Office of the Associate Director for Policy and Strategy (CAQ)

The mission of CDC’s Office of the Associate Director for Policy and Strategy (OADPS) is to bring about, define and evaluate policies and strategies that result in demonstrable improvements in public health globally and at the federal, state, and local levels. In carrying out its mission, OADPS:
(1) provides advice to CDC leadership in developing agency policies, programs, and strategies;
(2) creates and maintains partnerships to implement policies, programs, and strategies;
(3) monitors and evaluates programs to improve the public’s health; and
(4) ensures the agency’s scientific credibility, reputation, and needs are respected and supported by policy makers, program partners, and stakeholders.
(Approved 6/12/2019)

Office of the Director (CAQ1)

(1) Provides strategic advice to CDC leadership on agency direction and drives CDC towards actions to reduce leading preventable causes of morbidity and mortality; (2) ensures effectiveness of policy, program, performance, and strategy across the agency; (3) builds capacity throughout CDC for policy, program, performance, and strategy; (4) leads the development and management of policy and programmatic agendas with federal agencies and other organizations; (5) establishes and maintains strategic partnerships with key organizations and individuals working on public health policies and programs.
(Approved 6/12/2019)

Office of Policy Analytics and Population Health (CAQB)

(1) Serves CDC by amplifying the work of, with, and on behalf of the CDC Director, the Office of the Associate Director for Policy and Strategy Director (OADPS), and CIOs to accelerate improved population health, healthcare, and evidence-based policy analytics to inform decision-making;
(2) focuses on building, scanning, assessing, leveraging, and translating evidence for the integration of policy, population health and health equity, and healthcare interventions;
(3) strategically engages and collaborates with CDC CIOs and divisions, federal agencies, and other partner organizations to accelerate the uptake of evidence-based policy interventions across community settings and health systems (payers, providers, and purchasers);
(4) supports CDC CIOs and divisions in analyzing policy strategies by considering broad implications, interactions, and unintended consequences while integrating policy and legal scans, health outcomes data, systems thinking, and economic analyses to determine what works for improving public health;
(5) builds capacity agency-wide and externally for working in population health, healthcare, and evidence-based public health policy while ensuring that CDC staff have the skills needed to both analyze health and economic impacts of policy interventions and use those findings to inform programs’ public health goals;
(6) translates knowledge for policy, population health, and healthcare evidence by synthesizing, adapting, and distilling findings into actionable, practical, and understandable tools, resources, and messages for the intended audiences and decision-makers;
(7) leads and supports the policy clearance process to increase awareness among CDC staff about what comprises evidence-based policy content and how to communicate effectively about policy and regulations related to health and healthcare;
(8) supports priority topics, activities, and initiatives of the CDC Director, OADPS, and cross-CIO efforts with key internal and external entities (both federal and non-federal); and
(9) applies innovative techniques to gain insights while identifying new population health and healthcare leadership strategies and elevating new policy approaches by
considering equitable approaches, engaging untapped sectors, skills/capacities, analytic approaches, data, and methods. (Approved 07/05/2022)

Program Performance and Evaluation Office (CAQD)

(1) Serves as an advisor to CDC leadership on program effectiveness to guide science, policy, and programmatic efforts; (2) provides agency-wide direction, standards, and technical assistance for program planning, performance and accountability; (3) supports the harmonization of performance measurement, accountability, and program evaluation; (4) guides the collection and analysis of economic, performance, and accountability data; (5) facilitates continuous improvement based on program evaluation and performance measurement; (6) manages the CDC evaluation fellowship; (7) provides economic evaluation support to CDC leadership; (8) drives short-term and long-term strategic program planning; (9) supports evidence-driven program design with expertise, analyses, and tools; (10) promotes standardization of shared programmatic activities to improve efficiency; (11) coordinates action planning for high impact initiatives; and (12) facilitates information sharing and collaboration between programs and CDC leadership. (Approved 6/12/2019)

Community Guide Branch (CAQG)

(1) convenes and provides ongoing administrative, research, and technical support for the operations of the independent Community Preventive Services Task Force as directed by statutory mandate; (2) conducts and oversees production of the systematic reviews that serve as the scientific basis for Task Force findings and recommendations; (3) coordinates and manages large and diverse teams of internal and external partners participating in the systematic review process; (4) participates with other CDC programs and other federal and non-governmental partners in developing and refining methods for conducting systematic reviews; (5) assists CDC and other federal and non-federal partners in understanding, using, and communicating methods for conducting systematic reviews; (6) assists CDC and other federal and non-federal partners in linking reviews of evidence to guidelines development and program implementation; (7) assists the Task Force in producing reports on evidence gaps and priority areas for further examination; (8) establishes, updates, and evaluates the utility and use of the Community Guide website (www.thecommunityguide.org) by intended users; (9) convenes and participates with other CDC programs and other federal and non-governmental partners in: (a) disseminating products and promotional materials throughout the U.S. health care and public health systems and to their multisectoral partners via a variety of media, such as journals, books, documents, the World Wide Web, and other media, (b) developing and testing policies and processes for referencing Task Force findings in research and programmatic funding announcements to increase use of Task Force findings and fill evidence gaps, and (c) developing, refining, and evaluating methods for assisting users in implementing Task Force recommendations; (10) convenes and participates with other CDC programs and other federal and non-governmental partners in establishing methods for evaluating implementation, use, and impact of Task Force-recommended strategies; (11) participates in the development of national and regional public and private partnerships to enhance prevention research and the translation of evidence into policy and action; (12) provides epidemiologic and scientific support for health departments, nonprofit hospitals and other community-based organizations engaged in community health improvement; (13) maintains scientific expertise in cross-cutting measures of population health and population health determinants; (14) develops stakeholder-driven epidemiological resources including analytic tools and scientific resources for identifying community health priorities and health disparities, and monitoring and evaluating public health impact; (15) hosts and periodically
updates the Community Health Status Indicators web application; and (16) participates with CDC and other federal and non-federal partners to encourage multi-sector collaborations that support shared ownership of community health improvement. (Approved 8/28/2019)