



# Orientation to the State Health Improvement Plan (SHIP)

## **Mission:**

To protect and improve the health of every Montanan through evidence-based action and community engagement.

## **2019-2023 Health Priority Areas:**

- Behavioral health,
- Chronic disease prevention and self-management,
- Motor Vehicle Crashes (MVCs),
- Healthy mothers, babies, and youth, and
- Adverse Childhood Experiences (ACEs).

Find a copy of the 2017 State Health Assessment (SHA), 2019-2023 SHIP, annual reports, meeting minutes, and implementation resources online at the [A Healthier Montana website: dphhs.mt.gov/ahealthiermontana](https://dphhs.mt.gov/ahealthiermontana)

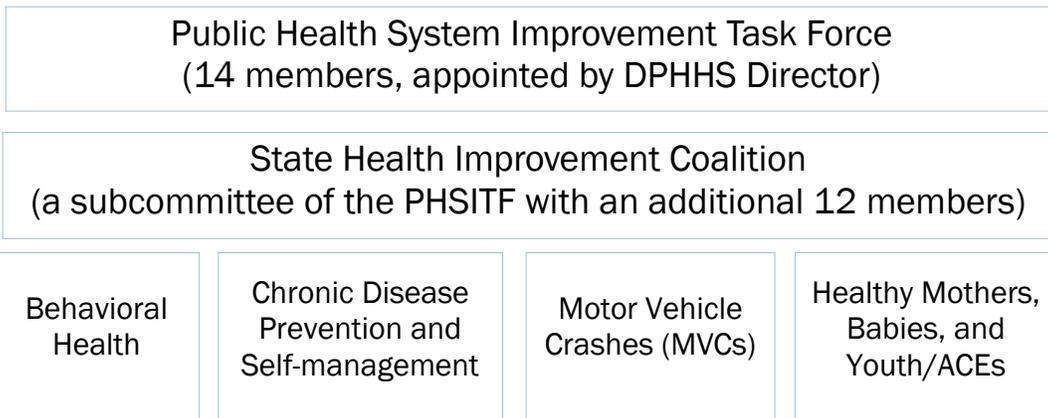
Last updated June 2020



## Overview

The 2017 State Health Assessment (SHA) and 2019-2023 State Health Improvement Plan (SHIP) were published in February 2019 after a public comment period and presentations to groups across the state. They were developed in collaboration with the State Health Improvement Coalition, a group of 26 statewide partners as a subcommittee of the Public Health System Improvement Task Force. The SHIP serves as a multi-year call-to-action to improve the health of Montanans, with key priority areas and evidence-based strategies to guide progress. A list of members is on the [A Healthier Montana website at dphhs.mt.gov/ahealthiermontana](https://dphhs.mt.gov/ahealthiermontana).

You can also access copies of the SHA and SHIP on the A Healthier Montana website to learn more about how they were developed and the community review processes that were used to identify the top health priority areas for Montana.



The 2019-2023 SHIP is the second round of SHIP implementation and the process has improved since the 2013-2018 SHIP cycle. The 2019-2023 SHIP is a more focused plan and implementation is benefitting from the following additions, among others:

- Dedicated MT DPHHS staff to serve as a coordinator and priority area leads;
- Established groups that meet regularly to learn from each other and share data;
- A standard evaluation framework to ensure continuous quality improvement and annual reporting.

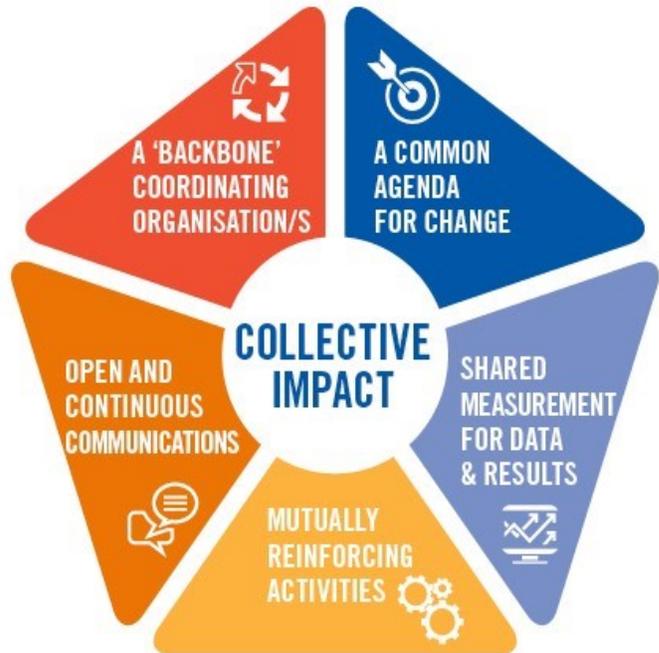


## Implementation Process

SHIP implementation is based on the Collective Impact Framework, with the following roles and responsibilities:

- *The SHIP*: a common agenda for change and shared measurements
- *All stakeholders*: mutually reinforcing activities and open, continuous communication
- *Various MT DPHHS staff*: open, continuous communication and a ‘backbone’ coordinator

Image source: University of Southern California, 2017



## Implementation Team

### SHIP Coordinator

- Anna Bradley, Public Health System Improvement Office (PHSIO), PHSD, MT DPHHS  
[ABradley@mt.gov](mailto:ABradley@mt.gov)
- Contact Anna with questions about SHIP development and implementation

### Behavioral Health Leads

- Bobbi Perkins, Prevention Bureau Chief, Addictive & Mental Disorders Division (AMDD), MT DPHHS  
[BPerkins@mt.gov](mailto:BPerkins@mt.gov)
- Dana Geary, Block Grant Project Officer, Prevention Bureau, AMDD, MT DPHHS  
[DGeary@mt.gov](mailto:DGeary@mt.gov)

### Chronic Disease Prevention and Self-management Lead

- Stacy Campbell, Chronic Disease Prevention and Health Promotion Bureau Chief, PHSD, MT DPHHS  
[StCampbell@mt.gov](mailto:StCampbell@mt.gov)

### Motor Vehicle Crashes (MVCs) Lead

- Maureen Ward, Injury Prevention Program Manager, PHSD, MT DPHHS  
[Maureen.Ward@mt.gov](mailto:Maureen.Ward@mt.gov)

### Healthy Mothers, Babies, and Youth/ACEs Lead

- Kate Girard, State WIC Director, Early Childhood and Family Support Services Division, MT DPHHS  
[KGirard@mt.gov](mailto:KGirard@mt.gov)



## Implementation Timeline

- *Every five years*
  - A new State Health Assessment (SHA) and SHIP are published.
- *Annually*
  - *January:* An annual report is released with evaluation findings, updated data, and any other updates to the content of the SHIP (if any).
  - *December:* Evaluation of the past year with stakeholder participation.
- *Quarterly*
  - Groups of stakeholders meet for each priority area. Meetings last about 90 minutes and meeting notes are shared on the A Healthier Montana website within about two weeks.
- *Every two months*
  - A newsletter with SHIP updates is sent to the A Healthier Montana email list, which you can sign up for at the A Healthier Montana website.
- *Monthly or more often*
  - Ad hoc volunteer subgroups take action on specific areas of interest. These groups form to accomplish a task and then disband. Examples of past subgroups include car seat safety, engaging local and tribal health departments in MVC prevention, obesity prevention, and developing a statewide ACEs and trauma-informed resource.

## Implementation Roles

- *Community member*
  - See the “How to Use the SHIP” handout in the SHIP implementation library on the A Healthier Montana website and be a part of the conversation to improve health in your community.
- *A Healthier Montana email list member*
  - Receive regular updates on the SHIP and share them with your network. Sign up at the A Healthier Montana website.
- *Workgroup member*
  - Attend quarterly meetings to hear updates from other stakeholders and share the information back to your organization.
  - Contact the SHIP Coordinator to share data your organization has collected or with ideas for ad hoc subgroups if you’d like support in convening a group.
- *Subgroup member*
  - Self-select into a subgroup topic of interest and participate in regular meetings to advance an action item with other stakeholders.