

HANC PROGRAM OVERVIEW

Policy & Advocacy

HANC engages in local, regional, state and national policy and advocacy activities in accordance with its mission and vision, and as directed by its member organizations. These activities include education of decision makers, lawmakers, and elected officials on issues affecting community health centers and our partners, relationship building from the local to the national level, and forming and leading regional and statewide networks and coalitions to affect change for rural community health.

HANC strives to play a key role in the development and implementation of policies that support the rural communities we serve. We must be responsive to the impact of current and/or future policies on our patients. In order to advocate for and shape policies that achieve the greatest good, we believe our effort and voice is strongest together, and therefore HANC works to foster trust and transparency between HANC, our members, and the community.

The primary supports and services offered through HANC's Policy & Advocacy activities are described below.

Local

- Regularly meet with local elected officials and decision makers on policies that affect member CHCs and their partners
- Coordinate messaging and advocacy efforts for or against policies that affect the rural healthcare system
- Develop messaging on issues that affect rural community health

Statewide

- Work in close coordination with CPCA, RAC and CaliforniaHealth+ Advocates
- Coordinate annual Day at the Capitol visits
- Develop and mobilize coalition of rural community health stakeholders
- Coordinate and/or host annual rural community health policy forums

Regional

- Develop annual policy priorities platform in collaboration with members
- Convene members to support strategies to advocate for rural access and coverage
- Coordinate advocacy efforts with other consortia in shared legislative districts
- Create and promote press opportunities with media

National

- Coordinate advocacy with the National Association of Community Health Centers (NACHC) and National Rural Health Association (NRHA)
- Liaise with congressional D.C. policy staff
- Coordinate annual NACHC P&I Hill visits and NRHA meeting

Key Staff:

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