

DHCD/F FY2027-2031 Strategic Plan Definitions

The below are taken directly from the [2021-2026 Strategic Plan: Term Definitions](#)

Behavioral Health Professional:

- Healthcare professionals who assess, prevent, treat, and support individuals experiencing mental health issues, substance use disorders, and other behavioral challenges. These workers include, but are not limited to, mental health counselors, social workers, behavioral health case managers, outpatient clinicians, school clinicians, and other allied health professionals. They provide therapy, counseling, crisis intervention, and support services to help individuals improve their mental and emotional well-being, manage symptoms, and lead healthier, more balanced lives.

Primary Care Professional:

- Healthcare professionals who serve as the primary point of contact for patients in the healthcare system, providing comprehensive and ongoing care for a wide range of health issues. These workers include, but are not limited to, doctors, nurses, nurse practitioners, physician assistants, and other allied health professionals who offer preventive care, diagnose and treat common illnesses, manage chronic conditions, and coordinate specialist referrals. Primary care workers focus on maintaining overall health and well-being, emphasizing preventive measures, health education, and the long-term management of patient health.

Specialty Care Professional:

- Healthcare professionals with advanced training and expertise in a specific area of medicine, providing specialized care for medical conditions or patient needs. These workers include, but are not limited to, specialists like cardiologists, oncologists, neurologists, surgeons, nurses, therapists, and other allied health professionals with specialized skills in areas such as wound care or physical rehabilitation. Specialty care workers play a critical role in diagnosing, treating, and managing complex health issues that go beyond the scope of primary care.

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 may include but not limited to:
 - 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.
 - Incorporate cultural competency in staff hiring and training

- Institutionalize cultural competence.
- Source: Centers for Disease Control and Prevention

Community Navigator:

- Facilitates access to and utilization of direct and supportive services by building individual connections and trust (I.E. Community Health Workers, Peer Support Specialists, Promotores, Parent Navigator, Community Outreach Coordinator, etc.).

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:
 - Economic Stability
 - Education Access
 - Healthcare Access and Quality
 - Neighborhood and Built Environment
 - Social and Community Context
- Source: [US Department of Health and Human Services](#)

New Terms:

Collective Impact:

- Collective impact is a network of community members, organizations, and institutions who advance equity by learning together, aligning, and integrating their actions to achieve population and systems level change. There are Five Conditions of Collective Impact:
 - It starts with a common agenda
 - It establishes shared measurement
 - It fosters mutually reinforcing activities
 - It encourages continuous communications
 - And it has a strong backbone
- Source: [Collective Impact Forum](#)