Accountable Communities of Health (ACH)
Quarterly Activity Report

Reporting period: January 1 – March 31, 2022
Report to Joint Select Committee on Health Care Oversight
Introduction

This report reflects statewide and regional Accountable Community of Health (ACH) activities from January 1 to March 31, 2022. This report shares what ACHs are doing at the community level within and across regions to improve community health in Washington State.

Through their unique role, ACHs connect the health care delivery system and local community organizations. In addition to their Medicaid Transformation Project (MTP) activities, ACHs coordinate and support COVID-19 response. Statewide activities summarized below reflect the most recent quarter: (January 1–March 31, 2022).

Statewide ACH activities

COVID-19 response

ACHs continue to play a vital role in many aspects of COVID-19 response and recovery. Notably, ACHs are working with community organizations and clinical and local partners. They also continue to participate in the Department of Health’s (DOH) Care Connect Hub program to support community members and increase vaccination rates in their regions.

Care coordination

ACHs continue to manage, participate, and invest in community-based care-coordination efforts to give support to individuals and families impacted by COVID-19, natural disasters, and health disparities. ACHs help meet community needs by coordinating and supporting local organizations and facilitating tools like community information exchange (CIE).

Health equity

ACHs distribute funds to regional organizations and partners to conduct many activities, from health equity work to community-based organization support. ACHs continue to focus efforts on addressing social determinants of health and bridging the gap between health care and community organizations.

Behavioral health

ACHs continue to work on a variety of behavioral health activities, including installing Naloxone vending machines, implementing the Trueblood settlement, and offering training for providers and key staff in several settings, including K-12 education.

Individual ACH activities

Better Health Together (BHT)
Serving Adams, Ferry, Lincoln, Pend Oreille, Spokane, and Stevens counties

COVID-19 response

- BHT supported Stevens and Pend Oreille county partners by applying for and managing two DOH grants funded by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC). The $700,000 grant will help address COVID-19-related disparities in the region.
- In March 2022, BHT contributed $6,629 in Trusted Messenger funding to support the Homeless Connect event. The event was attended by 150 people experiencing homelessness or housing instability. Around 35 vaccines and boosters were administered and offered to all attendees.
Health equity

- BHT board members and new staff completed training on the Equity 101 curriculum and the Aging and Long Term Care of Eastern Washington course. Two of BHT's new staff are being trained to co-lead the Equity 101 training to grow their capacity to offer the course to more partners. In Q2 of 2022, BHT will begin scheduling contracted partners for additional training sessions.

Behavioral health

- The Behavioral Health Forum is a collective of approximately 39 different organizations. In 2022–23, the group will focus on building out workforce initiatives and funding opportunities with $1.2 million in integrated managed care (IMC) incentive dollars:
  - BHT awarded $150,000 across 15 partners to support supervision for 64 providers of mental health and substance use disorder (SUD) services, as well as four providers who are completing training to become supervisors, and covering nearly $5,000 in associated costs (applications, testing, licensure, etc.).
  - BHT has contracted with Passages to provide two certified peer counselor (CPC) trainings in 2022, with dates set for April and October.
  - BHT partnered with Community Colleges of Spokane to financially support providers completing substance use disorder professional (SUDP) alternative certification. As of Q1 of 2022, there are 13 providers from seven organizations who are currently completing the certification.

School-based telehealth

- BHT has been increasing communications to parents explaining telehealth and the opportunity to engage if kids need physical health services. Providers Community Health Association of Spokane (CHAS) and Unify continue to work internally on getting consent from parents more easily and quickly. CHAS and Unify have seen a large increase in dental referrals and extra benefits from the partnership between School District 91 and the health care providers.

Tribal partnerships

- Since early 2022, BHT has worked with Tribal partners via a monthly convening, now called the Tribal Partners Collaborative. Through a participatory design process, the group has identified that they would like to be a self-governing group facilitated by a neutral party (not an ACH or a representative from a member organization). BHT allocated funding to support this position, and once filled, the group will discuss how to budget the $1 million in funding BHT has allocated from the Community Resiliency Fund.

Youth Homelessness Project

- BHT was selected to coordinate the Youth Homelessness Demonstration Program for the Spokane Continuum of Care. BHT partnered with youth and young adults who have experienced homelessness and community stakeholders to create a coordinated community plan that provides a framework for preventing and ending youth and young adult homelessness in their community.

Department of Commerce participatory funding

- BHT serves as the fiscal and administrative hub for the Commerce Navigator Project and aims to support their nine partners in connecting their clients to various public benefit programs. In February 2022, a participatory budgeting and planning session was held with their partners to determine how to equitably distribute the $600,000 funding amount. Their partners communicated goals and
expectations and voiced the need for easier reporting and processes to support capacity building. BHT aims to center the needs of its partners and equitably distribute funding and resources while serving impacted populations.

**Cascade Pacific Action Alliance (CPAA)**

Serving Cowlitz, Grays Harbor, Lewis, Mason, Pacific, Thurston, and Wahkiakum counties

**COVID-19 response**

- CPAA organized 45 vaccination clinics where 961 adults and youth were vaccinated.
- CPAA continues to produce and publish weekly podcasts helping to combat misinformation by interviewing trusted messengers among their region’s health care leaders. Topics for Q1 of 2022 included the Omicron variant, vaccines for children 5-11, importance of boosters, and preventative treatments for those with severe immunocompromised health issues.

**Care coordination**

- CPAA’s Care Connect and CarePort community-based care connections continue to provide COVID-19 emergency response by processing 546 referrals in Q1 of 2022.
- CPAA continues to house and distribute emergency care kits and shelf-stable food boxes.
- CPAA participates in ongoing discussions about marketing Pathways beyond emergency use. This would allow Pathways to continue to provide on all aspects of a client’s health through coordination of safe and stable housing, transportation, education, and other issues that create barriers to overall health and well-being.

**Health equity**

- CPAA conducted a virtual Health Equity Mini-Summit on January 14, 2022, in which four of the 17 CPAA-funded health equity awardees presented on their initiatives to a virtual audience of over 70 partners and stakeholders in their region.
- CPAA was awarded a second year of funding by the CDC Foundation to promote vaccine uptake for COVID-19 and influenza in Black, Indigenous, and people of color (BIPOC) communities. CPAA’s strategy for year two is to seek out more partnerships with local community health workers (CHWs) in the Latine community to promote community resource events. These events will provide access to food banks, medical insurance information and registration, housing, and other social service resources needed in rural communities.
- CPAA is funding the Chehalis Tribe’s Indigenous Pact Medication Assisted Treatment (MAT) clinic feasibility study for 2022.

**Behavioral health**

- CPAA continues to discuss piloting the Hope Squad program for suicide prevention in Wahkiakum County schools.
- CPAA continues to sponsor Question, Persuade, Refer (QPR) Suicide Prevention trainings monthly.

**Elevate Health**

Serving Pierce County

**Organizational changes**

- Alanna Hein joined Elevate Health as the interim executive director at the end of Q4 2021. She has been assessing and adjusting the organization, including processes, finances, staffing, and strategy.
COVID-19 response

- Building on the success of the first two rounds of zero-interest bridge loans, OnePierce approved a third round of loan distributions to five service organizations delivering rental assistance. These bridge loans ensure community-based organizations have responsive funding to meet emergent community needs prior to the reimbursement allocations of state and federal pandemic dollars. In Q1 of 2022, OnePierce disbursed $2.1 million under this program.

Care coordination

- The Potentially Preventable Hospitalizations (PPH) Pilot is a Legislature-funded pilot program with the Tacoma-Pierce County Health Department and Community Health Care (CHC), a federally qualified health center, to utilize community-based care coordination to decrease emergency department utilization and hospitalizations for those with congestive heart failure. Elevate Health is working with CHC to improve processes around client/patient engagement.
- Elevate Health continued providing COVID-19-specific care-coordination support to Pierce County through the Department of Health Care Connect. In the past three months, Elevate Health has received approximately 2,700 referrals, assigned them out to partners and surge support, and provided fresh food and financial assistance to over 1,750 clients. 796 clients were enrolled in and are being served in their Pathways Community Hub program.

Health equity

- OnePierce disbursed $111,896 (56 percent of committed funds) to five Behavioral Health Equity Challenge grantees.
- OnePierce is co-designing a participatory budgeting grant round in one of Pierce County’s Communities of Focus, a zip code area in which residents have an eight-year gap in life expectancy compared to residents of neighboring zip codes. The community will receive $50,000 to award through a resident-led design and voting process. This work is being designed with support from the Tacoma Pierce County Health Department.

Workforce development

- Elevate Health is collaborating with partners to identify opportunities to decrease barriers for mental health clinicians wanting to pursue independent licensure in the mental health field as well as support employers to retain these employees once they are licensed.
- Elevate Health has been preparing to promote the Behavioral Health Apprenticeship Program in Pierce County and to engage employers, targeting behavioral health technicians, peer counselors, and substance-use professionals. This is a statewide workforce effort that requires quarterly reporting and meets every two weeks for planning and collaboration.
- Elevate Health is chairing the Care Coordination Anchor Strategy work group, which requires monthly and quarterly meetings with the other work groups and the community. The group is conducting a gap analysis to inform future care-coordination efforts.
- OnePierce contracted Open Arms Perinatal to deliver birth doula training to BIPOC populations. The virtual training began in December and finished in January. OnePierce is paying for tuition, materials, and stipends, as well as for trained doulas to attend their first births in Pierce County. OnePierce will make an additional payment to Open Arms Perinatal if births attended by trained doulas demonstrate improved rates of pre-term births and low birth weights.

Greater Columbia ACH (GCACH)
Serving Asotin, Benton, Columbia, Franklin, Garfield, Kittitas, Walla Walla, Whitman, and Yakima counties

COVID-19 response

- GCACH partnered with Medical Teams International (MTI) and Benton-Franklin Health District (BFHD), to locate and coordinate pop-up COVID-19 vaccination clinics in Benton and Franklin counties. As of April 17, 2022, 41 clinics were hosted and over 1,687 vaccinations were administered at trusted sites, including housing authorities, grocery stores, free medical clinics, churches, and food banks.

Community Resilience Campaign

- GCACH offers information as part of the COPE, CALM, and CARE Campaign for Community Resilience. This campaign is also called Practice the Pause. The tools from these models can improve resiliency — the ability to bounce back from trauma — and improve the ability to feel control over emotions and lives. About 3,300 people attended a training on this campaign during Q1 of 2022.

CIE

- GCACH has been working with their partners to establish baseline connections for a community hub in their region. GCACH, as the neutral conveyor, has developed a strong relationship with seven Local Health Improvement Networks (LHINs) which enhances their ability to establish a community hub. Each LHIN is a formalized group of organizations who coordinate and collaborate on activities to address the health issues and disparities in their respective communities. GCACH has used Washington Information Network 2-1-1 (WA 2-1-1) to make sure all the community partners’ information is correct.

HealthierHere

Serving King County

Care coordination

- HealthierHere has partnered with organizations across King County to co-create the Connect2 Community Network (C2CN), a regional CIE for King County. The C2CN will enable organizations to send, receive and follow up on electronic referrals, increase access to resources via a shared directory, and provide visibility of other organizations providing care in King County. C2CN partners will be able to share information and data even if they use different information technology systems. To connect these disparate systems, C2CN partners have co-designed the unified network infrastructure (UNI) architecture. When completed, the UNI will serve as a “network of networks” connecting C2CN participating organizations at any level of technical capacity. A request for proposals was launched in August 2021 to procure the products and services to implement and operate the technical solution for the C2CN UNI.

- HealthierHere invested in a mobile integrated health innovation with the goal to improve outcomes for some of the most marginalized residents of King County — frequent 9-1-1 and emergency department utilizers and vulnerable adults. Throughout this almost three-year period, the Mobile Integrated Health team has responded to more than 2,000 calls and served more than 2,300 unique individuals, on-scene or via remote care coordination. For further information about the MIH services, please see the Seattle Times article How Health One is setting up a model for alternative 911 response in Seattle from December 2021.

Health equity
• HealthierHere invested $1.5 million through partnerships with three Native-led and Native-serving organizations (Cowlitz Indian Tribe, Nakani Native Program, Unkitawa) to test innovations to improve care for American Indian/Alaska Native (AI/AN) and Tribal-affiliated Indigenous people in region to improve overall health and well-being and reduce health disparities. Each of the innovations is being implemented in partnership with Native and non-Native providers to demonstrate the value of traditional medicine in improving the overall health and well-being of AI/AN people in King County.

• HealthierHere invested $5 million through partnering with 12 community-based organizations to improve health outcomes and reduce health disparities through community-driven innovations over the next 18 months. The innovations include a variety of community-driven strategies including:
  o Addressing workforce burnout.
  o Addressing stigma and improving access to behavioral health services.
  o Incorporating the services of an on-site pharmacy.
  o Developing culturally appropriate services to address chronic health conditions within communities experiencing health disparities.

Each innovation is being implemented in partnership with physical health care providers, behavioral healthcare providers or other community-based providers.

Workforce

• HealthierHere has partnered with lead agency, Public Health — Seattle & King County, on a CDC-funded initiative, “Community Health Worker COVID-19 Approach to Recovery and Evaluation” (CHW-CARE). Other partners on the CHW-CARE initiative include Center for Multicultural Health, Global to Local, Healthy King County Coalition, International Community Health Services, and Seattle Children’s Hospital. This project will focus on expanding CHW capacity by resourcing partners to have additional positions and create a broader learning collaborative that will offer training and workforce development opportunities to a cohort of up to 75 CHWs. Trainings will build on the existing DOH core competency training for CHWs. As part of a sustainability strategy, HealthierHere and other partnering organization plan to engage with clinical and community partners, managed care organizations (MCOs), community members, and consumers to build support for the CHW model. Together they will champion its value related to improving access to health and social services for populations at highest risk for poor health outcomes.

North Central ACH (NCACH)

Serving Chelan, Douglas, Grant, and Okanogan counties

Community engagement

• In January 2022, NCACH initiated a new monthly, two-hour Partner Convening session designed to help leaders throughout North Central Washington connect and discuss how they can improve their approaches to health and well-being for their region’s residents. So far, NCACH has hosted local and national speakers who have offered explorations into distributed action, the use of the “Thriving Together” framework as a springboard toward creating vital conditions, such as renewal and belonging, philosophies into growing healthy communities that are used by the Well Being Trust, and an overview from Visible Network Labs on building networks of community partners as a way to increase collaboration.

Care coordination

• NCACH continues to invest in community-based workforce and community-based care-coordination efforts across their region. In February 2022, NCACH hosted a meeting with regional entities working

Policy Division, Medicaid Transformation Project
March 2022
on various aspects of care coordination and CIE in their region (e.g., Health Home, Help Me Grow, and WA 2-1-1, among others).

- In February 2022, NCACH staff met with local and state partners involved in Washington State’s Help Me Grow efforts (specific to early childhood and early learning supports) to support quality improvement efforts specific to needs across their region. As an outcome of this meeting, an NCACH local partner is now participating in a cohort of rural communities working to develop open-sourced resource-directory solutions. In March 2022, NCACH also cohosted a training with the community resource specialist from Action Health Partners (who serves as a WA 2-1-1 representative for Chelan and Douglas counties). About a dozen recovery coaches participated in this hands-on workshop, which included a look into the web-based WA 2-1-1 resources, and how this tool can be used to advocate for community needs.

Behavioral health

- In February, NCACH launched a behavioral health workgroup designed to improve relationships, communication, shared problem solving, and evolve the North Central Washington behavioral health system with effective coordination, sustainable strategies, and accountability among agencies. The third installment of the “Evolving the Behavioral Health System” series marked the first in-person event NCACH has hosted with regional partners in two years. More than 40 people attended the day-long session held on March 2, 2022, that delved into areas, such as shared problem solving, sustainable strategies, communication approaches, and strengthening mutual connections. The 10-session series will run until June 14, 2022.

Recovery Coach Network

- During Q1 of 2022, NCACH built on the efforts initiated last quarter to deliver recovery supports to people before and after their release from jail. NCACH is working with partners to bring recovery coaching services inside emergency departments. NCACH funding will support this partnership between recovery coaches from a local community-based organization and emergency department staff. The goal is to initiate and support recovery for patients who receive care for an overdose or who present with an illness or injury due to alcohol and/or substance use.
- The third Narcan vending machine in North Central Washington arrived on March 30, 2022, at the Advance Recovery Navigation Program located in Omak. Through a partnership involving NCACH, Beacon Health Options, and the Central Washington Recovery Coalition, the vending machine provides free packages of Narcan naloxone nasal spray. Last fall, the region’s first two machines were installed at sites in Wenatchee and Moses Lake.
- NCACH led a “Professionalism for Recovery Coaches” training for the four-county region with 20 participants in attendance.
- NCACH is now supporting a full-time recovery coach with HopeSource that will be serving Chelan and Douglas Counties. The region currently has 135 trained recovery coaches, with 30 employed full-time.

North Sound ACH

Serving Island, San Juan, Skagit, Snohomish, and Whatcom counties

COVID-19 response

- North Sound ACH continues its support for COVID-19 care coordination across the five counties — leveraging their community hub model — to supply COVID-19 positive individuals with support, including care and food kits, personal protective equipment (PPE), rapid test kits, rent and mortgage
assistance, and utility support. To date, the North Sound Community Hub has supported close to 2,000 individuals impacted by COVID-19.

- North Sound ACH partnered with organizations who are trusted messengers, CHWs, and promotores, acting as interpreters, navigators, and advocates for community members to access vaccine and testing sites.

**Community engagement**

- In 2022, North Sound ACH launched a Collaborative Action Network for all regional partners, which includes a monthly learning and advocacy series called Advancing a Just and Inclusive Culture. Five cohorts have emerged, each committed to specific action around their chosen topic: equity (all network partners participate), vital conditions for well-being, emerging focus areas, practice transformation, and care coordination.
- North Sound ACH continues to support People of Color (POC) Gatherings, monthly meetings where individuals from partner organizations and the surrounding community can maintain safe and supportive dialogues and capacity building.
- North Sound ACH, in partnership with Whatcom Community College, provided scholarships for students to complete a medical interpretation class. Scholarships covered the full course cost for 12 participants (bilingual in English and Spanish) and provided opportunities to intern with North Sound ACH partners across the region after class completion. This will increase career opportunities for students and provide much-needed interpretation services in the region.
- The Second Annual North Sound Race and Health Equity Conference was held on March 12, 2022, a partnership between North Sound ACH, Family Care Network, PeaceHealth, Chuckanut Health Foundation, Northwest Washington Medical Society, and Skagit Regional Health. The conference drew more than 100 clinical providers, with presentations on work from Tribal partners, medical residents, and diversity, equity, and inclusion (DEI) leaders. During the conference, funds were raised to support the North Sound Health Equity Scholarship, aimed at supporting students of color who want to do advanced study as they prepare to enter health professions.

**Emergency community response**

- North Sound ACH was able to leverage their community hub team to support community response to residents impacted by unprecedented flooding that hit the region in November 2021. North Sound ACH
  - Contracted with Whatcom County’s Emergency Operations Center (EOC) to provide case management services and team support.
  - Participated in weekly meetings regarding flood response.
  - Coordinated and paid for emergency hotel stays, food, and cash gift cards for families who had lost their housing due to the floods.
  - Hosted and facilitated meetings between community-based organizations, emergency response agencies, nonprofits, and cities to coordinate efforts to aid flood-impacted families and individuals.
- Initiated and facilitated discussion with Skagit County-based partners on building a community response network to have an infrastructure ready for future disaster-related needs.
- Contracted with HCA to expand Washington Listens in response to the federal disaster, which included staffing a support hotline for flood-impacted residents.

**Technical assistance**

- The North Sound Community Hub team continued to support Care Coordination Agencies (CCAs), train CHWs on software, and provide support for billing and other technical assistance.
• Other areas of technical assistance included support for Tribal-alignment work, requests for data, resources for working with LGBTQ+ individuals, and information on quality improvement, value-based payments, maintaining staff well-being, and behavioral health integration.

**Olympic Community of Health (OCH)**

Serving Clallam, Jefferson, and Kitsap counties

**Community engagement**

• OCH continues to engage in community conversation about local health issues with their [Coffee Break Video Series](#), featuring stories of those who have lived experience of SUD stigma.

**Community-clinical linkages**

• In March 2022, OCH kicked off a new action group to identify regional challenges and potential solutions to advance value-based purchasing. The group consists of MCOs and health-serving partners from across the region with a variety of experiences with contracting for value. The group will present a summary of their work at the end of 2022.
• In late March 2022, OCH brought over 60 regional partners together to launch new action collaboratives in alignment with OCH’s new strategic plan. The regional partners formed groups that will meet throughout the year to identify measures and a four-year action plan that will guide future collaborative work across the region. The groups will present to the OCH Board of Directors in December 2022.

**SWACH**

Serving Clark, Klickitat, and Skamania counties

**COVID-19 response**

• SWACH was awarded a $1 million Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA) grant in July 2021 to promote community engagement and outreach amongst diverse and historically-underrepresented communities in Southwest Washington between August 1, 2021, and July 31, 2022.

  In Q1 of 2022, CHWs under this grant conducted 15 outreach events in in Clark, Cowlitz, Skamania, and Klickitat counties. The grant cohort successfully supported community members receiving 131 vaccine doses and 76 booster doses. Additionally, SWACH provided 7,647 people in the region with vaccine information through door knocking, community events, and social media. The HRSA CHWs participated in three Learning Collaboratives, with between 15–30 participants attending each session representing all cohorts.

• SWACH continues to partner with DOH, local health jurisdictions, and multiple community and clinical partners to provide Care Connect WA (CCW) support for COVID-19-positive households. Representatives from every organization within the SWACH HealthConnect Hub convene monthly to collaborate and carry out health-promotion events.

• In Q1 of 2022, the Omicron wave greatly impacted the SWACH region. Between January and February, the HealthConnect Hub processed an average of over 40 household referrals for CCW support per day. The CCW services were able to provide 344 households with critical supports and connection to CHWs. The HealthConnect Hub paid $398,860.44 in household assistance funds for 323 households during Q1 of 2022 and provided grocery assistance to 610 households in quarantine. SWACH successfully coordinated with CHWs to provide immediate kit deliveries and pay housing assistance on time.

**Community-based care coordination**
• Pathways care coordination through HealthConnect Hub continues to be a cornerstone of SWACH’s whole-person care approach. During Q1 of 2022, the pathways model had 48 CHWs providing services to an average of 201 clients each month.

• The Community Paramedicine program has expanded in other communities and added a falls risk specialist to the team. The program is led by Clark Cowlitz Fire and Rescue with funding and project-management support from SWACH. The additional staff member is funded by the Clark Cowlitz Fire and Rescue, in partnership with Area Agency on Aging and Disabilities of Southwest Washington. The program was able to successfully implement a referral process with both Legacy Salmon Creek and PeaceHealth hospitals in Clark and Cowlitz counties.

Health equity

• SWACH is contracting with five additional agencies, to include 17 total agency representation in the HealthConnect Hub providing care-coordination models including Pathways. Beginning in March 2022 and continuing in May, new CHWs will train in Pathways care-coordination model, which allows SWACH’s HealthConnect Hub to center a diverse cohort of more than 80 CHWs. The expansion continues to develop new CHWs in diverse communities.

• SWACH also held a request-for-proposal opportunity for one-year Community Impact grants to focus on equity-centered capacity building, organizational design and system redesign for partners focusing on Medicaid population needs. By the end of Q1 of 2022, SWACH received 15 proposals and a seven-person community review committee will review and score applications in the early second quarter for funding.

• SWACH convened the first regional HealthConnect Advisory Council, a council comprised of 12 individuals with diverse geographic, agency, sector, and community representation. In Q1 of 2022, the council convened for its first meeting to review Care Coordination Expansion RFPs and select new partners based on applications.

Behavioral health

• SWACH partnered with Lifeline Connections to increase the access to, and accelerate licensure requirements of mental health professionals, and SUD professionals under the House Bill 1504 contract with HCA. This pilot project will utilize a dedicated, full-time equivalent (FTE) supervisor and develop tele-supervision processes to more efficiently supervise and train professionals seeking careers in behavioral health and those seeking to meet certification and experience requirements. This plan will be implemented across the multiple regions of Washington to address issues of instructor access and workforce issues in rural areas pursuant to ESSHB 1504.

In Q1 of 2022, SWACH staff supported Lifeline Connections to begin the hiring process for this role and provided opportunities for additional training.

• SWACH continued to support the Trueblood settlement in the region. During the first quarter of 2022, SWACH facilitated six Trueblood Taskforce and Trueblood Providers meetings, hosted one training event, and participated in a variety of stakeholder-engagement efforts.

Opioid-use response

• SWACH continues to convene the Clark County Opioid Task Force (CCOT), comprised of diverse stakeholders with representation from hospitals, health care, peer and recovery coaches, physical health, impacted community members, and more. The CCOT convened in January, February, and March to advance its community-centered work plan including providing harm reduction and no-cost Naloxone training to more than 100 people virtually.
With support of Beacon Health Option's COVID-19 Block Grant, SWACH is implementing five naloxone-dispensing vending machines across Clark, Skamania, and Klickitat counties. This is an innovative pathway to combat rising death rates due to opioid overdose. This pilot project aims to reduce barriers to accessing lifesaving naloxone by providing it free of charge at centrally-located community organizations that also provide treatment and recovery services.