As part of its Aligning in Crisis work, the Georgia Health Policy Center, in partnership with George Washington University and with support from the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation, identified four principles that government agencies and local fiscal intermediaries can use to guide planning for use of COVID-19 recovery funds.

**Key Principles for a Resilient and Equitable Recovery**

- Aligning sectors and efforts is critical to advance health and equity.
- A coordinated strategy guides the work and investments.
- Intermediary organizations are ready and able to assist.
- Community leadership drives lasting change.

With coordination and a strategic mindset, government agencies and health-oriented collaboratives can use the funds to transform community health in visionary ways. Here are some practical questions to keep in mind that will help apply the overarching principles to planning for use of COVID-19 recovery funds.
Aligning Sectors and Efforts for Equity

- What are the key priorities for each sector? How can use of linked data advance these priorities and create a united vision across sectors?
- How can existing community health and investment strategies be leveraged for transformation?
- How would investments in integrated data advance equity goals?
- What capacity issues need to be addressed to bring community-based organizations to the table?

Coordinating Strategies

- Who is already advocating or guiding how the money will be spent at the state, county, and city levels?
- How can community organizations coordinate agendas and work toward a shared vision?
- How can funds be leveraged for greater impact?
- What other systems are impacted by identified community priorities? Is there an opportunity to work across sectors?

Harnessing the Power of Intermediaries

- What local intermediary organizations are ready and able to assist? Examples may include Accountable Health Communities, local wellness funds, community foundations, conversion foundations, certified Pathways HUBs, Area Agencies on Aging, health systems’ community benefit offices, and health-oriented community collaboratives.
- How can intermediaries address both the immediate and long-term needs of a community?
- What collective strengths and relationships can be leveraged to advocate for transformation?
- Who can be convened that can help articulate clear needs and plans for the investments?
- How can anchor organizations accelerate the current work of local intermediaries or health-oriented collaboratives?

Leading with Community

- How can equity be incorporated into planning and implementation?
- How is an equity lens being applied to this opportunity?
- What will community engagement look like at all stages of planning and implementation?
- How will transparency and accountability to community be built into the process?
- What metrics of impact will be reported and how will they be communicated?

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