Health in Rhode Island: A Long Term Vision

**Vision**
Rhode Island is the healthiest state in the nation.

**All Rhode Islanders:**
- Have the opportunity to be in optimal health.
- Live, work, learn, and play in healthy communities.
- Have access to high-quality and affordable healthcare.

**Priorities**
- Provide the most appropriate care for people in the most appropriate setting.
- Focus upstream on root causes and invest in affordable housing, food security, and transportation to address underlying inequities and influencers of health disparities.
- Improve behavioral health outcomes by focusing on access to care, coordination of care, and prevention.
- Reduce wasteful spending in order to redirect those resources to social determinants and improve affordability.
- Ensure sustainability, accountability, and oversight of this vision, and maintain progress in key areas where Rhode Island performs well.

**Goals**
1. Eliminate disparities in health and contributing socio-economic factors.
2. Provide access to high-quality, affordable healthcare for all.
3. Focus resources to maximize health and reduce waste.

**Guiding Principles**
- Providing equal access to the highest quality health care for all Rhode Islanders is essential.
- Achieving health outcomes requires addressing social determinants.
- Focus on the long term and address root causes of inequality.
- Public-private partnerships are necessary to change the system.
- Collect and use actionable data wisely to drive and improve outcomes.
- Prioritize areas with the greatest opportunities.
- Invest in evidence-based programs, sustain efforts that are working, and garner best practices from initiatives in other states to inform our efforts.
In order to measure progress toward this long-term vision and goals, we have established an evaluation framework in partnership with Healthcentric Advisors and will monitor it annually.* This framework of nearly 40 indicators allows us to further explore underlying data sources and individual measures in order to drive local strategies and tactics. In particular, it helps to identify health and health care inequities. The indicators have also been aligned to each of the five priorities.

We will also track the Commonwealth Fund Scorecard of State Health System Performance to compare Rhode Island’s ranking to other states over time. In addition, we will monitor annually the Rhode Island Health Equity Measures. These recently released measures align with and complement our evaluation framework.

*A copy of the evaluation framework is available upon request, please contact the Rhode Island Foundation.

**Who We Are: The Long-Term Health Planning Committee**
We represent all corners of the health sector in Rhode Island—leaders of hospital systems and health insurance companies, providers of medical and behavioral healthcare, academics, advocates, public health experts, government officials focused on the health and well-being of Rhode Islanders.