



Aligning for Health

Overview | 2023

Mission Statement

Aligning for Health is made up of stakeholders who recognize that health is connected to more than just access to medical services, and that government programs promoting well-being, especially among low-income Americans, may be able to more effectively address overall health with more coordination.

There is a significant body of academic work showing that economic and social factors have a powerful impact on individual and population health outcomes, as well as medical costs. These factors – such as housing, food assistance, income, employment status, education and transportation – have a significant impact on health outcomes. In fact, one widely cited study found that while ten percent of health outcomes in the U.S. are due to clinical health care, social and environmental factors are estimated to account for 60 percent of health outcomes.

Through a combination of research, policy development, advocacy, coalition building, and thought leadership, *Aligning for Health* seeks to energize stakeholders and policymakers around the need for integrated, cross-system strategies and infrastructure, and sustainable financing models that achieve better health outcomes for beneficiaries, improve program effectiveness, and lower health care costs.

Who We Are

Aligning for Health is a membership association which, with the support of our members and Advisory Board, brings a team of federal and state administration experts to address the issues that challenge the common purpose of our members – the need for efficient, integrated and coordinated programs to improve health outcomes for Americans.

What We Do

Aligning for Health is a collective voice to advance innovative strategies that address the social determinants of health through legislation, regulation, and public awareness. Our members leverage *Aligning for Health* for research, policy development, advocacy, and coalition building – implemented through convenings, public events, and strong ongoing relationships with Congressional and Administration leaders.

Our most significant accomplishments to date include (1) the development and advancement of several bipartisan bills, including the **Social Determinants Accelerator Act** and the **Leveraging Integrated Networks in Communities (LINC) to Address Social Needs Act**, and engagement and

support for other bipartisan legislation and robust appropriations for cross-sector programs; (2) the launch of the bipartisan [Congressional Social Determinants of Health Caucus](#); (3) strong relationships and advocacy with Administration officials to shape policy; and (4) a widely attended annual [Social Determinants of Health Policy Forum](#) and other events featuring policymakers and highlighting our members' work.

Our members meet monthly and decide the direction of the coalition, enjoy opportunities for thought leadership, meetings with important policy makers, and access to Washington's policy community.

Leadership

The coalition is led by Krista Drobac who led the Health Division at the National Governors Association, served as a senior advisor at CMS, was the Deputy Director of the Illinois Department of Health & Family Services, and worked in the U.S. Senate. She is joined by Chris Adamec, who led advocacy for comprehensive care at the Patient-Centered Primary Care Collaborative and convened industry leaders at the Healthcare Leadership Council. The team has deep policy and political experience including CMS, OMB, state government, and patient groups.

Dues

Annual membership dues are \$25,000, which can be paid in lump sum or two installments.

For more information, please contact: Krista Drobac kdrobac@aligningforhealth.org



Advisory Board

- **Nicole Barcliff**, Local Initiatives Support Corporation (LISC)
- **Matthew Chase**, National Association of Counties (NACo)
- **Sandra E. Ford**, former Special Assistant to the President for Public Health and Science
- **Jason Gromley**, Share Our Strength
- **Matthew Lyons**, American Public Human Services Association (APHSA)
- **Marcella Maguire**, Corporation for Supportive Housing (CSH)
- **Jerold Mande**, Harvard University, Adjunct Professor of Nutrition, Senior Advisor to the President at the Center for Science in the Public Interest, former Senior Advisor on Food/Nutrition, USDA
- **John McCarthy**, Speire Healthcare Strategies, Former Medicaid Director for Ohio and DC
- **Len M. Nichols, PhD**, Non-Resident Fellow, Urban Institute and Professor Emeritus, George Mason University
- **Jill Rosenthal**, Center for American Progress (CAP)
- **Andrew Sperling**, National Alliance for Mental Illness (NAMI)
- **Kathy Stack**, KB Stack Consulting, Former OMB Official
- **Karin VanZant**, Clearlink Partners
- Rick Whitted, U.S. Hunger
- **Sandra Wilkness**, National Academy for State Health Policy
- **Ginger Zielinskie**, Data.org