Healthy Communities in PA
1-866-499-7054, conference code 735 289 0020
Information Sharing and Orientation calls – typically the fourth Tuesday of each month at 2 PM
Steering Committee calls – typically the second Thursday of every other month at 10 AM
https://planningpa.org/advocacy/healthy-communities-in-pa/

The Healthy Communities in PA task force envisions communities in all parts of Pennsylvania being built in a way that makes the healthy choice the easy choice for every resident. The Healthy Communities in PA task force achieves its vision through volunteer efforts by planning and health advocates creating tools and resources to assist partners in promoting healthy community design. The tools and resources are created by working groups of task force topic experts collecting best practices needed by Pennsylvania’s healthy community design partners and to create new partners. The American Planning Association (APA), Pennsylvania Chapter (APA PA) is committed to sharing these resources and facilitating discussion around healthy community design in Pennsylvania.

**Task Force Information Sharing and Orientation**

It can be intimidating to join or rejoin a group that has been working together on a project. The information sharing and orientation calls provide an opportunity for new partners to come on board with the Healthy Communities in PA task force. These calls also provide an opportunity for unstructured information sharing and brainstorming to happen without being rushed by other agenda items. These calls aim to welcome new task force members, advise the task force and working groups, identify partners who should join the task force and working groups, share information on programs of common interest around the state, and further progress on training needs and opportunities identified around Pennsylvania.

**Task Force Steering Committee**

The Healthy Communities in PA task force is led by a steering committee of dedicated experts from the health and planning fields who are committed to guiding the information collection and sharing process. The steering committee members participate in monthly calls to guide work on the project as facilitated by an APA PA project manager. The steering committee calls review updates from working groups, form new working groups, advises the APA PA board, and ensure task force longevity.

**Working Groups**

Task force members break off into working groups to achieve goals that further healthy community design in Pennsylvania. Working groups are made up of partners whose organizational missions and personal interests align with achieving the working group goal. After completing a project, the working group decides whether there is more to do to achieve their goal. To help, there is a more detailed guide for Working Group Leaders.