Arts Alliance for Health Equity Advocacy Efforts

Moving AHEAD is a collaborative initiative to bring the arts and artists together with community leaders from other sectors to positively influence health and equity.







Advocacy

Moving AHEAD created an Arts Alliance for Health Equity (Arts Alliance) that engages diverse leaders and organizations to develop arts advocates for health equity to drive public policies that support community health and wellbeing. Advocacy is taking action to influence decisions or create change for a cause or social issue.

To further understand the advocacy work of Arts Alliance members, the Moving AHEAD team surveyed those in the Denver metropolitan areas in January 2023. The survey consisted of questions around current advocacy work, level of influence, support needed to be successful, and how individuals have used the arts to support their advocacy efforts. Based on the results of this survey, the Moving AHEAD team and Arts Alliance for Health Equity members aim to advance the following identified health equity policy issues: arts and health, criminal justice reform, youth behavioral health, education and employment, housing, and health insurance and access to care.

Strengthening Advocacy Skills

Artists bring an authentic, cultural understanding of community that should shape health policies. Information collected from this survey and previous Arts Alliance meetings provide insights into opportunities for advocacy skills building. Arts advocates will be more effective at addressing inequities with strengthened skills to work with policy and decision makers.

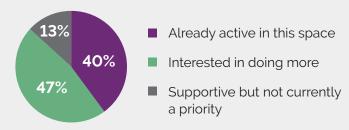
Advocacy Survey Notes

- Only key findings are shown. Complete survey results are available upon request.
- Survey respondents (n=16) had the opportunity to provide written responses to questions 2-4.
- The top 5 answer choices are listed for questions 2 and 4.

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Advocacy Survey Results

How do you see yourself supporting advocacy work this year?



What issue area(s) are your advocacy focus? (Or areas you're interested in taking action in)

81%	Arts and Health
50%	Youth Behavioral Health
31 %	Education and Employment
25%	Criminal Justice Reform
19%	Housing

What level have you worked at to influence change?

88%	Local (city, county, regional)
50%	State
44%	National
6%	International

What specific support(s) do you need to be successful in your advocacy work?

56%	Identifying advocacy opportunities
56%	Building relationships in coalitions
38%	Creating buy-in and support from other individuals and organizations
25%	Developing key messages
25%	Understanding boundaries of advocacy from your employer