



100% Access, 0 Health Disparities
Better health for more people at less cost

Communities Joined in Action Affiliates

The Collaborative of Collaboratives... The Coalition of Coalitions...

CJA Affiliates

While Communities Joined in Action is the national leader on community solutions that create 100% Access with 0 Health Disparities, we can only succeed with the complementary efforts of communities, states, and regions.

CJA Affiliates champion the same mission as CJA: *Mobilize and assist communities to achieve 100% Access with 0 Disparities through the development of sustainable community health collaboratives, capacity building, and comprehensive health policy.*

CJA encourages states and regions to create **CJA Affiliates** in order to better and more immediately meet your local and regional needs. Affiliates create a formal infrastructure in states and regions throughout the United States in order to provide an opportunity for community health coalitions to (a) learn **with and from one another's** local efforts, (b) **adapt models that work**, and (c) **advise on public and private policy** issues.

CJA Affiliates are independently established and have their own infrastructure, policies, processes, and procedures. Although unique in governance and structure, all Affiliates participate, implement, and advocate on behalf of various community health improvement efforts. Such efforts include:

- ✓ Peer-to-peer support
- ✓ Community, organizational, & program development
- ✓ Professional development
- ✓ Advocating on behalf of supportive local and state policy and legislation
- ✓ Conferences & forums

Community Health Access Collaboratives - Background

The continued and growing challenge of providing access to needed health services has been identified by many experts as unsustainable. This crisis has motivated communities to seek different ways to operate and work with others. An estimated one thousand community efforts have emerged around the U.S. to address health concerns at the local level¹. These community health access collaboratives are creating and implementing local solutions to ensure access to timely, affordable, and quality health services. They have demonstrated great success, and show even greater promise, in cultivating innovative public-private collaboratives that improve health care access *and* the health status of their communities.

¹ Bureau of Primary Health Care and Communities Joined in Action



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Local health system collaboratives bring together diverse stakeholders in order to reorganize the way health services are provided. They are building effective, efficient and sustainable systems that involve public and private stakeholders working together. These local efforts:

1. Increase the availability and affordability of services,
2. Coordinate services, and
3. Make efficient use of existing resources in order to build healthy communities.

Community health access collaboratives are “in action” and committed to ensuring access to timely, affordable, and quality health services. These collaborative efforts vary in their work plans, timelines, activities, and stages of implementation, yet they are committed to doing business more effectively, efficiently, and in a collaborative and sustainable manner. They are steadfast in their efforts to build healthy communities.

Why CJA Affiliates?

CJA Affiliates offer a venue for community health access collaborative leaders to get to know others in their state or region who face similar challenges, share similar goals, and are embarking on similar efforts to reorganize the way they deliver services, *ensuring better health for more people at less cost*, and 100% Access with 0 Health Disparities. Like Communities Joined In Action, **CJA Affiliates** lead a campaign that helps communities organize for action and keep coalitions energized and moving forward. Affiliates provide a state or regional infrastructure that ensures opportunities for local and regional champions to learn with and from one another, better understand “models that work”, and influence public policy in order to improve access and create healthy communities.

What Do CJA Affiliates Accomplish?

CJA Affiliates offer community health access collaborative champions, policy makers, government officials, business leaders, researchers, philanthropic organizations, and other stakeholders (1) **opportunities** to learn from community-created solutions, (2) **recommendations** on how to create a positive environment for local innovation, and (3) **strategies** to assist communities develop efficient, effective, and sustainable systems that provide access to affordable, timely, and quality health services. **CJA Affiliates**

- ✓ Create a venue for community health coalitions to pool their expertise and resources as well as share information.
- ✓ Create a venue to share information and data with one another relating to best practices and lessons learned.
- ✓ Provide an opportunity to create a common voice so government officials and others learn about local innovation and how best to support community efforts that improve access and health outcomes.



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CJA Affiliates: Just do it!

Action Checklist

CJA Affiliates promote peer to peer learning, best practices, and use the combined voice of its membership to affect policy changes that support local solutions to health care access and healthy communities.

- ✓ Define target audience
- ✓ Identify key individuals & organizations
- ✓ Design strategies for engaging partners
- ✓ Identify roles of members and assign responsibilities
- ✓ Establish formal partnership agreements where appropriate
- ✓ Develop goals, objectives, & evaluation plan
- ✓ Develop a communication vehicle to highlight Affiliate activities
- ✓ Reassess and evaluate Affiliate involvement and member satisfaction



Potential Members & Partners - The breadth and depth of your membership are keys to the **CJA Affiliate's** success. Invite coalition or collaborative champions, local health departments, healthcare safety net clinics, practitioners, local and state government, philanthropic organizations, hospitals, commercial and Medicaid insurance carriers, pharmaceutical companies, faith-based organizations and leaders, businesses, academic institutions... Consider having voting and non-voting membership categories.





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CJA Affiliates: Just do it!

Building the Affiliate - Making it happen and recording your results are keys to the success of **CJA Affiliates**. Follow the steps below and use the Affiliate Action Plan template to keep track of where you are going and who is responsible for what action items.

CJA Affiliates create a formal infrastructure in states and regions throughout the U.S. in order to provide an opportunity for community health coalitions to (a) learn **with and from one another's** local efforts, (b) **adapt models that work**, and (c) **advise on public and private policy** issues.



Mobilize individuals and organizations that are improving access and the health of entire communities into a coalition.

Assess the areas of greatest need in your state or region, as well as the resources and other strengths that you can tap into to address those areas.

Plan your approach: start with a vision of where you want to be as an Affiliate; then add strategies and action steps to help you achieve that vision.

Implement your plan using concrete action steps that can be monitored and will make a difference.

Track your progress over time.

Based on Healthy People 2010



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CJA Affiliates: Just do it!

Action Plan

1. As a group committed to 100% Access with 0 Health Disparities decide:

- ✓ which of your chosen actions you are going to do first – often the simpler actions that are easy to implement...a promising opportunity, if you will
- ✓ which do you plan to do soon
- ✓ which will take longer to do and you will do later

Use the columns in the **CJA Affiliate** Action template to record these, checking the Now, Soon or Later box as appropriate.

2. Now, decide what needs to be done to carry out each action. This could include:

- ✓ contacting an expert or colleague for guidance
- ✓ ordering the necessary technology
- ✓ telling your members, potential members and supporters that your **CJA Affiliate** exists and is going to be taking action

Once you've agreed on the actions that need to be taken, write them in the table. Don't forget to use the 'thoughts and hints' column.

3. Then, ask for members and supporters to take action. There will be lots of concrete tasks that need to be taken. Write the name of the volunteer in the "WHO?" column.

4. Next, decide when these jobs need to be done and write down dates in the appropriate column.

5. Use the action plan as your guide, timeline, and means of accountability.



Chris Altham © 2001

Affiliate Action Plan

ACTION STEPS - We choose to:	WHO?	WHEN?			Thoughts/Hints
		Now	Soon	Later	
Build the Foundation - Leadership & Structure					
1.					
2.					
3.					
Identify & Secure Resources					
1.					
2.					
3.					
Identify & Recruit Members & Supporters					
1.					
2.					
3.					

Affiliate Action Plan

ACTION STEPS - We choose to:	WHO?	WHEN?			Thoughts/Hints
		Now	Soon	Later	
Set Priorities & Objectives					
1.					
2.					
3.					
Set Targets & Establish Timeline					
1.					
2.					
3.					
Manage & Sustain					
1.					
2.					
3.					



Affiliate Action Plan

ACTION STEPS - We choose to:	WHO?	WHEN?			Thoughts/Hints
		Now	Soon	Later	
Communication					
1.					
2.					
3.					
Evaluation					
1.					
2.					
3.					
Other					
1.					
2.					
3.					



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CJA Affiliates: Just do it!

Hot Tips for Affiliates

Getting going is as easy or hard as you make it. Here are some valuable tools that others have utilized to get their Affiliate up and running:

Embrace the vision – **CJA Affiliate's** provide the infrastructure for community health collaboratives to (a) learn with and from one another's local efforts, (b) adapt models that work, and (c) advise on public and private policy issues.

Adopt the CJA mission – Mobilize and assist communities to achieve 100% Access with 0 Disparities through the development of sustainable community health collaboratives, capacity building, and comprehensive health policy.

Understand the value – **CJA Affiliate's** have value and potential value – Survey your members, potential members and supporters - www.surveymonkey.com

Communicate & convene – Communication is key to the success of a **CJA Affiliate**. Try out <http://www.freeconferencecall.com> for an affordable and convenient way to meet.

Contact others who are doing it – CJA is a community of leaders, teachers and learners. Join the **CJA Affiliate** list-serve, <http://www.cjaonline.net/> to learn with and from one another. *Coming soon!*

Create structure & governance – Organizational structure will help your **CJA Affiliate** move bolder, faster and smarter. CJA can offer you sample by-laws for you to adapt to your Affiliate as well as examples of organizational structures.

Create a logo & letterhead – Create letterhead that includes organizations who are involved with the **CJA Affiliate**...even if you are not yet a formal entity, this has proven to build momentum. Contact CJA for a sample template.

Focus – Identifying your **CJA Affiliate's** desired outputs and outcomes is critical to keep you on track. Consider what you want to accomplish in 90 days, 6 months and in a year, e.g., quarterly meetings, conference, legislation...

Take the Pledge – Sign on to be a **CJA Affiliate**...





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Affiliate Pledge

Communities Joined In Action

Affiliate Pledge

Recognizing that the current way health services are delivered is not sustainable, and that millions of Americans go without needed health services, and that health disparities exist, _____ pledges to mobilize and assist communities to achieve 100% Access with 0 Disparities through the development of sustainable community health collaboratives, capacity building, and comprehensive health policy.

Specifically, we promise to:

1. Champion community solutions to ensure access to needed health services.
2. Champion community solutions to eliminating health disparities.
3. Champion better health for more people at less cost.
4. Build healthy communities.
5. Work in collaboration with public and private partners to build effective, efficient and sustainable delivery systems.
6. Have our organization listed as an Affiliate of Communities Joined in Action on the CJA website.
7. Be an active participant in the national 100% Access/0 Health Disparities campaign.

Signed:

(Organization)

(Name Printed and Title)

(Name Signed and Date)



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Affiliate Fees

Example: \$350 per Affiliate member: \$150 goes to the **Affiliate**. \$200 goes to CJA for technical assistance & administrative overhead.

The total **Affiliate** fee is approximate. The **Affiliate** has the option to charge different levels of membership or to increase the membership fee, so that the amount going back to the affiliate is increased. The amount of \$200 that goes to CJA remains the same.

Get Involved

To learn more about **CJA Affiliates**, log on to, <https://www.cjaonline.net/>

For more information, contact Lindy Vincent at cja@chrn.org

