



NATIONAL PARTNERSHIP FOR ACTION

to End Health Disparities



Pacific and Southwest Regional Health Equity Council

The Pacific and Southwest Regional Health Equity Council (PSWRHEC) is one of 10 regional councils formed in 2011 as a part of the National Partnership for Action to End Health Disparities (NPA), a coalition of leaders who share the common goal of ending health disparities.¹¹ Comprising **Arizona, California, Hawaii, Nevada, American Samoa, Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands, Federated States of Micronesia, Guam, Marshall Islands, and the Republic of Palau**, PSWRHEC is comprised of leaders from diverse backgrounds whose work serves as a catalyst for health equity. The 29 volunteer voting members—leaders who represent academia, research, health care, state and local government, civic and nonprofit organizations, and private industry—are assisted by *ad hoc* members and emerging health professionals.

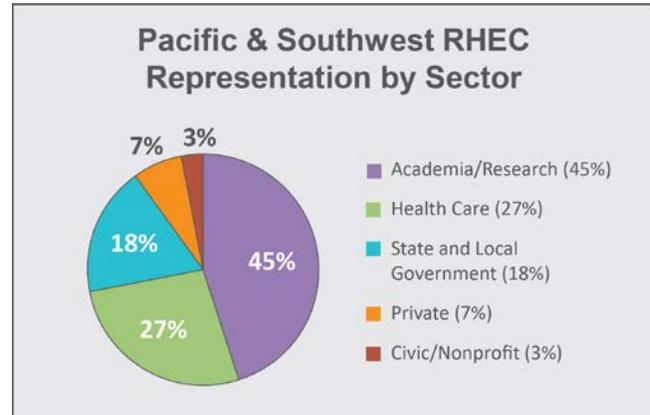
The RHEC IX Commitment

PSWRHEC (<http://region9.npa-rhec.org/home>), also known as the Region IX Health Equity Council (RHEC IX), envisions a region free of disparities in health and health care. RHEC IX commits to be effective agents of change to eliminate health and health care disparities and achieve the highest possible level of health for all communities through the education and mobilization of leaders, partners, policy-makers, and community stakeholders in Region IX.

Priority Areas

RHEC IX's activities are coordinated by three co-chairs and directed by six committees—Behavioral Health, Funding and Sustainability, Health and Health Care Disparities Textbook, Influencing Health Policies, Partnerships and Collaborations, and Pathways to Healthcare Careers—in the following priority areas:

- Plan and develop a **textbook on health and healthcare disparities/strategies for achieving health equity** for publication and national dissemination
- Provide broader **awareness of innovative healthcare professional training**
- Use Health Information Technology (HIT) and media tools to **disseminate information about access to quality health care and support patient education** to underserved and vulnerable populations
- Assess the state of behavioral health and **influence behavioral services and policies** to ensure equity
- Create an infrastructure enabling PSWRHEC to **receive funding from various sources**, with the Public Health Foundation Enterprise (PHFE) as its fiscal sponsor (since 2016)



Actions You Can Take

- Share information with PSWRHEC (region9.npa-rhec.org/get-involved) about community needs, best practices, and projects that address health and healthcare disparities, and receive the council's support and partnership
- Promote activities and programs in your community by posting them on the RHEC IX website calendar (region9.npa-rhec.org/rhec-events)
- Identify opportunities for PSWRHEC (<http://region9.npa-rhec.org/get-involved>) to collaborate on community dialogues, awareness events, and mutually beneficial grant applications related to the council's priority areas
- Follow us on social media:
 - On Facebook: www.facebook.com/PacificandSouthwestRHEC/
 - On Twitter: @RHECIX

¹ A health disparity is a health difference that is closely linked with social, economic, and/or environmental disadvantage.

