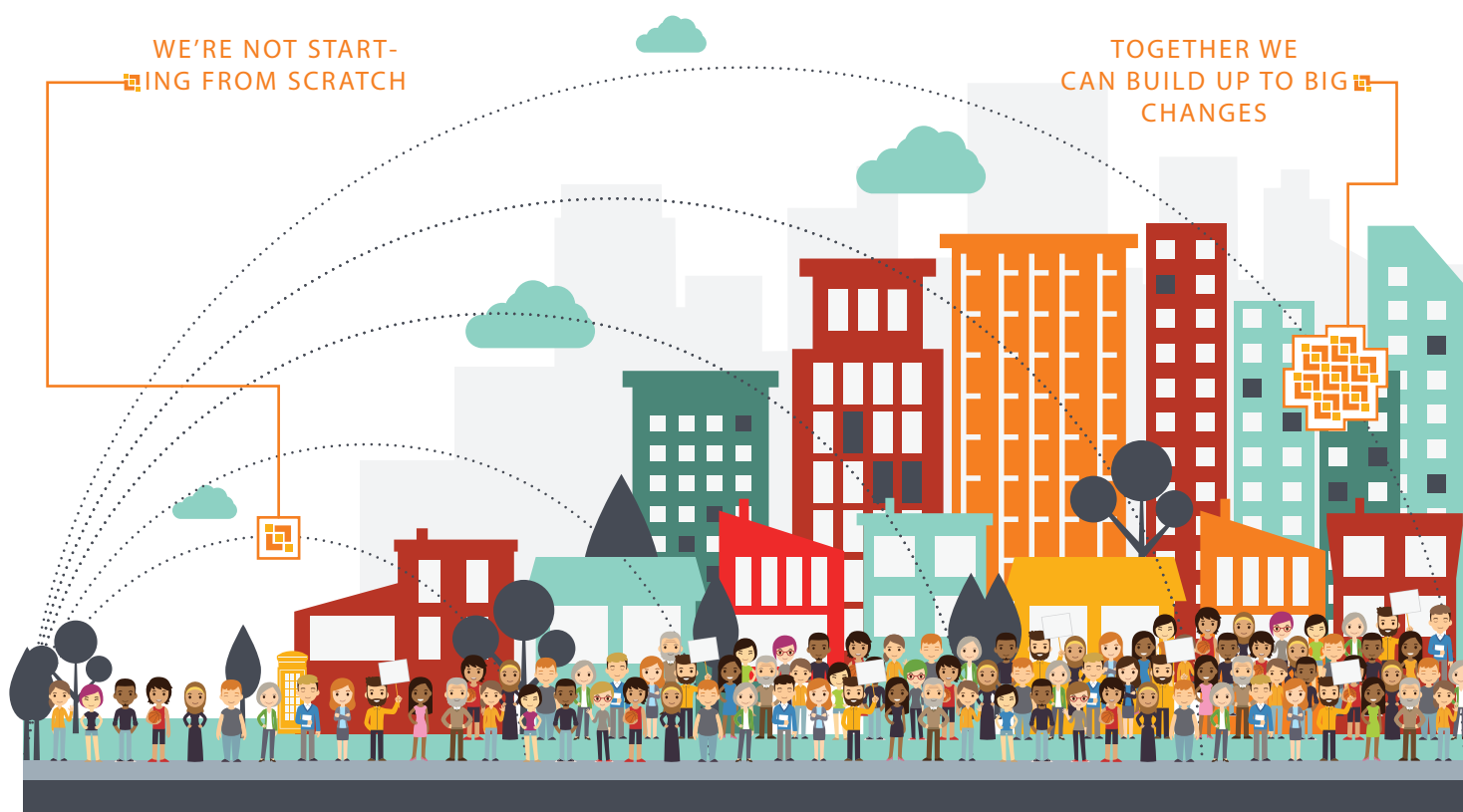


# COMMUNITY VOICES FOR HEALTH

## A NEW INITIATIVE...

...supported by the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation, with technical assistance from Public Agenda and Altarum, to strengthen the infrastructure for engagement in health. Public Agenda and Altarum will work with grantees, policymakers and researchers in each state to identify and leverage existing engagement assets, add new activities, support community-engaged research efforts, and connect with state and local decision-makers.



## INFORMED ENGAGEMENT MATTERS FOR THE HEALTH OF:



### INDIVIDUALS

Research shows that our health depends a great deal on whether we are connected to family, friends, neighbors, and health professionals – are other people looking out for us, and providing help when we need it?



### COMMUNITIES

Public health can be improved when people work together to solve problems, either by getting information, volunteering, or working with decision-makers and health professionals.



### STATES

If we give people a stronger voice in health policy decisions, our health care, social service, and public health systems will be more likely to benefit the people they are intended to serve.

# COMMUNITY VOICES FOR HEALTH

## GOAL OF COMMUNITY VOICES FOR HEALTH

To strengthen the infrastructure for engagement (infrastructure = a system for bringing people together on a regular, ongoing basis to connect, learn, solve problems, and make decisions), so that:

- 1 It builds on the ways people are already engaging – as much as possible, ‘meeting people where they are’
- 2 There are more regular, ongoing opportunities for people to engage – especially populations and communities who are marginalized, excluded, underserved
- 3 Engagement is informed and improved by data and sound evidence from trusted sources in the state
- 4 When people engage locally, they are supported and connected in ways that add up to a coherent statewide voice
- 5 People and policymakers are connected in ways that lead to better state-level decisions about health care, social service, and public health systems

## COMMUNITY-ENGAGED RESEARCH

A key element of Community Voices for Health is community-engaged research, which is a partnership between researchers and community members to:

- 1 Create and disseminate knowledge
- 2 Increase resident impact with policymakers
- 3 Contribute to the well-being of the community

STRENGTHENS ENGAGEMENT,  
PARTICULARLY AMONG  
MARGINALIZED POPULATIONS



SUSTAINABLE  
ENGAGEMENT  
INFRASTRUCTURE FOR  
COMMUNITY HEALTH

INFORMED BY  
COMMUNITY-ENGAGED  
RESEARCH



REGULARLY  
INFLUENCES HEALTH  
POLICY DECISIONS

