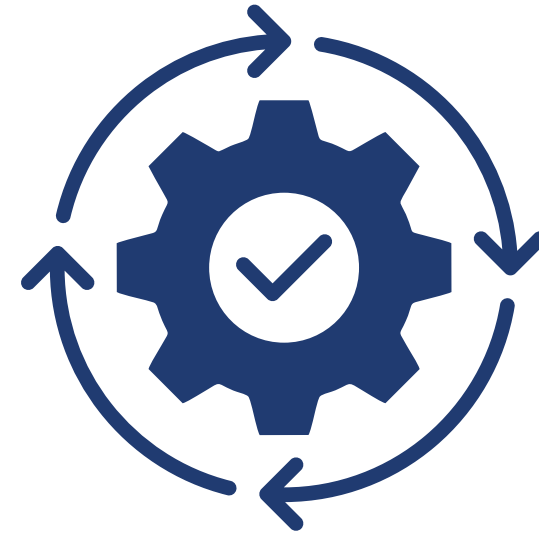
Turning the Plan into Action

Together with our community partners and stakeholders we will:



Work Across Organizations

Collaborating with community partners and key stakeholders to align resources and amplify our collective local impact.



Implement Strategies

Deploying evidence-based initiatives tailored to the unique behavioral health, healthcare, and family support needs of our community.



Track Progress

Monitoring critical health metrics and survey insights to continuously adapt and improve outcomes across priorities.



Improve Health Outcomes

Securing a healthier, more resilient future with reduced ACEs and enhanced well-being for all of Del Norte County.

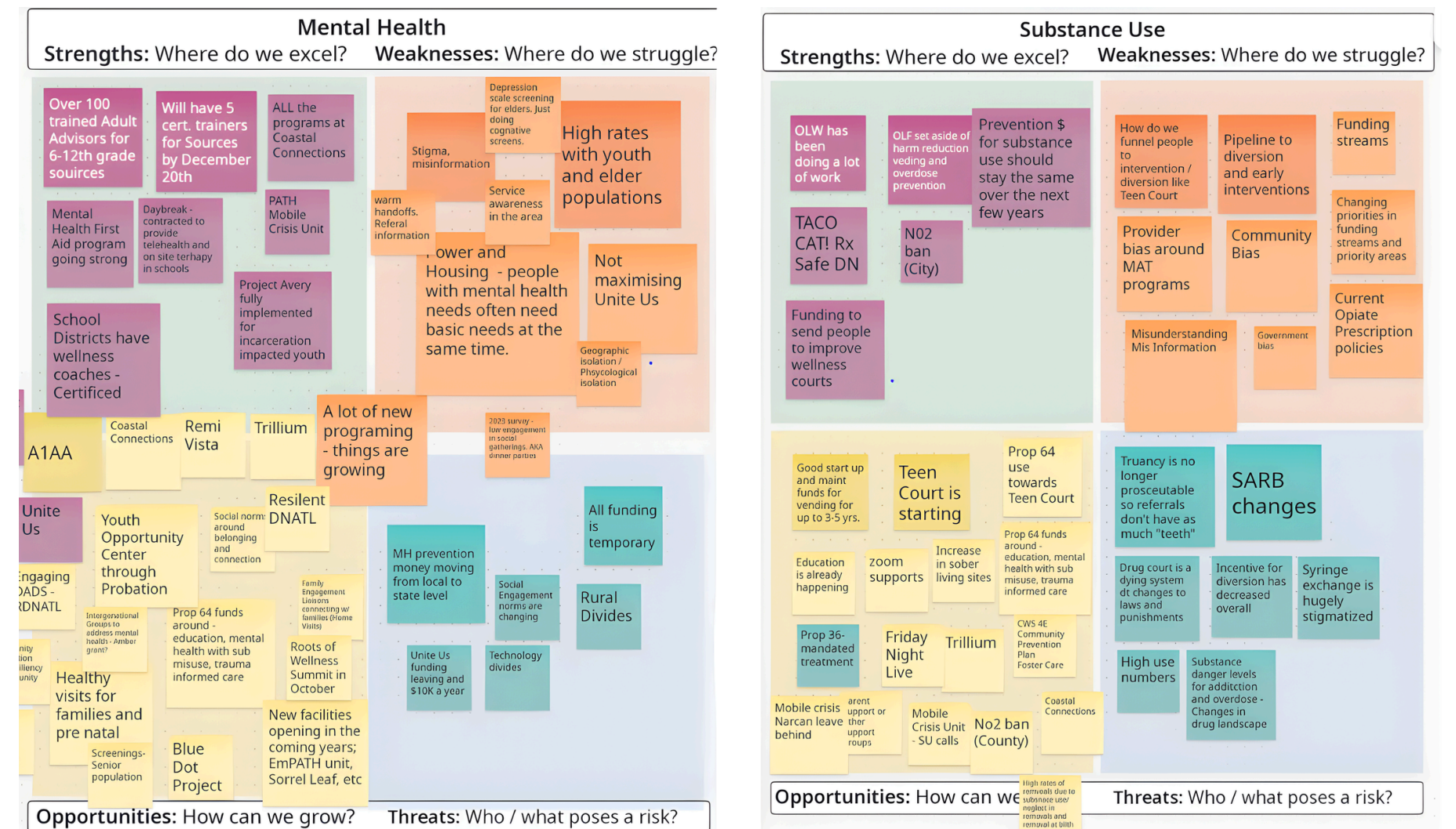
CHIP Development Process/Timeline

Prioritize issues: March- April 2025

Establish Subcommittees: July 2025

Develop Goals, Strategies and Action Plans: August- December 2025

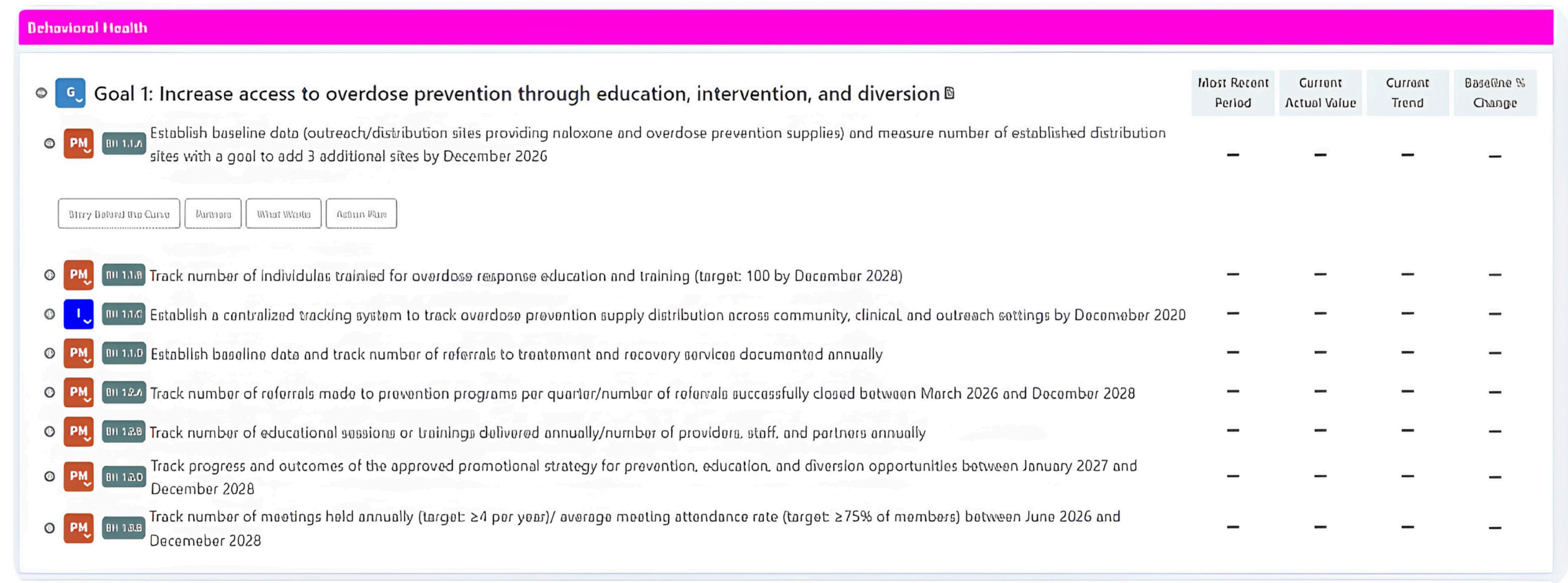
Implement, monitor and evaluate
January 2026- December 2028



Example of SWOT taken from Behavioral Health Subcommittee

Tracking Progress

- Use Clear Impact Scorecards and the Results-Based Accountability (RBA) framework to track goals and objectives, key performance measures, and community outcomes
- Monitor implementation through regular workgroup meetings, performance reporting, and data-informed decision-makings
- Provide regular public updates through the dashboard to promote transparency, accountability, and community engagement



Example of Clear Impact RBA Scorecard for Behavioral Health

Together, We Can Build a Healthier Del Norte

Improving community health takes all of us.

Del Norte County
Community Health Improvement Plan 2026–2028

Learn more:

<https://www.co.del-norte.ca.us/departments/publichealth>



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[REPORT ABUSE](#)[CalFresh Healthy Living](#)[California Children's Services \(CCS\) Program](#)[Childhood Lead Poisoning Prevention Program \(CLPPP\)](#)[Communicable Diseases](#)[Community Health Planning](#)[Data Reports & Publications](#)[Health Care Program for Children in Foster Care \(HCPFC\)](#)[Health Topics](#)[Immunization Program](#)[Maternal Child Adolescent Health \(MCAH\)](#)[Safe Sleep & SIDS](#)[Healthy Families Del Norte](#)[Public Health Clinic](#)[Public Health Emergency Preparedness \(PHEP\)](#)[Seasonal Health Events](#)[Public Health Press Releases](#)[Tobacco Use Prevention Program \(TUPP\)](#)[Women Infants & Children \(WIC\)](#)

Community Health Planning

[Home](#) > [Departments](#) > [Public Health Branch](#) > [Community Health Planning](#)

Welcome to Public Health Branch Community Health Planning

Del Norte County Public Health began a new cycle of Community Health Planning in 2023. The first step of the planning process, the Community Health Assessment, was completed in 2024, and the second step of the process, the Community Health Improvement Plan, co-developed with partnering community stakeholders, was completed in early 2026. Work has commenced on the CHIP selected health priorities, and the Public Health Branch is working on a plan for reporting progress.

The Del Norte County Community Health Assessment (CHA) provides a community-centered overview of the county's health landscape, highlighting key challenges and opportunities for improvement. This assessment focuses on identifying pressing health issues, particularly among vulnerable populations, and outlines the factors contributing to health disparities in the region. Information from the CHA helped guide the development of the Community Health Improvement Plan (CHIP).

VIEW**2024 CHA EXECUTIVE SUMMARY**

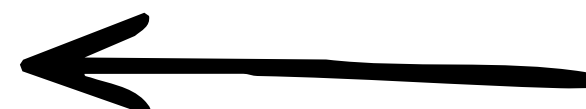
2 PAGES

**VIEW****2024 CHA FULL REPORT**

97 PAGES

[Spanish.pdf](#)[Hmong.pdf](#)**VIEW****2026 CHIP FULL REPORT**

62 PAGES



Engaged Community Organizations

- First 5 Del Norte Oral Health Program/Healthy Families of America
- Rx Safe Del Norte Coalition
- Tobacco Free Del Norte Coalition
- Open Door Clinic
- Tri-County Independent Living
- Sutter Coast Hospital
- Del Norte County Healthcare District
- Stallant Health and Wellness
- Area 1 Agency on Aging
- Del Norte and Tribal Lands Community Food Council
- DNUSD (Del Norte County Unified School District)-
- EPIC Student Support Services
- DNUSD- Health Services, Mental Health
- North Coast Rape Crisis Team
- Del Norte Child Care Council
- Resilient DNATL (Del Norte and Tribal Lands)
- NorCal 4 Health
- United Indian Health Services (UIHS)
- Trillium Teen Center
- Child Abuse Prevention Council (CAPC)
- California Health Collaborative
- True North
- Independent Community Builder-citizen activist

**Thank you for
your partnership!**

Questions?

