Children’s Health Fund and Henry J. Austin Health Center

Community Health Equity and Engagement Roundtable (CHEER)

June 22, 2023 | Trenton, New Jersey

With generous support from Sanofi, Children's Health Fund launched CHEERs in 2021 to bring together community stakeholders to better understand the challenges and successes that impact children's health to develop localized solutions.

CHF hosted a CHEER in Trenton, NJ in collaboration with our national network partner, Henry J. Austin Health Center on June 22, 2023. This roundtable reconvened community stakeholders—including representatives from organizations focused on housing services, healthcare, autism support, legal aid, and immigrant services—a year after identifying the need for greater community collaboration to address siloed services. By having individuals working to offer a diversity of resources to various populations, we were able to bring a wide range of perspectives to the discussion and effectively establish new relationships to foster community collaboration. The CHEER successfully promoted equity and accountability within the community, encouraged collaboration across sectors, and identified strategies to build trust in healthcare and social service systems. CHF will incorporate key takeaways from these discussions into a starter guide for the "Community Cousins" program that was conceptualized at a Trenton CHEER in 2022.

Key Takeaways
- Shared proven methods to build trust in local healthcare, housing, and social service organizations
- Developed concrete strategies to increase awareness and engagement around available community resources
- Cultivated relationships to foster new opportunities for partnership and collaboration

Upcoming CHEERs will be held at a Native American high school in Riverside, CA and a new community for potential CHF national network expansion.