

# **Connected Cities (CC)**

Creating a world where every person can live their healthiest life

Optum Social Responsibility launched the Connected Cities program to enhance connectivity between remote colleagues in similar geographies, who could then focus on advancing health equity in local communities by tackling the five social determinants of health: safe and affordable housing, access to nutritious food, career opportunity and financial health, high quality education, and social connectedness.

Establishing a local Connected Cities program offers opportunities for team members to create a sense of community amongst themselves, learn about regional social determinants of health and pick a focus area to address through service work.

Connected Cities are run by a local Optum team member, or group of colleagues, who make up a leadership council. These Connected Cities leaders are responsible for focusing the group's efforts and organizing volunteer and social events.

## Leadership requirements

- · Passion for building community with colleagues
- Desire to make a difference in local community and play a leadership role in doing so
- Willingness to nurture 1-2 key service partnerships and ensure high quality service occurs
- · No tenure, level, etc. requirements—just a passion to build community and service

# A CC leader will help team members\*:



#### Learn

 Analyze health (in)equity in your region, including impact of the social determinants in the region



#### Serve

- Organize at least one service effort per quarter
- Based on interests/passions of the group and needs in the community, choose a social determinant area of focus and build partnerships with 1-3 organizations



### **Socialize**

- Enjoy personal connections of the type and at the cadence the group desires
- Organize one social meetup event per quarter



The Middle TN Connected Cities partnered with The Well, an area food pantry, to volunteer on-site and donate ~2000 diapers to families in need.

## **How Connected Cities are making an impact**

- We inspire and support employees in personally living our mission by coordinating activities aligned to advancing health equity and deepening our understanding of diversity and inclusion
- Build sense of community for remote colleagues
- · Activate team members to serve in the communities in which we work
- Further embed our culture and foster our values with an emphasis on compassion and relationships

If you have questions or inquiries about starting a group in your area, please reach out to Optum Social Responsibility



## Together for a healthier world

Connect with us to join a Connected Cities or see what we've been up to:

Yammer:

**Optum Social Responsibility** 

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