



## Rural Health Group, Grandville Vance Public Health, & Halifax County Public Health System

With support from the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation (RWJF), the National Association of Community Health Centers (NACHC) and the Association of Asian Pacific Community Health Organization (AAPCHO) launched the “Building Cross-Sector Partnerships to Address SDOH: Design Sprints” project. Using human-centered design concepts, NACHC and AAPCHO facilitated four design sprint cohorts with community health centers and their cross-sector partners to tackle social drivers of health challenges in their communities to advance health equity. Each cohort focused on one aspect of the RWJF Theory of Change framework (purpose, data, governance, finance) to strengthen both emerging and established partnerships, and foster alignment between sectors.

### Overview

In North Carolina, these three organizations shared a commitment to serving underserved communities but were unsure how to leverage each other’s strengths to empower those communities more effectively. Through the Design Sprint process, they gained a deeper understanding of each other’s resources and identified gaps between the various services offered.

### Design Sprint Highlights

The Design Sprint process strengthened the partnerships, fostering mutual respect, enhancing communication, and clarifying shared goals. This collaborative effort enabled the organizations to pursue a joint funding opportunity to support maternal and child health. Additionally, the process led to the decision to launch a Regional Task Force, which will include the partnering organizations, other stakeholders, and community members. The Task Force will focus on revitalizing the County Case Management meetings and establishing seamless data sharing across various

### Moving Forward

The Design Sprint highlighted the crucial need for the three organizations to collaborate on enhancing the health and well-being of their community members and incorporating the voices of those they serve. RHG, GVPH, and the Halifax County Public Health System are committed to intentionally integrating community input by co-leading the Regional Task Force with selected members. Through monthly meetings, they aim to foster transparent communication and ensure the Task Force plays a key role in interpreting data collected from patient feedback and health assessments.

### About Partner Orgs.

**Rural Health Group (RHG), Inc.** is a federally qualified health center located in North Carolina. RHG provides primary quality health care services to over 37,000 patients annually without regard for patient’s ability to pay. RHG serves as a community resource for eliminating health disparities. provide quality health care to all in a culturally sensitive and compassionate manner.



**Grandville Vance Public Health (GVPH)** protects and promotes health across the district by improving the environment, community, and individual health. GVPH accomplishes its mission through collaboration with local partners and works to anticipate, identify, and meet the needs of our community.



**Halifax County Public Health System** works to protect, educate, and support their community by ensuring quality healthcare and environmental health services in an affordable and accessible matte