



# FOCUSIN-DEPTH RECAP

## *A County Health Rankings & Roadmaps Webinar*

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### TOGETHER! HEALTHY KNOX

Erin Read, Together! Healthy Knox coordinator, joined us to share the process Knox County followed to select their strategic priority issues. Over a series of meetings, the Together! Healthy Knox 20-member leadership team used their assessment data and results to narrow to three strategic priority issues. Here's how their process worked:



**Meeting 1:** Knox County Health Department staff prepared four summary reports and four [health inequity one-pagers](#) with key data from their assessment process. Working in pairs, members of the leadership team were asked to pull out seven to 10 pieces of data that they thought were important or indicative of a larger problem or that needed more information.

**Meeting 2:** The leadership team put all of the selected pieces of significant data on a wall and began grouping them into categories. The result was a group of 18 categories that included such things as inactivity and obesity, distrust of government, civic engagement, and policy.

**Meeting 3:** Knox County staff put the categories on the wall, and asked the leadership team to use painter's tape to "draw" connections between the categories wherever one category affected another. Through this process, three "hub" categories appeared: policy, health equity, and partnerships.

The resulting strategic issues are:

- How can we achieve equitable health outcomes for all community members?
- How can we create a sustainable network of partnerships that effectively contributes to improved community health?
- How can we position health as a consideration in community policy and planning decisions?

Teams for each issue have drafted action plans and Together! Healthy Knox will be using their strategic issues as a lens through which all work in the community could be filtered. Check out their draft action plan [here](#). Learn more about [Together! Healthy Knox](#).

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## FOCUS ON WHAT'S IMPORTANT GUIDES

Visit the [Roadmaps to Health Action Center](#) to find guidance and tools for [focusing on what's important](#), whether you're just beginning your health improvement journey or are well along the way.

- **START**— We know we should set a limited number of priorities, but we're not sure how to start. Everything feels like a priority.
- **ACT**— We are committed to setting priorities, but we are struggling with implementing the prioritization process.

## TAKE ACTION IN YOUR COMMUNITY

- Use [Priority Setting: Four Methods for Getting to What's Important](#) (from Ontario Health Promotion E-Bulletin) to learn about four methods for choosing between a number of priorities.
- [Analyzing Root Causes of Problems: The "But Why?" Technique](#) (from the Community Tool Box) may help you identify the basic reasons behind a problem or issue you're seeing in your community and highlight where you need to start to most effectively address the issues. This technique is particularly useful for exploring social and economic factors such as employment issues or community safety.

## TAKE-AWAYS

We asked participants for one thing that they were taking away. Here's a sampling of what we heard:

- Use the tools for prioritization.
- Review the Together! Healthy Knox action plan.
- Use the process Knox County used to categorize significant data.
- Identify others in the community who can help support our initiative.



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## NEXT STEPS

- ✓ Register for our upcoming Take Action webinars [here](#).
- ✓ Contact us via email or phone. We're here to help!

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