



Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs)

01. Background: What is “Healthy Contra Costa,” anyway?

- In 2010, Healthy Contra Costa began as a 10-year, community-driven project to help improve the health and safety of our community.
- Healthy Contra Costa (formally Healthy Richmond) was solely supported by The California Endowment (TCE), which is a grant-making foundation that supported efforts to improve health in 14 communities all across the state of California. This statewide project was called Building Healthy Communities.
- The Healthy Richmond Network of Partners that includes Resident Leaders (Youth & Adults), Base Building Organizations, Community Based Organizations, and System Leaders have been working around collective tables to engage in Policy Advocacy and Resident Power Building with Health & Racial Equity at the center of each campaign.
- In 2019 and through the pandemic, Over the next year, Healthy Richmond engaged residents and partners to design our next phase of the political and system’s change work.
- We completed our Sustainability Plan in 2021 that will guide our collective policy advocacy campaigns over the next 10 years. We decided to scale our work to the county level and changed our name to Healthy Contra Costa!

02. What Does Healthy Contra Costa Want to Do ?

- All of the activities of Healthy Contra Costa relate to two ideas: Residents know the solutions to problems of inequities they see everyday in their neighborhoods and families and need to be centered in race equity work within systems at every level (county, city, school district).
- Three priorities have been chosen as the focus of our work:
 - a. #Health4All people to have greater access the health, mental health, substance use, and emergency services
 - b. Education Equity for all students to get the academic and socio-emotional support they need to graduate and succeed in life

- c. Economic justice that ensures that families are economically stable with sustainable jobs, affordable housing and ownership and have the opportunity to become business owners.

03. Planning: What has happened so far?

- In late 2010, the Healthy Richmond made the first big step in turning this project into a reality, by producing a document called a Logic Model.
- The Logic Model outlined how our community – government leaders, businesses, nonprofit organizations, and residents of all ages and ethnicities – can work together to make a healthier and safer Richmond.
- The Logic Model identifies several core strategies that will be essential to the project: resident engagement, community organizing, systems change, and youth participation and development, with all sectors working together on these ten-year outcomes.
- Over the last 7 years the initiative produced several evaluation documents including a [2015 Synthesis of Accomplishments](#), [2016 Community Learning Plan](#), [2018 Evaluation Memo](#), 2018 Social Network Analysis (SNA), and other evaluation documents including case studies on resident power building projects.
- In the website archive tab you can also see our Sustainability Plan for Healthy Contra Costa and our most recent case studies based on our Quality of Life work in North Richmond and our Education Equity campaign in WCCUSD.

04. Implementation: How are we organized?

- The policy advocacy work of the initiative is managed by The Healthy Contra Backbone Team. The HCC team serves as the primary coordinator for the project.
- We host cross-sector policy campaign teams with over 30 partners.
- Healthy Contra Costa is hosted by RCF Connects (formerly known as Richmond Community Foundation), which was chosen by the Healthy Contra Costa Sustainability Task Force.
- Healthy Contra Costa's administrative home is located in downtown Richmond at 1015 Nevin Ave, Suite 101, Richmond, CA

05. Where do I come in? How can I be involved?

- Over the next year, we will be inviting applications from community members who are interested in serving as members of the newly forming Healthy Contra Costa Leadership Team.
- Serving on the Leadership Team is a great opportunity to work with people from across our community to guide the advocacy campaigns of this initiative.
- We encourage applications from across our community: all ages, genders, sexual orientations, ethnicities, languages, economic condition, educational background,

abilities, professional skills, philosophies, and life experiences. Our hope is to call on the great knowledge, history, and energy of our community to implement this project.

- Committee members should expect to devote about 10 hours a month to the project, at first, and should be willing to commit to a two-year term of service.
- We are also encouraging partner community based organizations to join our policy advocacy campaigns. Your organizational leaders will be actively engaged in race equity work that will transform systems that serve your constituents.

06. How do I learn more, or get involved?

- Take a tour of our new website at <https://healthycontracosta.org> and friend us on Facebook.
- Contact our HCC team by going to the staff page