



Arizona Alliance for **ADOLESCENT HEALTH**

At the Arizona Alliance for Adolescent Health (The Alliance), we believe individuals working with youth benefit from opportunities for strategic and collective action that has lasting impact on adolescent's health and wellbeing.

Adolescence is a critical stage of development during which foundations for lifelong health and well-being are established. These foundations have long-term implications for youth development and are impacted by a complex interplay of physical, emotional, social, and environmental factors.

Adolescents have long dealt with significant gaps in the delivery of clinical and preventive services across Arizona's health systems. These barriers to delivering high quality, developmentally appropriate and comprehensive health services to youth often result in health inequities, poorly coordinated care, and missed opportunities for health promotion and disease prevention. To address these barriers, Affirm (formerly Arizona Family Health Partnership) assembled The Alliance, a statewide coalition of youth-serving individuals and organizations across medical, behavioral, and social service sectors. The Alliance has identified a distinct opportunity to improve adolescent health: **expand adolescents' access to high quality healthcare and social services, and improve coordination of care and service delivery across these systems.**

The Alliance will advance health equity for youth 12-24 years of age in Arizona by:

- Convening experts in clinical practice, research, health policy, and public health from across disciplines to examine and address what contributes to health disparities for youth in Arizona.
- Establishing a community of practice as a forum to identify, develop, and disseminate best practices and innovative strategies to overcome barriers to delivering high-quality health and social services for adolescents.
- Working collectively to coordinate opportunities and develop resources to support youth-serving professionals through training and education, workforce development, and capacity building.
- Establishing select indicators as shared measures of adolescent health and wellbeing that will be tracked over time to assess the state of adolescent health and impact of systems level change efforts to improve health outcomes for youth.

In the Fall of 2022, The Alliance advanced a formal structure for the group, securing key organizational partners as a backbone to provide leadership (Organizational Partners) while we continue to engage individual and institutional members (Alliance Members) in developing a statewide coalition. Organizational Partners include Affirm, Children's Action Alliance, The American Academy of Pediatrics – Arizona Chapter, and the Arizona Public Health Association.

Both Organizational Partners and Alliance Members will inform and drive the work to advance health equity and support adolescents to achieve optimal health and wellbeing, providing them an opportunity to thrive as they transition into adulthood.

Interested in joining The Alliance? Contact Affirm Adolescent Health Program Manager, Tracy Pedrotti at tpedrotti@affirmaz.org or at 602-258-5777.

The Alliance is a program of

