40 years advancing collaborative, equity-centered, and community-driven solutions to improve the overall health and well-being of all North Carolinians.

Systems Change Approach to Health Equity

- **Community Engagement**: Working in and with communities across North Carolina to ensure that those most impacted by health inequities have a voice in shaping solutions.
- **Policy Advocacy**: Partnering with community, advocates, and elected officials to shape North Carolina policy, facilitating healthier structures better equipped to care for providers and the people they serve.
- **Leadership & Workforce Development**: Training the next generation of equity-focused health workers who are equipped with tools to provide person-centered, compassionate care.

A Legacy of Success

- 45+ organizations across 61 counties directly engaged in FHLI work
- 7 regulatory and policy changes achieved since 2020
- 49 Bernstein Fellows over seven cohorts since 2006
In 2023, FHLI is:

• Expanding NC Rural Health Association membership
• Developing key contacts in every rural county
• Expanding programmatic work into more than half of all North Carolina counties
• Engaging rural communities in Bertie and McDowell Counties to improve behavioral health access
• Developing relationships with leaders in the North Carolina House and Senate and identifying top policy priorities
• Establishing an advocacy network for rural hospitals, clinics, and health centers
• Advocating for equitable, forward-thinking health access legislation
• Signing NCCARE360 contracts with all active health systems and one additional system not currently on the platform.

Whole-Person Health Equity

All FHLI programs are actively collaborating and organizing to build systems that recognize good health requires whole-person care. To do this, FHLI staff are working in five distinct areas of focus:

• Behavioral Health
• Access to Care
• Social Drivers of Health
• Resource Allocation
• Pathwaying

Rural Roots

Drawing on the legacy of its founder, Jim Bernstein, FHLI continues to center rural North Carolina in all of its work. The policy changes it achieves, programs it launches, and leaders it helps reach new heights benefit all North Carolinians, urban and rural. But by focusing on the individuals and communities that have historically been left behind, FHLI helps ensure that our state is moving toward a future where everyone has access to the care they deserve, regardless of where they live, how much they earn, or who they are.