

## House of People Participation in Health: A Place to Attend People's Representatives to Plan, Implement, and Monitor Health Programs

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In 1977, the slogan "Health For All 2000" was proclaimed, and the declaration of Alma-Ata was published at the 30th World Health Assembly in the former Soviet Union (Alma-Ata, Kazakhstan) (1-3). The overall goal of HFA 2000 is to achieve a level of physical, mental, and social health for all the world's people in the year 2000. People's participation in health was first mentioned in the statement as one of the principles for achieving primary health care. This principle has been described as "health by the people" and "putting the health of the people in their own hands" (4). Health is defined as a spontaneous phenomenon that should motivate people, and in addition to the

health sector, society should be involved in self-care. No success is foreseen for the health sector without the cooperation and interest of the people in the provision and development of health services(5). Besides, people's participation leads to increased health literacy and individual capabilities, improving individual health by increasing the satisfaction of voluntary participation, increasing social support to increase social communication and ease of access and coverage of services for vulnerable groups, and achieving justice (6).

The House of Public Participation in Health and the Council of Health Messengers are two components of the comprehensive health instruction (aimed at strengthening cooperation outside the health system) monitored by the province's Health and Food Security Task Force (7). The House of Public Participation in Health has been established to attract public participation as one of the principles of primary health care (PHC) and the missing link of socialization of the health system, with the participation of public mediators at both provincial and city levels. Members of the People's Participation Council are representatives of grassroots organizations at the provincial level that transmit health messages to the people and raise the people's demands in the council with the cooperation of their network mediators. In this way, people can participate in comprehensive health programs. However, public participation is not just about consulting and engaging people or using their actual and potential capabilities. Still, the path of participation must

lead to the empowerment of the people. The House of People's Participation was established to facilitate the achievement of the goals of the province's comprehensive health plan, empower people to improve their health and the environment, establish an easy-access system for people, especially vulnerable groups, and their participation in developing, implementing, and monitoring health promotion programs at the provincial level.

The designers' goal of new perspectives in health promotion programs is the community's participation as an active partner in all health promotion-related programs. Therefore, national and provincial policymakers are advised to realize

the important principle of public participation and social justice in health while strengthening the position and empowerment of members of the House of People Participation in Health through education, support, and promotion; using this capacity of the council.

#### Conflict of interest

The authors declare that there is no conflict of interest.

#### Authors' contribution

S.H. and V.B. conceived and presented the idea. S.H. and V.B. wrote the manuscript with support from M.H.L. All authors read and verified the manuscript.

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