ANNUAL REPORT
2021
MISSION

The Massachusetts Public Health Association is a champion for public health in the Commonwealth. We are a catalyst for change, eliminating health inequities and promoting healthy communities for all.

WHO WE ARE

MPHA is a nonprofit organization that promotes a healthy Massachusetts by advocating for effective policies, organizing key stakeholders, and building broad coalitions. We are leaders in the movement to create health equity by addressing the root causes of health and wellness. We promote policies that impact the major drivers of health outcomes, such as access to healthy food, safe affordable housing, and transportation. We also advocate for equitable access to critical public health services across the Commonwealth.

TABLE OF CONTENTS

02 Letter from the Executive Director and Board President
03 Your Stories, Our Campaigns
  Transforming Local Public Health
  Achieving Vaccine Equity
  Stabilizing Housing
  Advancing Transportation Justice
07 Financial Snapshot
08 Our Staff, Board, and Policy Council
09 Our Grantors, Sponsors, Members, and Donors
DEAR ALLY AND PARTNER,

In many ways, 2021 was a year of milestones for MPHA. We continued to deepen our commitment to listening to the voices of those most impacted by health inequities – realigning the structure of our policy council with this principle in mind and working in solidarity with grassroots organizations in every facet of our work.

We said goodbye to our longtime Policy Director, Maddie Ribble, who leaves behind a strong policy team well-positioned for the challenges ahead, and welcomed a new Deputy Director, Oami Amarasingham, who will be spearheading our policy work moving forward.

We made major strides in our campaign to transform the local public health system in Massachusetts, securing $200M in federal funding to invest across the state and building broad support in the legislature for enacting crucial policy solutions, such as credentialing public health workers and establishing minimum public health standards for every community.

To address the inequities of the state’s vaccination program, MPHA continued our work as co-chair of the Vaccine Equity Now! (VEN) Coalition, partnering with civil-rights, racial justice, and immigrant justice organizations to demand equity, transparency, and accountability in the allocation of vaccine-related resources.

We also maintained our focus on the social determinants of health, including access to healthy food, quality public transit, and safe, stable housing. Many of the partnerships we formed during the COVID-19 pandemic are informing and enriching this work, including our partnership with Homes for All Massachusetts, a statewide formation of grassroots housing justice groups, and our partnerships with community-based transportation advocates across the state.

Looking ahead, we are excited to continue building the movement for health equity in Massachusetts, translating the hard lessons learned over the past two years into new, more equitable policies. As ever, your support is crucial to the success of our work. We are deeply grateful for your participation and partnership.

With appreciation,

Carlene Pavlos
Executive Director

Neil Maniar
Board President
YOUR STORIES, OUR CAMPAIGNS
Transforming Local Public Health

“I am proud to be working with MPHA to transform the local public health system in Massachusetts. For too long our broken system has allowed deep inequities – and the consequences have been brought home by the COVID-19 pandemic. Too many of our families, friends and neighbors are being left behind. By coming together to demand both adequate funding and fundamental policy changes, we are helping to build a public health system that will be truly effective and equitable for the residents of every city and town in the Commonwealth. Our communities deserve nothing less.”

- Craig Andrade, Associate Dean for Practice & Associate Professor of Community Health Sciences at the BU School of Public Health & member of the Brockton Board of Health

Massachusetts communities deserve a 21st-century local public health system that provides strong protections to ALL residents, regardless of race, income or zip code. To achieve this vision, we must transform our current system, which is both inefficient and deeply inequitable. In a sustained multi-year campaign, MPHA and our partners in the Coalition for Local Public Health have been working to do just that.

In 2021, we made remarkable progress by securing $200M in federal American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) funds to invest in local public health infrastructure. Now, we are advocating for essential policy reforms, including minimum public health standards for every community, a uniform data collection and reporting system, and dedicated state funding.

Throughout the COVID-19 pandemic, the local public health workforce has played a critical role in keeping our communities safe – from carrying out contact tracing to delivering life-saving vaccines. Unfortunately, they continue to be hampered by the broken system they work within. Now is the time to transform the system and achieve lasting change.

Achieving Vaccine Equity

“MPHA has been a critical partner and champion in the effort to demand vaccine equity for Black, Latinx, immigrant and working poor communities in Massachusetts. They understand that achieving our equity goals is essential to any successful strategy to contain the virus, reopen the economy, and foster true recovery.”

- Dr. Atyia Martin, co-chair, Vaccine Equity Now! Coalition

From the beginning, structural racism has shaped and been deepened by the COVID-19 pandemic. Black, Latinx, low-income and immigrant communities have borne – and in most cases continue..."
Massachusetts’ long-simmering housing crisis has been exacerbated by the impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic. Since the state moratorium on evictions and foreclosures expired in October 2020, more than 30,000 evictions and foreclosures have been filed, and upwards of 110,000 renters are now behind on their rent. Current housing protections are not enough to meet the scale of this crisis and prevent even more needless displacement.

MPHA, in solidarity with the statewide grassroots Homes for All Massachusetts Coalition, is organizing to stabilize housing in the Commonwealth. A top priority is passing the COVID-19 Housing Equity bill, which would provide immediate protections for tenants and homeowners at risk of losing their homes. We are also advancing anti-displacement, tenant empowerment, and local rent stabilization legislation. Together, these policies would set us on a path for an equitable recovery by ensuring that the hardest hit communities do not continue to bear the brunt of the pandemic’s economic impacts.

Stabilizing Housing

"Working with MPHA has brought a valuable public health perspective to housing issues. After helping to pass the eviction & foreclosure moratorium during the early days of the pandemic, they have advocated consistently on behalf of tenants and homeowners. As representatives of the Homes for All Massachusetts Coalition, we appreciate their commitment to honoring the leadership of grassroots organizations and those directly impacted by housing instability."

- Rose Webster-Smith of Springfield No One Leaves, Isaac Simon Hodes of Lynn United for Change, Noemi Mimi Ramos of New England United for Justice, and Denise Matthews-Turner and Mike Leyba of City Life / Vida Urbana

Massachusetts’ long-simmering housing crisis has been exacerbated by the impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic. Since the state moratorium on evictions and foreclosures expired in October 2020, more than 30,000 evictions and foreclosures have been filed, and upwards of 110,000 renters are now behind on their rent. Current housing protections are not enough to meet the scale of this crisis and prevent even more needless displacement.

MPHA, in solidarity with the statewide grassroots Homes for All Massachusetts Coalition, is organizing to stabilize housing in the Commonwealth. A top priority is passing the COVID-19 Housing Equity bill, which would provide immediate protections for tenants and homeowners at risk of losing their homes. We are also advancing anti-displacement, tenant empowerment, and local rent stabilization legislation. Together, these policies would set us on a path for an equitable recovery by ensuring that the hardest hit communities do not continue to bear the brunt of the pandemic’s economic impacts.

Stabilizing Housing

"Working with MPHA has brought a valuable public health perspective to housing issues. After helping to pass the eviction & foreclosure moratorium during the early days of the pandemic, they have advocated consistently on behalf of tenants and homeowners. As representatives of the Homes for All Massachusetts Coalition, we appreciate their commitment to honoring the leadership of grassroots organizations and those directly impacted by housing instability."

- Rose Webster-Smith of Springfield No One Leaves, Isaac Simon Hodes of Lynn United for Change, Noemi Mimi Ramos of New England United for Justice, and Denise Matthews-Turner and Mike Leyba of City Life / Vida Urbana

Massachusetts’ long-simmering housing crisis has been exacerbated by the impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic. Since the state moratorium on evictions and foreclosures expired in October 2020, more than 30,000 evictions and foreclosures have been filed, and upwards of 110,000 renters are now behind on their rent. Current housing protections are not enough to meet the scale of this crisis and prevent even more needless displacement.

MPHA, in solidarity with the statewide grassroots Homes for All Massachusetts Coalition, is organizing to stabilize housing in the Commonwealth. A top priority is passing the COVID-19 Housing Equity bill, which would provide immediate protections for tenants and homeowners at risk of losing their homes. We are also advancing anti-displacement, tenant empowerment, and local rent stabilization legislation. Together, these policies would set us on a path for an equitable recovery by ensuring that the hardest hit communities do not continue to bear the brunt of the pandemic’s economic impacts.
Advancing Transportation Justice

“MPHA has been an essential partner in the campaign for affordable and reliable public transportation in the South Coast region. Their expertise in state-level advocacy combined with their commitment to amplifying the voices of local transportation advocates make them a powerful ally.”

- Sabrina Davis, Fall River Organizer for the Coalition for Social Justice

Massachusetts’ Regional Transit Authorities (RTAs) are a lifeline to the 55% of residents who live beyond the reach of MBTA bus and train lines. By operating bus routes and providing dial-a-ride services for people with disabilities, RTAs connect residents to medical care, food, jobs, and other critical services.

Since major funding cuts were proposed for the RTAs in 2018, MPHA has co-chaired the Regional Transit Authority Advocates Coalition, advocating successfully to protect and expand funding for public transit. In 2021, we secured $94M in state funds for RTA base operations and worked with our legislative champions to file the RTA Advancement Bill, which would ensure sustainable funding for RTAs, enhance support for capital projects, and support electrification of buses.

MPHA is also supporting the movement for zero fare busing. In 2021, we spoke out in support of several zero fare proposals and assisted the Zero Fare WRTA Coalition with coalition building and strategy development – resulting in the extension of fare free busing in Worcester through the end of 2022.

I have been honored to work with MPHA in the pursuit of true health equity in Massachusetts. Together with partners, we have achieved many milestones, from passing critical legislation to securing historic investments of state funds. I value both MPHA’s bold vision for an equitable future and its on-the-ground effectiveness in campaigning for policy change. Right now, we’re working together with our allies in the legislature and the Coalition for Local Public Health to institute critical reforms to the local public health system, including credentialing local public health workers and creating minimum public health standards for every community. I look forward to continuing our partnership to create a 21st-century local public health system that will provide strong public health protections for ALL Massachusetts residents for generations to come.”

- State Senator Jo Comerford, Senate Chair, Joint Committee on Public Health
FINANCIAL SNAPSHOT

Sources of Funds

- 78% Grants and Contributions - $908,180
- 13% Events and Conferences - $148,375
- 6% Membership - $71,130
- 3% In-Kind Donations - $31,940
- 0% Other - $3,827

TOTAL $1,163,452

Uses of Funds

- 72% Programs - $762,634
- 14% Administration - $142,295
- 14% Fundraising - $150,374

TOTAL $1,055,303
Staff & Consultants

Carlene Pavlos, MTS  
Executive Director
Oami Amarasingham, Esq.  
Deputy Director
Veronica Cañas, MTS  
Operations Coordinator

Ana Hidalgo, MS  
Development Manager
Kristina Kimani  
Assistant Policy Director
Jeneczka Roman, MPH  
Public Policy Specialist

Erin Rowland  
Communications Consultant
Tara Shea  
CRM consultant
Alexis Walls, MPH  
Assistant Campaign Director
Dean Wenick  
Web Consultant

Officers

President Neil Maniar, PhD  
Northeastern University
President Elect Damón Chaplin, MBA, City of New Bedford Health Department

Vice President  
Roeshana Moore-Evans, MBA  
Broad Institute at MIT and Harvard
Treasurer Heather McMann, MBA  
Groundwork Lawrence

Immediate Past President  
Jodie Silverman, MPA  
DMA Health Strategies

Board Members

Craig Andrade, DrPH  
Boston University School of Public Health
Cheryl Bartlett, RN  
Greater New Bedford Community Health Center
Clara Chan Farnsworth, MBA  
Wellington Management Company
Linda Chan Flynn, MS  
Lowell Community Health Center
Daniel Delaney, MA  
Delaney Policy Group
Chrismery Gonzalez, MPH  
City of Springfield Office of Racial Equity

Sarita Hudson, MTS  
Public Health Institute of Western Massachusetts
Swannie Jett, DrPH  
City of Brookline Health and Human Services
Stewart Landers, JD  
John Snow, Inc.
Keith Mahoney, JD  
The Boston Foundation
Anne McHugh, MS  
Boston Public Health Commission
Jasmine Naylor, MBA  
Massachusetts League of Community Health Centers

Tavinder Phull, MPH, MBA  
Mass General Brigham
Steven Ridini, EdD  
Health Resources in Action
Jody Rose, BS  
New England Venture Capital Association
Kent Siri, BA, Reify Health
Aswita Tan-McGrory, MBA, MSPH  
Massachusetts General Hospital
Dolores Thibault-Muñoz, Esq.  
Committee for Public Counsel Services

Ex Officio Board Member  
Tara DiDomenico

Policy Council

Jamie Berberena,  
Groundwork Southcoast
Damón Chaplin, City of New Bedford Health Department
Sylvia Chiang-Raposo, Revere CARES/Revere on the Move
Karyn Clark, City of Worcester Division of Public Health
Kerrie D’Entremont, Greater Lowell Health Alliance
Zach Dyer, UMass Medical School
Brenda Evans, UMass-Amherst Center for Community Health Equity Research

Paulo Gomes, H&HS Consulting Group LLC
Irene Hernandez, Active Life Adult Day Health Care, Fitchburg
Cristina Huebner Torres, Caring Health Center, Springfield
Anne McHugh, Boston Public Health Commission
Lesly Melendez, Groundwork Lawrence
Elecia Miller, City of Lawrence Mayor’s Health Task Force
Jeanette Pantoja, Metropolitan Area Planning Council

Allyson Perron Drag, American Heart & American Stroke Association
Catherine Ratté, Pioneer Valley Planning Commission
Cheryl Sbarra, Massachusetts Association of Health Boards
Risa Silverman, UMass-Amherst SPHHS/Western MA Health Equity Network
Jamiah Tappin, Health Resources in Action
Angela Wangari Walter, UMass Lowell, Department Of Public Health
Grantors
AstraZeneca
Blue Cross Blue Shield of Massachusetts Foundation
Boston Children’s Hospital
Kresge Foundation
Massachusetts Department of Public Health
Neighbor to Neighbor/Community Health Initiative Fund
Transportation for Massachusetts
Tufts Health Plan Foundation

In-Kind Supporters
Boston University Marketing Club
CommunicateHealth
Foley Hoag, LLP

Event Sponsors
AAFCPAs
American Heart Association
Association for Behavioral Healthcare
Bay State Community Services
Baystate Health
Beth Israel Lahey Health
Boston Healthcare for the Homeless Program
Boston Medical Center
Boston Public Health Commission
Boston University School of Public Health
Boston University School of Social Work
Cambridge Health Alliance
CareQuest Institute for Oral Health
Community Care Cooperative
Elder Services of Merrimack Valley
Essex County Community Foundation
Gilead
Greater Lowell Health Alliance
Greater New Bedford Community Health Center
Groundwork Lawrence
Harvard Catalyst
Harvard School of Dental Medicine
Harvard School of Public Health
Health Leads
Health New England
Lawrence Community Works
Liberty Mutual Group
Massachusetts Health & Hospital Association
Massachusetts Medical Society
Mass General Brigham
Massachusetts College of Pharmacy and Health Sciences
Massachusetts Councils on Aging
Massachusetts League of Community Health Centers
Massachusetts Nurses Association
Master of Healthcare Administration, Sawyer Business School, Suffolk University
MORE Advertising
Northeastern University Physician Assistant Association
Planned Parenthood League of Massachusetts
Point32Health
Public Health Institute of Western Massachusetts
Quinsigamond Community College
Regis College
Regis College, School of Health Sciences, Undergraduate Public Health Program
Rockland Trust
The Mission Fund
UMass Amherst School of Public Health & Health Sciences
UMass Lowell Department of Public Health
Upstream
Viswanath Lab
Tufts University School of Medicine
United Way
Home Health Foundation
Steward Health Care System
Caring Health Center
Essex County Community Foundation
Kresge Foundation
Massachusetts Department of Public Health
Neighbor to Neighbor/Community Health Initiative Fund
Transportation for Massachusetts
Tufts Health Plan Foundation

MPHA ANNUAL REPORT 2021
Organizational Members

Alliance of Massachusetts YMCAs
American Heart/American Stroke Association
Association for Behavioral Healthcare
Blue Cross Blue Shield of Massachusetts
Boston Children’s Hospital
Brookline Public Health Department
Casa Myrna
Citizens for Juvenile Justice
City of Lawrence Mayor’s Task Force
City of Worcester, Division of Public Health
Conference of Boston Teaching Hospitals
Dana Farber Cancer Institute
DOVE, Inc.

Fenway Health
Greater Lowell Health Alliance
Groundwork Lawrence
Harvard Catalyst
Harvard Pilgrim Health Plan
Health Resources in Action
Heywood Hospital
John Snow, Inc.
Justice Resource Institute
Massachusetts Academy of Nutrition and Dietetics
Massachusetts Association of Health Boards
Massachusetts School Nurse Organization
Mass Peace Action
Massachusetts Association of Public Health Nurses
Massachusetts League of Community Health Centers

Metrowest Health Foundation, Inc.
MLPB
Massachusetts Organization for Addiction Recovery
Northeastern University, Bouve College of Health Sciences
Planned Parenthood League of Massachusetts
Project Bread
Public Health Institute of Western Massachusetts
Regis College School of Health Sciences
Revere on the Move
The Health Foundation of Central Massachusetts
Tufts University School of Medicine, Public Health Program
UMass Amherst, School of Public Health and Health Science
UMass Lowell

Individual Members

Michael Adegboye
Agatha Adigwe
Madina Agenor
Miki Akimoto
David Alper
Jill Anderson
Jessica Andors
Margaret Anshutz
Helen Aroush
Arlene Ash
Abigail Averbach
Claudia Baier
Andrew Balder
Jeanne Baranek-Olmstead
Tania Barber
Kristen Barnicle
Elizabeth Barry
Cheryl Bartlett
Allison Bauer
Cynthia Bayerl
Ric Bayly
Debbie Benes
Elizabeth Bennett
Bill Benson
Noah Berger
Edward Bernstein
Alison Bettencourt
Stacey Beuttell
Adrianna Boulin
Mary Bovenzi
Meaghan Bransfield
Elana Brochin
Elizabeth Browne
Lisa Brukilacchio
Malcolm Bryant
Gloria Burnham
Sharon Callender
Jane Cameron
Scune Carrington
Sonia Carter
Stacey Chacker
Jeanne Chambers
Clara Chan Farnsworth
Linda Chan Flynn
Sonia Chang-Diaz
Chris Chanyasulkit
Charlotte Chase
Sylvia Chiang-Raposo
Bradley Cohen
Jessica Collins
Rosemary Connors
Ray Considine
Marty Corry
Sallie Craig
Huber
Helena DaSilva Hughes
Letitia Davis
Yuki Davis
Hellen Ddungu
Teresa Dean
Daniel Delaney
Catherine Delrey
Rosanna DeMarco
Charles Deutsch
Melanie Dineen
Kirsten Doherty
Peter Doliber
Sara Donahue
Joe Dorant
Patricia Downs-Berger
Enid Eckstein
Rebecca Edelberg
Joyce Edmonds
Cindy Engler
Stephanie Ettinger de Cuba
Ruth Ever
Joe-Ann Fergus
Rachel Fichtenbaum
Matthew Fishman
Sarah Fogerty
Lachlan Forrow
Susan Foster
Maryanne Frangules
Linda Frazier
Andrea Freeman
Elmer Freeman
Lise Fried
Marie Gabrielle Pierre
Charlene Galarneau
Helen Ganas
Mathew Gbemu
Donald Giddon
Kim Gihuly
Carol Girard
Garry and Evie Gleckel
Velma Glover
Karim Goin
Chrismery Gonzalez
Steven Gottmaker
George Gorton
Erica Gould
Tami Gouveia
Ruth Grabel
Major Donors

Cheryl Bartlett  
Noah Berger  
Linda Chan Flynn  
Jennifer Childs-Roshak  
Alfred DeMaria  
Tara DiDomenico  
Peter Doliber  
Matthew Fishman  
Lachlan Forrow  
Ralph Fuccillo  
Steven Gortmaker  
Sarita Hudson  
Carlton and Marilee Hunt  
Deborah Klein-Walker  
Howard Koh and Claudia Arrigg  
Stephen Kraus  
Stewart Landers  
Lynne Man  
Neil Maniar and Ami Bhatt  
Anne McHugh  
Tavinder Phull  
Erin Wentz  
Geoffrey Wilkinson

Donors

Madina Agenor  
Alisa Ainbinder  
Miki Akimoto  
Myron Allukian  
David Alper  
Jacquie Anderson  
Jessica Anders  
Craig Andrade  
Margaret Anshutz  
Arlene Ash  
Ren Audley  
Abigail Averbach  
Andrew Balder  
Kara Bandstra  
Jeanne Baranek-Olmstead  
Tania Barber  
Shaliwa Barbiye  
Margot Barnet  
Kristen Barnicle  
Naomi Bar-Yam  
Shelley Bascome  
Allison Bauer  
Cynthia Bayerl  
Sanford Bell  
Sarah Benes  
Elizabeth Bennett  
Bill Benson  
Jenna Berent  
Andrea Bertheaud  
Stacey Beuttell  
Rebecca Bilodeau  
Nancy Bissell  
Robert Blendon  
Mary Bovenzi  
Amy Branham  
Joyce Brewer  
Elana Brochin  
Bonnie Brodowski  
Elizabeth Browne  
Mary Brush  
Susan Buchholz  
Lauren Buck  
Nick Burka  
Noreen Burke  
Anna Bury  
Samantha Isabel Calero  
Sharon Callender  
Devan Carr  
Sonia Carter  
Kerniah Casseus  
Stacey Chacker  
Jeanne Chambers  
Clara Chan Farnsworth  
Sonia Chang-Diaz  
Chris Chanyasulkit  
Pietra Check  
Sylvia Chiang  
Sylvia Chiang-Raposo  
Bradley Cohen  
Mary Cole  
Jessica Collins  
Lisa Conley  
Rosemary Connors  
Ray Considine  
Marty Corry  
Michele Craig  
Leslie Crisostomo  
Alba Cruz Davis  
Aine Cryts  
Michael Curry  
Helena DaSilva Hughes  
Yuki Davis  
Hellen Ddungu  
Teresa Dean  
Daniel Delaney  
Catherine DeLorey  
Jeanne Deutsch  
Leslie Diaz  
Kirsten Doherty  
Daniel Dooley  
Joe Dorant  
Patricia Downs-Berger  
Heather Drake  
Joyce Dwyer  
Angela E Kelly  
Enid Eckstein  
Rebecca Edelson  
Tara Edschick  
Cindy Engler  
Susan Entin  
Benjamin Evoldi  
Diana Erani  
Priscila Espinosa  
Stephanie Ettinger de Cuba  
Brenda Evans  
Ruth Ever  
Michele Farry  
Louis Fazan  
Joe-Ann Fergus  
Maria Ferrero  
Rachel Fichtenbaum  
Anna Marie Finley  
Kelly Flannery  
Jocelyn Forbush  
Susan Foster  
Anne Fox  
Maryanne Frangules  
Lindsey Fratus  
Linda Frazier  
Andrea Freeman  
Elmer Freeman  
Lise Fried  
Marie Gabrielle Pierre  
Helen Ganas  
Donald Giddon  
Carol Girard  
Garry and Evie Gleichel  
Karim Goins  
Phil Gona  
Sabrina Gonzalez  
Phillip Gonzalez  
Chismery Gonzalez  
Christine Gordon-Davis  
Tami Gouveia  
Katherine Greiner  
Dorcas Grigg-Saito  
Gulson Gul  
Javier Gutiérrez  
Jalily Guzman-Rivera  
Mojgan Haji  
Heather-Lyn Haley  
Sharon Hall-Smith  
Deborah Hamilton  
Cathryn Hampson  
Veronica Handunge  
Maleha Haroon  
Sara Harris  
Jennifer Hart  
Paul Hattis  
Essi Havon  
Laura Hayman  
Ana Hidalgo  
Stephany Infante  
Melissa Interess