

Healthy NJ News

COVID-19 and HNJ2030

COVID-19 has affected HNJ2030 development in many ways. This supplemental newsletter is to give you an update on how the work is progressing, inform you of the modifications in our original schedule, and discuss COVID-19's impact on the following aspects of the initiative:

- [Content](#)
- [Workgroups](#)
- [Public outreach](#)
- [Workplace survey](#)

Content

Development of HNJ2030 began in 2019 and the initiative's [four topic areas and three cross-cutting issues](#) (equity, policy, and resilience) were decided upon before COVID-19 reached New Jersey. Recent events have confirmed our need

to consider these three issues across all topic areas and in all parts of Healthy New Jersey 2030. See recent HNJAC and HNJCC meeting [minutes and presentations](#) for information.

Workgroups

HNJAC and HNJCC

While we are committed to forging ahead with HNJ2030 planning and development during this time, we acknowledge that several members of our [Advisory Council](#) and DOH [Coordinating Committee](#) have been nearly or completely consumed by COVID response activities. HNJCC and HNJAC members represent DOH's Communicable Disease Service and Office of Local Public Health, local health departments, and the NJ Hospital Association, as well as other entities less directly involved in COVID-19 response efforts. When these members become

available again to work on HNJ2030, we will use their experience and knowledge gained during this crisis to further inform the development of HNJ2030.

Action Teams (ACTs)

COVID-19 has also had a substantial effect on [Action Team](#) development. The first phase of ACT member [recruitment](#) ended on February 28, 2020. The first COVID-19 case in New Jersey was identified five days later. Because HNJAC members were assigned to lead specific ACTs before COVID arrived, some teams have been unable to move forward due to COVID-related responsibilities of the

leads. When COVID response activities settle down, we hope to be able to finish

establishing ACT membership and resume development of all Topic Areas.

Public Outreach

In past years, DOH's [Office of Minority and Multicultural Health](#) has presented two or three Health Equity Forums across the state during Minority Health Month (April). This year, ten to twelve smaller [Health Equity Community Conversations](#) (HECC) were planned instead to allow members of vulnerable populations to voice their experiences, concerns, needs, and ideas to DOH and the HNJ Advisory Council. Information collected through the HECCs

would be used for HNJ Topic Area development and [objective](#) selection. COVID-19 kept those in-person focus groups from meeting. In their place, HNJ2030 partners will be conducting individual [informant interviews and intercept surveys](#) over the remainder of the summer as an alternate way to gather information from those whose voices are not always heard.

Workplace Survey

In addition to surveying COVID's impact on vulnerable populations, we're also gathering information about COVID's impact on New Jersey's private, public,

and non-profit organizations. We would like all of our newsletter subscribers to [take the survey](#) to broaden the variety of perspectives.

If this newsletter was forwarded to you by a colleague and you would like to receive future newsletters directly, please subscribe to HNJ News at <https://healthy.nj.gov/2030/about/subscribe/>.



NJ Department of Health
PO Box 360
Trenton, NJ 08625

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