

# BUILDing Together for HEALTHIER COMMUNITIES

Highlights from the first cohort of BUILD Health Challenge awardees (2015-2017)



The BUILD Health Challenge (BUILD) is a national initiative working to create a new norm in the U.S., one that puts multi-sector, community-driven partnerships at the foundation of improving health for everyone.

BUILD awardees apply Bold, Upstream, Integrated, Local, and Data-driven approaches to transform health in vulnerable neighborhoods across America. Together, they are strengthening partnerships—between community-based organizations, hospitals and health systems, local public health departments, and others—to address the root causes of today's most pressing health challenges.

## BUILD'S FIRST COHORT OF AWARDEES FEATURED 18 COMMUNITIES

- Seattle, WA**  
**Seattle Chinatown - International District 2020 Healthy Community Action Plan**  
Improving economic development, housing, and safety
- Des Moines, IA**  
**Healthy Homes Des Moines**  
Reducing pediatric asthma through home improvement and education
- Chicago, IL**  
**Health Forward/Salud Adelante**  
Pursuing legal solutions to make communities less vulnerable
- Detroit, MI**  
**Chandler Park Healthy Neighborhood Strategy**  
Restoring the heart of a community to improve public safety and education
- Cleveland, OH**  
**Engaging the Community in New Approaches to Healthy Housing**  
Remediating lead-poisoned housing stock
- Springfield, MA**  
**Healthy Hill Initiative**  
Spurring economic development and improving public safety
- Portland, OR**  
**BUILDing Health and Equity in East Portland**  
Expanding access to affordable housing, green space, and healthy food
- Oakland, CA**  
**San Pablo Area Revitalization Collaborative**  
Revitalizing local business and expanding affordable housing
- Ontario, CA**  
**The Healthy Ontario Initiative**  
Developing "health hubs" to foster strong bodies and communities
- Los Angeles, CA**  
**Youth-Driven Healthy South Los Angeles**  
Mobilizing youth ambassadors to advance community wellness
- Denver, CO**  
**EastSide Unified**  
Creating safer, healthier communities for children
- Aurora, CO**  
**Increasing Access to Behavioral Health Screening and Support in Aurora**  
Eliminating health disparities by age five
- Albuquerque, NM**  
**Addressing Healthcare's Blindsight in Albuquerque's South Side**  
Pioneering data-driven approaches to wellness
- Colorado Springs, CO**  
**Project ACCESS**  
Preventing neighborhood violence by engaging community members
- North Pasadena, TX**  
**The Harris County BUILD Health Partnership**  
Mitigating food insecurity by redesigning the local food system
- Baltimore, MD**  
**Healing Together: Preventing Youth Violence in Upton/Druid Heights**  
Empowering youth leaders to stand against violence
- Bronx, NY**  
**The Bronx Healthy Buildings Program**  
Retrofitting housing for sustainable health improvements
- Miami, FL**  
**Building a Healthy and Resilient Liberty City**  
Breaking the cycle of violence at all ages

## LESSONS LEARNED

BUILD communities gained valuable insights throughout this process. Here are several key learnings to help you address upstream factors that impact health in your community.



### MULTI-SECTOR COLLABORATION

When developing partnerships, consider these four stages that are key to successful collaborations:

- Building Relationships
- Establishing a Team
- Defining Roles and Creating Structure
- Communicating to Build Trust



### DATA

When thinking about sharing data among partners, craft agreements that describe how data will be used and how partners can access the data. This can be done in compliance with HIPAA regulations.



### POLICY

Policy levers can achieve significant results in communities. Partners should work toward alignment of policy priorities at the outset of a project.

### SUSTAINABILITY

Don't wait until the end of your effort to think about sustainability. Continuously foster community ownership, advocate for long-lasting policy and systems change, and seek support from a variety of partners to increase your effort's potential for sustainability.



### HEALTH EQUITY

When there is not a clear defined action plan for health equity at a site, giving control and decision-making power to the community is a good way to increase the equitable implementation of the site's activities.

For more lessons learned from the BUILD communities, visit: [buildhealthchallenge.org/resources](http://buildhealthchallenge.org/resources).

## COMMUNITY HIGHLIGHTS



### Des Moines, Iowa Home Remediation

Healthy Homes Des Moines (HHDSM) aimed to minimize pediatric asthma through improvement of household environment and family lifestyles.

“Because of BUILD, we created a cross-sector collaborative process to address pediatric asthma in our community that we can replicate and expand to provide services to an increasing number of children.”

– Des Moines, IA, Team

#### RESULTS



48

Families received asthma education and home assessments



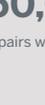
44

Homes were repaired



38

Families completed all intervention steps



\$150,000

Worth of repairs were completed



\$17,000

Total in supplies were given to families



6.2

After participating in HHDSM, children averaged 6.2 more symptom-free days per month



### North Pasadena, Texas Food Insecurity

The Harris County BUILD Health Partnership developed a community-supported food system in order to eliminate conditions that lead to limited or uncertain access to food. The Partnership focused on an area of north Pasadena, where approximately 1 in 5 residents live in food insecure homes.

“Because of BUILD we convened and nurtured a strong public/private partnership (public works, community development, public health, business, and healthcare) for future economic investment in the BUILD neighborhood (and future priority projects).”

– North Pasadena, TX, Team

#### RESULTS



1<sup>st</sup>

Farm to open in the area providing fresh, local produce



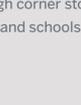
38,000 lbs.

Vegetables from the local food bank taken home by families

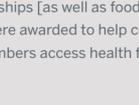


12

Average number of community volunteers each week who helped to bag and distribute produce



Local network of health food access points was developed through corner stores, restaurants, and schools



200

Food scholarships [as well as food prescriptions (FRx)] were awarded to help community members access health foods



### Seattle, Washington Safe Communities

International-District Healthy Communities focused on the Chinatown-International District (CID), which is home for many immigrants from Asia and the Pacific. Project partners had a vision for CID that is healthy, safe, and livable for residents, businesses, and community members. The project aimed to reduce chronic stress, social isolation, and sedentary lifestyles by increasing investments in public spaces and safety, stabilizing and enriching residential and business communities, and influencing key decision-makers and policy around issues affecting the community's health.

“Because of BUILD we have been able to garner local and national attention around the challenging health and social conditions in the Chinatown-International District.”

– Seattle, WA, Team

#### RESULTS



2

2 New community surveys were conducted on public safety and health. More than 300 community members responded in 2016, and 400 responded in 2017



Survey provided compelling evidence that the physical and social environment in the neighborhood have significant implications for community health



100+

Community members participated in trainings on mental health, conflict de-escalation, homelessness, and first aid to foster understanding of various issues affecting community safety



100+

Activities featuring exercise, music, and education in parks were hosted in support of community safety and livability



\$700,000

Raised in public and private dollars to address upstream social determinants of health by leveraging survey results

To learn more about BUILD, including details about the new BUILD 2.0 cohort, visit: [buildhealthchallenge.org](http://buildhealthchallenge.org)

The first cohort of BUILD was made possible through the generous support of:

