



Executive Summary: THRIVE January 2026 Kickoff

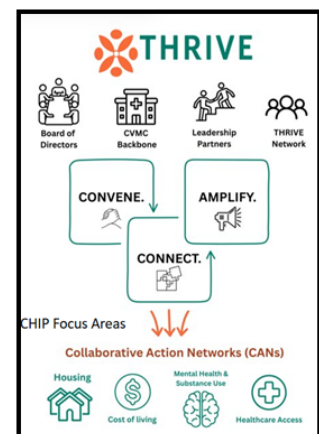
The THRIVE January 2026 Kickoff introduced an energizing and forward-looking vision to address Central Vermont’s top health priorities over the next three years. At a time marked by challenge, scarcity, and chaos, THRIVE reaffirmed its commitment to leading with unity and cohesion, as guiding principles for improving community health.

“The overall feeling in the room was so warm, hopeful, and collaborative, which is something we all need so badly right now. It’s such good work you all have done for the Barre and surrounding community.” — **Alison Lamagna, Executive Director, 211 Vermont**



THRIVE’s Governance & Structure

To frame the discussion, leaders reaffirmed THRIVE’s role as the Accountable Community for Health for Washington and northern Orange Counties. They highlighted THRIVE’s multi-sector structure—bringing together partners from healthcare, state government, and social service organizations—and emphasized THRIVE’s role in **convening**, **connecting**, and **amplifying** initiatives that advance population health across Central Vermont.





THRIVE's Direction for 2026

CONVENE.

THRIVE will foster cohesion and lead as a unified network, ensuring our work is grounded in shared purpose and collective impact. THRIVE will maintain its sustainable structure through engagement and inclusive representation across the Board of Directors, Leadership Partners, and the extended THRIVE Network.

CONNECT.

THRIVE will lead collaborative efforts by leveraging proven frameworks to guide action by using the [2025 Community Health Needs Assessment \(CHNA\)](#) and [2025–2028 Community Health Improvement Plan \(CHIP\)](#) as its foundation for focus and decision-making—guiding measurable progress on the region's top health priorities.

AMPLIFY.

In 2026, THRIVE will launch Collaborative Action Networks (CANs) to accelerate progress by amplifying initiatives aligned with established priorities and the Vermont State Health Improvement Plan (SHIP).

Key Focus Areas

Housing	Rising Cost of Living	Mental Health and Substance Use	Access to Healthcare
Improve the availability of affordable, accessible, and safe housing.	Improve health and quality of life by addressing the impact of the high cost of living.	Strengthen the capacity of the mental health and substance use services system to support individuals and communities.	Increase access to inclusive, equitable, and affordable health care services.

Conclusion

The January 2026 Kickoff reaffirmed that when we lead with clarity, purpose, and optimism, we create the momentum needed to turn challenges into opportunities. In the coming months, THRIVE will form goal-focused Collaborative Action Networks to drive progress across each Key Focus Area.

Learn more about THRIVE, the Community Health Improvement Plan and forthcoming Collaborative Action Networks by visiting the [website](#) or by contacting:

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