



# NORTH CAROLINA ALLIANCE FOR HEALTH

## 2021 Policy Priorities

*NCAH convenes, mobilizes, supports, and empowers partners to advance equitable policies that reduce health disparities, prevent chronic disease, and promote health*

### **Tobacco Use Prevention and Cessation**

- Promote policies that support the implementation of an effective Tobacco 21 law in North Carolina, including retailer licensing
- Promote increased and recurring appropriations for robust and evidence-based tobacco prevention and cessation programs and services
- Promote a significant increase in excise taxes on cigarettes, e-cigarettes, and all other tobacco products in parity

### **Healthy Food Access**

- Promote evidence-based and/or evidence-informed policies and appropriations for healthy food financing initiatives, farm to school programs, farm to early care and education programs, food and nutrition services, and other policies that reduce food insecurity and improve access to healthy food for all North Carolinians
- Promote the continuation of effective and innovative programs and policies that increase access to healthy food for all North Carolinians put in place in response to the COVID-19 pandemic.
- Support improvements to statewide Division of Child Development and Early Education childcare regulation standards addressing evidence-based best practices in infant and child nutrition, including breastfeeding, and support the creation of statewide designation or recognition of programs that meet best practices

### **Active Living**

- Support the ability of local communities to promote access to routine physical activity, including safe bicycle and pedestrian access
- Support strong physical education and opportunities for physical activity and social-emotional learning for school-aged children
- Support improvements to statewide Division of Child Development and Early Education childcare regulation standards addressing evidence-based best practices in infant and child outdoor learning and play, physical activity, and screen time and support the creation of statewide designation or recognition of programs that meet best practices

### **Cross-Cutting**

- Support policies and appropriations for closing the health insurance coverage gap
- Support policies that reduce inequities and barriers to health, including housing, transportation, and equitable pay and leave policies
- Support policies that maintain and restore local control

*NCAH will also support other mission-related policies as they arise, as approved by NCAH members.*

Promote - Lead efforts and actively advocate for

Support - Support efforts led by members and partners

Monitor - Track and react to as necessary