

**RESOLUTION  
ROCK COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS**

Board of Health  
INITIATED BY



Katrina Harwood  
DRAFTED BY

Board of Health  
SUBMITTED BY

6/30/2021  
DATE DRAFTED

**CREATE THE POSITION OF A HEALTH EDUCATOR (HEALTH EQUITY ALLIANCE OF ROCK COUNTY COORDINATOR)**

1 **WHEREAS**, the Rock County Board of Supervisors Declared Racism a Public Health Crisis on June 25,  
2 2020; and,

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4 **WHEREAS**, the Rock County Board of Supervisors resolved to advocate for policies that improve health in  
5 communities of color, eliminate health and opportunity gaps along racial lines, and increase the success of all  
6 groups by distributing resources justly across all communities; and,

7  
8 **WHEREAS**, the Rock County Board of Supervisors resolved to support local, state, and federal initiatives  
9 that advance social justice; and,

10  
11 **WHEREAS**, the Rock County Board of Supervisors resolved to build alliances and partnerships with other  
12 organizations that are confronting racism and commit to engaging municipalities and institutions within the  
13 county to prioritize racial equity and to address structural racism producing disparate population health  
14 outcomes; and,

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16 **WHEREAS**, the Rock County Public Health Department is committed to carrying out the activities outlined  
17 in resolution number 20-6B-037 through the department’s role in coordinating the Health Equity Alliance of  
18 Rock County (HEAR); and,

19  
20 **WHEREAS**, HEAR is a multi-sector partnership dedicated to eliminating health inequities through the  
21 Community Health Assessment (CHA) and Community Health Improvement Plan (CHIP) Process; and,

22  
23 **WHEREAS**, organizations, including health systems, non-profits, and local government utilize the CHA to  
24 inform their initiatives and to bring resources to Rock County, through grant applications; and,

25  
26 **WHEREAS**, community engagement, collaboration, and relationship building are key components of the  
27 HEAR Coordinator’s role; and,

28  
29 **WHEREAS**, the current position within the Rock County Public Health Department, responsible for  
30 coordinating the work of HEAR is a project funded position; and,

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32 **WHEREAS**, creating a permanent position of a Health Educator (HEAR Coordinator) would ensure  
33 consistent and sustainable coordination of HEAR; and,

34  
35 **WHEREAS**, the creation of a permanent position for this work would help to ensure that the commitment of  
36 the Rock County Board of Supervisors to address racism and the disparate health outcomes that result from  
37 racism is carried out through specific and targeted initiatives; and,

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39 **WHEREAS**, the Rock County Public Health Department requests that a 1.0 FTE Health Educator (Health  
40 Equity Alliance of Rock County Coordinator), position be created; and,

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42 **WHEREAS**, there are no budget implications for 2021; and,

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44 **NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** that the Rock County Board of Supervisors duly assembled this  
45 8th day of July, 2021 moves to create the position of a 1.0 FTE Health Educator (Health  
46 Equity Alliance of Rock County Coordinator).

47  
48 **BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that there are no budget implications for the current budget year.  
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Respectfully submitted,

**BOARD OF HEALTH**

/s/Louis Peer  
Louis Peer, Chair

/s/Dr. Connie Winter  
Dr. Connie Winter, DDS, Vice Chair

VACANT  
VACANT

/s/Shirley Williams  
Supervisor Shirley Williams

ABSENT  
Eric Gresens, R.PH

/s/Dr. Kaitlyn Meyers  
Dr. Kaitlyn Meyers, DVM, MPH

/s/Danette Rynes  
Supervisor Danette Rynes

/s/Dr. Vijaya Somaraju  
Dr. Vijaya Somaraju, MD, MPH, FACP

/s/Debra Kolste  
Debra Kolste

**COUNTY BOARD STAFF COMMITTEE**

/s/Rich Bostwick  
Rich Bostwick, Chair

/s/Wes Davis  
Wes Davis, Vice Chair

/s/J. Russell Podzilni  
J. Russell Podzilni

absent  
Tom Brien

/a/Alan Sweeney  
Alan Sweeney

/s/Kevin Leavy  
Kevin Leavy

/s/Bob Yeomans  
Bob Yeomans

/s/Lou Peer  
Lou Peer

/s/Mary Beaver  
Mary Beaver

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FISCAL NOTE:

This position will be funded by a grant in 2021. A funding will need to be determined for the 2022 budget.

/s/Sherry Oja

Sherry Oja  
Finance Director

LEGAL NOTE:

The County Board is authorized to take this action pursuant to § 59.22(2), Wis. Stats

s/Richard Greenlee

Richard Greenlee  
Corporation Counsel

ADMINISTRATIVE NOTE:

Recommended.

/s/Josh Smith

Josh Smith  
County Administrator

## **Executive Summary**

The Health Equity Alliance of Rock County (HEAR) is a multi-sector partnership that is coordinated by the Rock County Public Health Department. HEAR works to identify, implement, and evaluate county-wide initiatives that address inequities and the health disparities that result from the inequitable distribution of resources. Currently, the position within the health department that is allocated to the coordination of HEAR is a project, grant-funded position. Changing the position to a permanent position within the health department would ensure that there is consistency and sustainability in the coordination of HEAR. As noted in the recently revised 10 Essential Public Health Services, an essential service of local public health departments is to strengthen, support, and mobilize communities and partnerships to improve health with a focus on equity.

We intend to utilize funds from existing grant funding to fund salary and benefits for a full-time Health Educator (Health Equity Alliance of Rock County Coordinator) for 2021. To ensure that the work of addressing health inequities through multi-sector partnerships continues, we are proposing that the position be added to our Rock County Public Health Department staff for future years. The position will be placed in Range 19 of the Unilateral Pay Grid.