

## Our work is about building and sustaining long-term, mutually beneficial relationships with communities.

When we work in partnership with communities, together we create better outcomes. That's why our team dedicates their time and expertise to building and maintaining community connections.

“The physicians can't do it all. And here at [the community partner space], we can't do it all. And so we really depend kind of on a full team.”

–Community Health Worker

## We work on a variety of teams with clinicians, researchers, and community partners to achieve better health for all.

- **LGBTQ+ health:** We're working to bring best clinical care practices to our health care and research partners while we simultaneously strengthen statewide collaboration.
- **Rural health:** We're leading an assessment to identify how best to align community, clinical, and university priorities in an effort to co-create future projects. Our current focus is in Southwest Wisconsin.
- **Community health workers:** We support the Dane County Community Health Worker Collective, a coalition of CHWs and Neighborhood Navigators, in building bridges between community health partners. We know that we're healthier when everyone works together.
- **Nutrition security:** We're collaborating to transform health care systems and policies to support nutrition security with an aim to increase access to healthy foods.
- **Integrating public health into primary care:** We understand the complexity of the issues we face and we believe that through strong relationships with public health, health care, and community partners we can create a state where we all thrive.
- **Departmental support:** We all are always learning together in this work and our team works on various department initiatives that connect the department to communities, such as community advisory boards, patient family advisory councils, physician-resident education, and more.

## We're a small but mighty team with experience in health equity work acting as a hub for our department and community partners.

- **Power imbalances in relationships can be hard to spot** and it's difficult to see where power dynamics are affecting our work. Working with a collaborator like the Office of Community Health can help bring a fresh perspective into partnerships and projects.
- **We know that clinicians often have limited time.** We handle the work of connecting with partners and coordinating similar projects. We bring in family medicine expertise at the right moment so that everyone's time is used efficiently. We can help you find a balance that's right for you and your work.
- **Our unique position helps us to connect community initiatives and department work.** We have time built into our roles to build and deepen community relationships. This helps us invest the time needed to build trust with our department and with community organizations, creating opportunities for more collaboration.

## We want to help you embed health equity into your work.

If you have a community-facing idea or project, we may be able to support you by:

- Setting up a project brainstorming meeting
- Facilitating connections to community partners
- Connecting to a community advisory board
- Working together on a longer-term community-engaged project



**We need your partnership to help us grow our shared work.** If you're thinking of applying for a grant that could use the support of one of our health equity coordinators, please reach out to us!

