

Develop a Wellness Fund for Long-Term Sustainability

What is a wellness fund?

A wellness fund is a mechanism for pooling resources from multiple sources to support community health initiatives¹. The Cascade Pacific Action Alliance (CPAA) is in a strong position to develop a wellness fund that would support strategies that improve health equity and health outcomes for all residents in our communities with a focus on addressing the social determinants of health while focusing on prevention and early interventions. By reducing per capita health care costs while improving the quality of care provided to residents in our communities, a wellness fund is a logical next step to developing a long-term sustainability plan.



Develop a wellness fund

The Washington State Health Care Authority is providing an opportunity through the Medicaid Project Demonstration for the CPAA region to earn up to \$85 million over the next five years. To receive this funding, the region must meet milestones and performance metrics that target Medicaid beneficiaries. Funding that is earned through meeting milestones is considered more flexible than traditional Medicaid dollars.

Staff is proposing a 10% administrative fee of the total earned project demonstration funding. This funding would help backfill Demonstration operations of the legal entity not covered by design funding, set up a modest reserve, and create a substantial wellness fund. This fund would secure resources for the CPAA Council and Board to further its activities in the priority health areas in future years after the Demonstration.



¹ Hester JA, Strange PV, Seeff LC, Davis JB, Craft CA. Toward Sustainable Improvements in Population Health: Overview of Community Integration Structures and Emerging Innovations in Financing. Atlanta, GA: CDC; 2015. CDC Health Policy Series, No. 2.