

## Who We Are

October 2020

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APHSA is a bipartisan national membership association representing the cabinet-level leadership of state and local health and human services agencies, and the subject matter experts that help execute their mission to improve outcomes for people nationwide. Building on our long-standing relationships across the human services field and direct connection to the in-depth knowledge of leaders who administer them, we focus on generating pragmatic, community-wide solutions that advance well-being.

APHSA's members are experts in administering, overseeing, and aligning programs that build resilience and bolster family well-being through access to food, health care, employment, child care, and other key building blocks. Our members are also leading experts in performance measurement and data analysis, health and human services IT systems, workforce development and training, and the legal dimensions of the field.

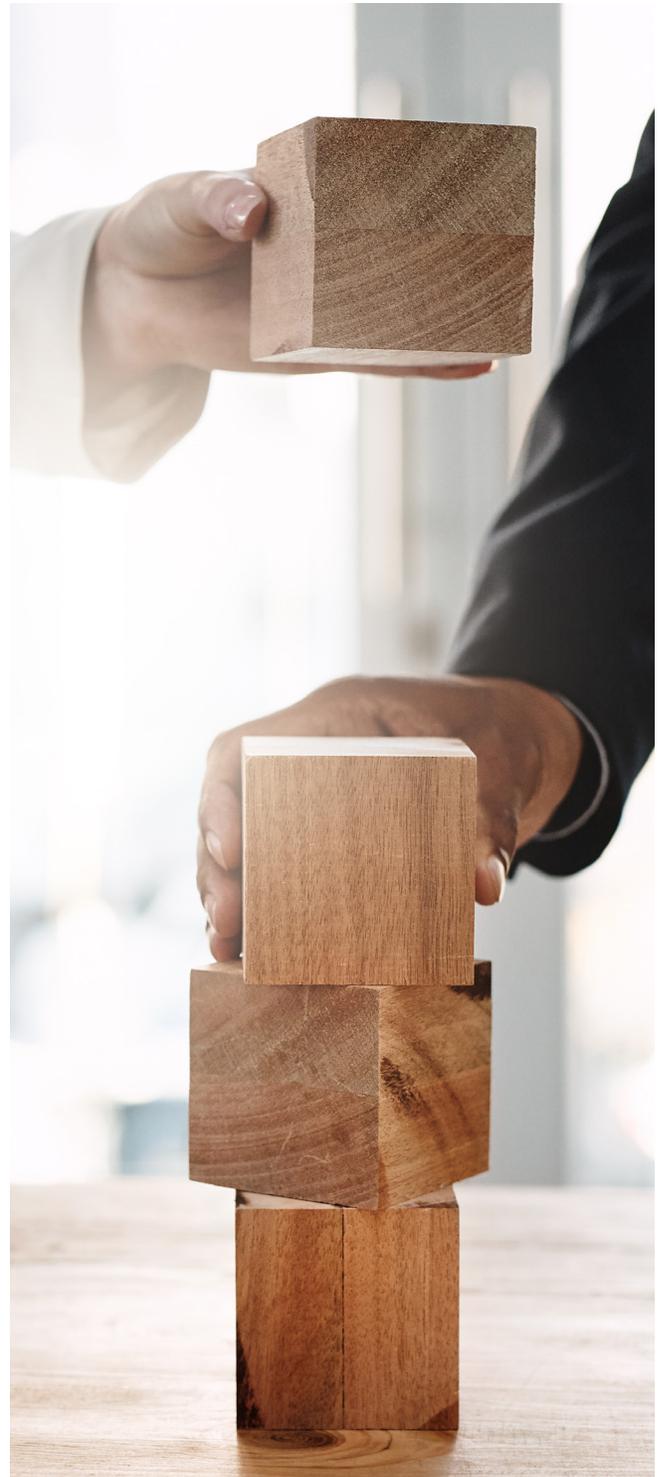
***We share a common vision: a nation of thriving communities built on human potential.***

Well-being for all Americans is built from the ground up, through the daily work of our members and their workforces who are dedicated to public service and the common good.

***Our mission articulates how we, in partnership with our members, are working toward that common vision.***

We advance well-being by:

- *influencing* modern approaches to sound policy,
- *building* the capacity of public agencies to enable healthy families and communities, and
- *connecting* leaders to accelerate learning and generate practical solutions together.



## Guiding Principles

Serve as a compass that keeps our work rooted in our mission and vision:

- A relentless pursuit of the limitless possibilities of human potential
- A recognition that involving people in planning their own future is essential to their economic and social success
- A commitment to tackling and dismantling structural inequities, biases, and harms — applying a race equity lens in all we do
- A focus on using data to identify and address root causes
- A commitment to evidence and to outcomes rather than ideologies
- A commitment to supporting the human services field in developing a modern workforce that is healthy and well
- An unwavering belief that public service is crucial to American society and the economy

## APHSA is a network of leaders committed to systems-level change.

We work within and across systems and sectors for greatest impact, relying on enduring and developing new generative partnerships. We are the trusted voice that connects federal policymakers to the state and local human services experts that deliver services on the ground. We help federal agencies, Congress, and the Administration understand what works and how to modernize national policies, through guidance, regulations and legislation, to improve the system. We bring key federal leaders, researchers, and other stakeholders into conversations with our connected network to catalyze work across health and human services and adjacent sectors and systems, facilitate information sharing, input and feedback, and to generate community-wide solutions.

## Distinguishing Factors

For leaders whose work connects with our core purpose and principles, we are:

- **The trusted broker connecting human services leaders** at state and local levels of government to federal policymakers, based on our long history in facilitating conversations that result in practical solutions and advance sound national policy.
- **A hub for collective leadership, communication, learning, leadership development, and peer support** across a connected network of health and human services executives in states and counties who have first-hand knowledge of and expertise in operating programs and delivering services on the ground.
- **Proven in our ability to distill and showcase** how human services leaders across the country are spurring innovation and leading field transformation, including through the lived experiences and authentic voice of families and community leaders.
- **Expert in field capacity building** through APHSA's consulting team, who provide facilitated support to human services agencies and their community partners using proven tools and methodologies to strengthen organizational readiness and effectiveness to drive systems level change.
- **Committed to strategic partnerships** with related sectors and systems to improve population health and well-being, using shared models and collective impact approaches.

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### Contact details

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