

Voices for Health Justice Project

*The **Voices for Health Justice Project** is building the power of health care consumer advocates with a focus on grassroots organizing, racial justice and anti-racism. As the lead partner on the project, Community Catalyst is collaborating with [Community Change](#) and the [Center on Budget and Policy Priorities](#) to provide 25 project grantees across 24 states financial resources and technical assistance based on Community Catalyst's [system of advocacy](#). Each of these 25 projects emphasizes building the power of people at the grassroots level to demand and win health system policy change at the national, state and local level.*

The **Voices for Health Justice Project** recognizes that too often, people confront a health care system that fails to meet their needs. People of color, low-income people, people in rural communities, people with disabilities, LGBTQ+ people and others face health inequities rooted in discrimination and structural racism. Building on the tremendous advances made possible by the Affordable Care Act (ACA), Voices for Health Justice supports projects seeking to build a community-driven, community-responsive health system by galvanizing the power of consumers and communities to demand and win change in how that system operates.

THE KEY OBJECTIVES of the project are to:

- Strengthen impacted individuals' and communities' voices on issues of **health care access, health care affordability, and the ability of the health system to treat people with dignity**;
- Engage consumers to make **lived perspectives and consumer-power a driving force** in advocates' strategies, agendas and activities;
- Change policy and system practice in a way that **responds to the needs of people and communities**, and advances health;
- Build a collaborative 'learning community' network of **peers, partners, and stakeholders** from diverse populations and with advocates working across their own and other states; and
- Create a multi-state coalition to shape a national narrative about the urgency of making health and health care systems more **affordable, accessible, and respectful of and responsive** to the needs of people.

DURING THE 28-MONTH GRANT PERIOD, grantees will:

- Center the work by authentically engaging impacted communities, ensuring racially and ethnically diverse representation;
- Build a base of grassroots support that they can deploy to win consumer-friendly/community-responsive policy changes to the health system;
- Build the political power of consumers and communities such that they are recognized as critical players in building a more affordable and accessible health system that treats people with dignity;
- Deploy effective communications strategies to collaborate on a cohesive health care narrative; and
- Achieve policy gains and/or wins in their states that advance the access, affordability, respectfulness and/or equity of health care systems

*The **Voices for Health Justice Project** is part of Community Catalyst's large body of work that focuses on investing in and building the power of consumer and community voices to prioritize the needs of people whom the health system has failed and engage them in driving policy and practice change. Along with our state and local partners, we are on the frontlines in efforts to expand and improve Medicaid, address health equity and create community-driven solutions.*

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Community Catalyst's mission is to organize and sustain a powerful consumer voice to ensure that all individuals and communities can influence the local, state and national decisions that affect their health.

