Olympic Community of Health (OCH) brings together partners and representatives from a variety of sectors and Tribes in the Olympic region (Clallam, Jefferson, and Kitsap Counties, and seven Tribal Nations). We convene partners in creative and innovative ways to foster a region of healthy people, thriving communities.

We recently collaborated with Vision Network Labs to better understand the network of partners across the region. Together, we conducted an evaluation that visualized network relationships, provided insights about the ways different partners work together, and identified opportunities to expand the network.

**Network overview**

**55 partners**

**529 relationships**

Figures 1 shows each partner represented in the network as a circle (node) and the lines show all relationships reported by respondents. Partners with more connections appear as larger nodes.

What this means

The overall structure of the OCH network is called a “core-periphery structure,” in which there is a large core of central partners with many connections, and a proportionately smaller number of “peripheral” partners with fewer connections. **Core partners** and peripheral partners play equally important roles in the network.

**Strengths of core partners**
- Very engaged with the mission of the network
- Have many connections which equip them well to communicate and disseminate information and resources

**Strengths of peripheral partners**
- Offer unique perspectives and ideas
- Represent diverse communities

Currently, the amount of core partners reflects a distributed leadership model, meaning multiple partners play lead roles in OCH’s network.

Out of all 529 relationships, **41% of the relationships bring together partners from different counties.** Additionally, Figure 2 shows many partnerships between different types of organizations and Tribes.

This is a successful and sustainable network.

There is strong cross-partner and cross-county collaboration in the OCH network.
Partner Contributions
Partners ranked the following as their most important contributions to improving health across the Olympic region.

Shared Activities
Partners reported participating in the following shared activities within the OCH network:

Future Priorities
Partners ranked the following as the most important activities and outcomes that the network should prioritize in the future.

Levels of Engagement
How engaged are partners? Out of every 10...

Trust and Value
Average perceptions of value and trust among partner relationships. Scores over 3 are considered the most positive. Perceptions of value and trust are critical to building a network.

Network Success
Partners were asked, “Since 2017, how successful has the network of OCH partners been at facilitating or achieving the following activities and outcomes?”

Partners reported participating in the following shared activities within the OCH network:

Levels of Engagement
How engaged are partners? Out of every 10...
Moving to Action

Opportunities

**Focus partner engagement efforts on partner-identified future priorities:**
- Developing innovative solutions to shared problems
- Increased cross-partner collaboration (including but not limited to clinics, hospitals, faith-based organizations, community resources, food banks, law enforcement, local government, and schools)
- Improved services for populations of emphasis

**Improve success rate of the following activities:**
- Decreased duplication of effort
- Reduced inequities
- Changing policies, laws, or regulations

**Prioritize activities that align with partner relationships:**
- Exchange general information and resources
- Send and receive referrals
- Work on advocacy or policy efforts together

**Foster a greater sense of value across OCH partners**

**Share OCH accomplishments with community, increase community awareness**

Next Steps

| Learning, convening, and maximizing | Use network report to inform partner engagement efforts and create targeted convenings to continue building community-clinical connections (especially keeping in mind ways to support partner referral relationships and reduce duplication of efforts)
| Data sharing and transparency | Embed findings into OCH’s online data hub (to be released in 2023)
| Communication | Increase community awareness of the work OCH does, why a collaborative approach is beneficial to improving health outcomes, and how to get involved
| | Find opportunities to raise awareness of various partner work, strengths, and goals to promote further awareness, collaboration across partner types, and increased perceived value
| | Regularly share partner involvement with Board and broader network to increase awareness of partner contributions and work to decrease duplication of efforts
| Advocacy and engagement | Embed findings and partner priorities into annual elected official outreach
| | Support cohesive messaging across partner-types and counties