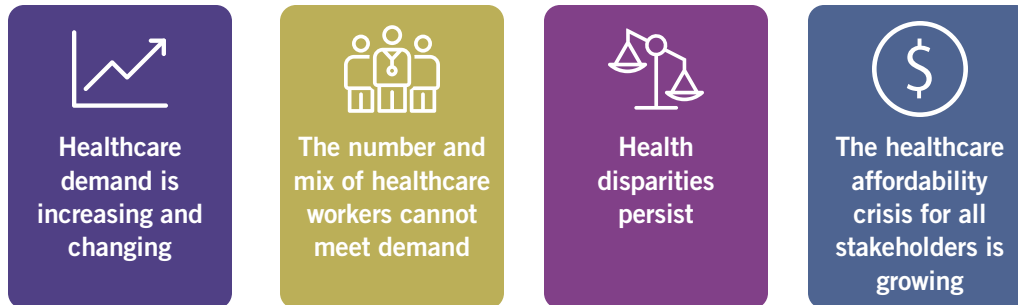


PATHWAY TO REFORM

A patient-centered framework for healthcare reform in New York state



The Healthcare Association of New York State's February 2024 report, *The Case for Change*,¹ identified and raised the alarm about four drivers pushing New York state's healthcare delivery system to an existential cliff:



Our report articulated HANYS' urgent concern that failure to take immediate and longer-term actions to address these drivers and their impacts would increasingly affect all New Yorkers and the providers who serve them. *The Case for Change* established a common foundation for stakeholders' constructive and innovative thinking on essential policy and delivery system changes.

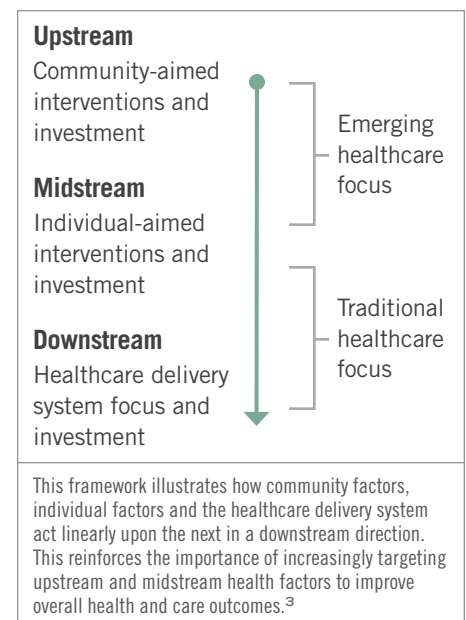
HANYS believes sustained local, state and national actions must be aimed at preserving and enhancing access to affordable, quality care for all who need it and reducing demand for care by advancing solutions that improve the overall health of individuals and their communities.

These actions must be contemplated through a framework that not only addresses "downstream" healthcare delivery but also individual and community factors impacting health outcomes that are "midstream" and "upstream" of traditional providers.²

Actions developed through the lens of the four drivers and this framework should minimally address:

- **Workforce innovation** to meet patient demand.
- **Payment and delivery model improvements** to sustain patient access.
- **Regulatory restructuring** to lower the cost of providing care.
- **Individual- and community-aimed interventions** to reduce health disparities and patient demand.

Being mindful of affordability at all levels, HANYS is committed to collaborating with all stakeholders to advance solutions like these to achieve a more sustainable healthcare system — and a healthier New York.







¹ Healthcare Association of New York State (February 2024) *The Case for Change* (hanys.org/communications/publications/case_for_change/docs/report.pdf)

² Adapted from the Bay Area Regional Health Inequities Initiative framework for health equity (barhii.org/framework) and *Health Affairs Blog* (January 2019) "Meeting Individual Social Needs Falls Short Of Addressing Social Determinants Of Health" (healthaffairs.org/content/forefront/meeting-individual-social-needs-falls-short-addressing-social-determinants-health).

³ Ibid.

The Case for Change

 DEMAND	The demand for healthcare services is increasing and changing due to an aging population, advances in medicine that are leading to more chronic and costly episodes of care and long-term care demand that cannot currently be met and will only grow in the future.
 WORKFORCE	A well-trained and supported workforce is the most essential component of the healthcare delivery system. New York state's healthcare workforce will face new demands in the coming years. The healthcare workforce challenge is twofold: we have a supply shortage and we lack the specific types of workers trained to address New Yorkers' evolving care needs.
 DISPARITIES	Existing disparities in patient health and access to care are driven by factors outside of the healthcare delivery system's control, including economic stability, housing, food security and access to transportation. New York state is facing a confluence of disparities manifesting in interconnected ways: disparities in communities, outcomes and healthcare providers.
 AFFORDABILITY	A healthcare affordability crisis is occurring nationally and in New York state, affecting consumers, employers, government and providers. As affordability challenges grow for all stakeholders in both number and scope, short-term and long-term healthcare financing decisions are impacted.

The interlaced effects of these four drivers complicate efforts to find solutions. However, inaction is not an option, as it would leave New Yorkers without access to care and create down-the-road problems that are even more expensive and complicated to fix.

There are no quick, easy or inexpensive solutions to these dynamic and complex problems. Stakeholders must determine and coalesce around two core strategies: how to effectively and efficiently meet the increasing and changing patient care demand, and how to reduce demand (and its costs) by improving health and providing timely, appropriate and cost-effective care.

Action is needed now.

Reform that drives patient-centered healthcare for all New Yorkers depends on our collective leadership and collaboration.



Access *The Case for Change* on HANYS' website:
hanys.org/communications/publications/case_for_change