



DESERT HEALTHCARE
DISTRICT & FOUNDATION

2021-2026 Strategic Plan: Term Definitions

Specialty care professionals:

- A physician or practitioner who has education, training, or qualifications in a specialty, other than primary care, beyond the education or qualifications required for the license. (Source: [Cornell Law School](#))

Cultural competency:

- Cultural competence is the integration and transformation of knowledge about individuals and groups of people into specific standards, policies, practices, and attitudes used in appropriate cultural settings to increase the quality of services; thereby producing better outcomes.
 - Principles of cultural competence include:
 - Define culture broadly.
 - Value clients' cultural beliefs.
 - Recognize complexity in language interpretation.
 - Facilitate learning between providers and communities.
 - Involve the community in defining and addressing service needs.
 - Collaborate with other agencies.
 - Professionalize staff hiring and training.
 - Institutionalize cultural competence.
- Source: [Centers for Disease Control and Prevention](#)

Underserved communities:

- In terms of healthcare access, underserved populations include consumers who share one or more of the following characteristics:
 - Receive fewer health care services.
 - Encounter barriers to accessing primary health care services (e.g., economic, cultural, and/or linguistic).
 - Have a lack of familiarity with the health care delivery system.
 - Face a shortage of readily available providers.
- Source: [U.S. Department of Health & Human Services](#)

Geographic dispersion:

- Increase the geographic accessibility to direct healthcare sites

Social determinants of health

- Social determinants of health are the conditions in the environments where people are born, live, learn, work, play, worship, and age that affect a wide range of health, functioning, and quality-of-life outcomes and risks. SDOH can be grouped into 5 domains:
 1. Economic Stability

2. Education Access
 3. Healthcare Access and Quality
 4. Neighborhood and Built Environment
 5. Social and Community Context
- Source: [U.S. Department of Health & Human Services – Office of Disease Prevention and Health Promotion](#)

Homelessness

- Literally Homeless:
 - Has a primary nighttime residence that is a public or private place not meant for human habitation; or
 - Is living in a publicly or privately operated shelter designated to provide temporary living arrangements (including congregate shelters, transitional housing, and hotels and motels paid for by charitable organizations or by federal, state and local government programs); or
 - Is exiting an institution where (s)he has resided for 90 days or less and who resided in an emergency shelter or place not meant for human habitation immediately before entering that institution.
- Imminent Risk of Homelessness:
 - Residence will be lost within 14 days of the date of application for homeless assistance;
 - No subsequent residence has been identified; and
 - The individual or family lacks the resources or support networks needed to obtain other permanent housing.
- Homeless Under Other Federal Statutes:
 - Are defined as homeless under the other listed federal statutes;
 - Have not had a lease, ownership interest in permanent housing during the 60 days prior to the homeless assistance application;
 - Have experienced persistent instability as measured by two moves or more during the preceding 60 days; and
 - Can be expected to continue in such status for an extended period of time due to special needs or barriers
- Fleeing/Attempting to Flee Domestic Violence:
 - Is fleeing, or is attempting to flee, domestic violence;
 - Has no other residence; and
 - Lacks the resources or support networks to obtain other permanent housing
- Source: [U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development](#)

The McKinney-Vento Act defines homeless children and youth as individuals who lack a fixed, regular, and adequate nighttime residence. This definition also includes:

- Children and youth who are sharing the housing of other persons due to loss of housing, economic hardship, or a similar reason
- Children and youth who may be living in motels, hotels, trailer parks, shelters
- Children and youth who have a primary nighttime residence that is a public or private place not designed for or ordinarily used as a regular sleeping accommodation for human beings
- Children and youth who are living in cars, parks, public spaces, abandoned buildings, substandard housing, bus or train stations, or similar settings, or

- Migratory children who qualify as homeless because they are children who are living in similar circumstances listed above
- Source: [California Department of Education](#)

Poverty:

- “Poverty is hunger. Poverty is lack of shelter. Poverty is being sick and not being able to see a doctor. Poverty is not having access to school and not knowing how to read. Poverty is not having a job, is fear for the future, living one day at a time. Poverty has many faces, changing from place to place and across time, and has been described in many ways . Most often, poverty is a situation people want to escape. So poverty is a call to action — for the poor and the wealthy alike — a call to change the world so that many more may have enough to eat, adequate shelter, access to education and health, protection from violence, and a voice in what happens in their communities.” – The World Bank Organization
- As the threshold to define "poor" expanded, the World Bank developed indicators to assess the causes of poverty, its non-income dimensions and its contributors. The indicator levels include:
 - Education.
 - Health.
 - Access to social services.
 - Vulnerability.
 - Social exclusion.
 - Access to social capital.
- Source: [The World Bank Organization](#)

Health action planning

- Provides affordable housing developers a process for integrating health into affordable housing design and development activities. This innovative process pairs affordable housing developers with public health professionals to prioritize the health needs specific to their community through data analysis and community engagement, resulting in cost-effective strategies that amplify project goals and improve factors that drive health and well-being for residents.
- Source: [Enterprise Green Communities](#)

Health education:

- Health education presents information to target populations on particular health topics, including the health benefits/threats they face, and provides tools to build capacity and support behavior change in an appropriate setting.
- Source: [Rural Health Information Hub](#)

School resources:

- School-based health and wellness initiatives

Grantmaking Definitions:

- *Project deliverable*: an outcome that is achieved as a result of a project.
- *Performance measure*: a measure of how well a program, agency, or service system is working.
- *Evaluation*: a plan that demonstrates how you will evaluate the success of a project deliverable.