

Healthy Youth



Issues

Oregon's youth need support and encouragement to grow and mature in healthy ways. In addition to safe, supportive homes, they need schools that provide appropriate tools, guidance and opportunities for healthy lives. Young people need teachers, mentors and a community of supportive adults who represent their cultural backgrounds.

Across Oregon, Black students are twice as likely to be disciplined for disruptive behavior and more than twice as likely to be suspended or expelled. Harmful practices need to be changed and replaced. Restorative justice and mediation, rather than traditional discipline approaches, can improve outcomes for youth and raise graduation rates.

Solutions

Strategies to address bias in schools and to improve children's physical and emotional well-being including:

- End school related disparities for Black, Indigenous, people of color and American Indian/Alaska Native people (BIPOC-AI/AN) children and youth through teacher training, monitoring of data and follow-up with teachers, administrators and schools

- Ensure and support all school districts to implement K-12 comprehensive health education

Education and positive school environments are key factors for fostering healthy youth development. Healthier Together Oregon (HTO) seeks to provide culturally and linguistically responsive, trauma-informed, multi-tiered behavioral health services and supports to all children and families.

HTO is dedicated to increasing the use of mediation and restorative justice in schools. It is crucial to address structural racism and eliminate school-related inequities for BIPOC-AI/AN children and youth.

To further foster the health and well-being of Oregon's children, HTO seeks ways to expand and increase access to preventive health screenings and oral health in schools.



HTO: A Plan for Building a Better Oregon

Healthier Together Oregon (HTO) is a powerful tool for improving equity for all Oregonians. As COVID-19 has made starkly clear, not everyone has the same opportunity to live a healthy life. People of color, people with low income, people who identify as LGBTQ+, immigrants and refugees, people with disabilities and people who live in rural areas of the state face considerable barriers due to inequities in the social and physical infrastructure that affects health.

of partners across different sectors that share its commitment to these ambitious goals. These sectors include health care, elected officials, employers, philanthropy, transportation, land use and planning, state, tribal and local public health, criminal justice and law enforcement, community-based organizations, faith-based organizations, housing and human service providers and education.





Because health and well-being depend on a range of factors, HTO identifies a broad array of strategies that, when addressed and implemented collectively, have the potential to improve the lives of everyone who lives here.

HTO is intended to inform Community Health Improvement Plans as well as agencies' and organizations' priorities, programs and investments. It seeks a variety



Partner With Us

HTO is looking to connect with others committed to advancing equity in Oregon. For more information or to contact us:

 <p>WEBSITE healthiertogetheroregon.org</p>	 <p>EMAIL publichealth.policy@state.or.us</p>
 <p>BECOME A PARTNER healthiertogetheroregon.org/ potential-partner</p>	 <p>YOUTUBE bit.ly/3jvkuAE</p>