

Healthy Eating Active Living Convergence Partnership
working together to create healthy people in healthy places

**Making the Case and Getting Underway:
A Funder Toolkit to Support
Healthy People in Healthy Places**

*Prepared by:
PolicyLink
for the Healthy Eating Active Living Convergence Partnership*

*Principal Authors:
Kris Putnam-Walkerly &
Amy Main Morgenstern of
Putnam Community Investment Consulting*

Healthy Eating Active Living Convergence Partnership:

The California Endowment
Kaiser Permanente
Nemours
Robert Wood Johnson Foundation
W.K. Kellogg Foundation

Technical Advisor:

Centers for Disease Control and Prevention

Program Director:

PolicyLink

www.convergencepartnership.org

For more information please contact:
PolicyLink
Judith Bell, President
Mildred Thompson, Director, Center for Health and Place
Shireen Malekafzali, Program Associate
Email: shireen@policylink.org

TABLE OF CONTENTS

Introduction: How this toolkit can help you	1
Section 1: Why Support Healthy People in Healthy Places?.....	2
Why foundations are expanding their vision for healthy communities	2
What foundations are doing	3
Section 2: Making the Case: What Your Foundation Can Do.....	4
Twelve steps to get started.....	4
The work is not easy, but the rewards are tremendous	9
Conclusion	10
Seven roles for foundations	11
Section 3: Challenges and How To Overcome Them.....	12
Section 4: Case Studies.....	16
Case Study 1: Missouri Foundation for Health.....	16
Case Study 2: Kaiser Permanente	17
Case Study 3: Robert Wood Johnson Foundation	18
Section 5: Resources and Acknowledgements	19
Resources	19
Acknowledgements.....	21

For more information please contact:
PolicyLink
Judith Bell, President
Mildred Thompson, Director, Center for Health and Place
Shireen Malekafzali, Program Associate
Email: shireen@policylink.org

INTRODUCTION: HOW THIS TOOLKIT CAN HELP YOU

Interested in creating multi-field environmental change strategies to enhance healthy eating and active living but unsure where to begin? Wondering if your board will support expanding your current grantmaking portfolio to support healthy people in healthy places? Unclear about which sectors should be at the table? You are not alone. Many foundation staff – from small family foundations, to health conversion foundations, to large state and national funders – have asked themselves these same questions. The great news is that many foundation staff have traversed this road, successfully made their case within their foundation, and created exciting new partnerships and grantmaking efforts resulting in improved health outcomes in communities.

The Convergence Partnership is committed to increasing the number of funders supporting place-based, comprehensive, multi-field initiatives that will lead to environmental and policy change and create healthy people in healthy places. In order to facilitate additional funder involvement in these efforts, the Convergence Partnership decided to create an online toolkit for funders. This document, *Making the Case and Getting Underway*, is the first toolkit product and is designed to assist foundation program and executive staff who seek to:

- Learn more about the inter-connectedness of healthy eating and active living efforts;
- Understand how their foundation’s strategies fit into this growing field;
- Make the case to their foundation’s colleagues, senior leadership, and board for taking multi-sectoral, policy-focused approaches to improving health; and
- Develop and implement multi-faceted, place-based strategies to support health.

This document was created with funders who have already struggled with how to shift and expand their foundation’s approach to supporting healthy communities. It includes steps you can take to make your case at your foundation, lessons learned by foundation colleagues, roles foundations can play, challenges your colleagues have encountered in this work and the solutions they used (or wished they had used), case studies of three foundations that successfully developed healthy eating active living initiatives, and resources used and produced by foundations, such as logic models, presentations, and conference proceedings, that will help you envision and implement the change you seek. Inside this toolkit you might find ideas to support your vision, inspiration to encourage your efforts, and strategies to tackle the challenges you will certainly encounter. You may also identify existing efforts to leverage or organizations to partner with. By working together, funders can support activities that they may not have the expertise to tackle themselves, or that may be seen as too controversial to do alone.

Additionally, funders involved in the Convergence Partnership are happy to talk with foundation staff about their experiences, answer your questions, provide feedback, help you identify ways to “make your case” internally, and connect you to others working in this field.

SECTION 1: WHY SUPPORT HEALTHY PEOPLE IN HEALTHY PLACES?

One number may determine how long people live and whether they are healthy, but it's not their weight or cholesterol count. It's their address. Where people live, work, and play affects health. People thrive when they live in safe communities with parks and playgrounds, living wages, grocery stores selling nutritious food, and neighbors who know one another. Without a healthy environment, people are less likely to lead active lives, eat healthy meals, and are more likely to suffer from one of several chronic diseases such as diabetes, asthma, heart disease, or high blood pressure.ⁱ

Concerned about rising rates of obesity, diabetes and other nutrition-related diseases, public health advocates are working together with those concerned about agriculture and the food system, schools, parks and recreation departments, developers, city planners, and others who are starting to take health into consideration as they engage in planning for neighborhood development and revitalization, including greater access to supermarkets, transportation, and parks. Professionals from various fields are beginning to see how working together can influence and enhance progress in other fields, and improve health overall.ⁱⁱ

For example, in the past advocates for neighborhood revitalization might have identified a supermarket as a potential source for economic revitalization, providing jobs, foot traffic, and vital neighborhood services. Now, these advocates could be joined by advocates concerned about health issues. Together, in a broader coalition, all of these advocates can point to the potential health benefits for whole communities. As their interests and actions converge, advocates and professionals are cultivating connections across all the environments that influence health. Change requires attention and action from individuals, and also from decision-makers—elected officials, agency officials, institutional leaders, and other policymakers—as well as their constituencies—including community residents and leaders. Policies and practices that give rise to healthy environments must be identified, advocated for, and enacted within organizations and throughout government.

Foundations are a part of this movement for change. They are realizing that they can have a more powerful and lasting impact when strategies involve a focus on organizational, practice, and policy changes and involve multiple constituencies engaged in efforts to create environments that foster health.

Why foundations are expanding their vision for healthy communities

Americans are already suffering from the impact of policies and environments (communities, neighborhoods, workplaces, schools) that do not support healthy eating and active living. Consider these statistics:

- Poor diet and inadequate physical activity have become the second leading actual cause of death in the United States and may soon overtake tobacco as the leading cause.ⁱⁱⁱ
- Today more than 33 percent of all children and adolescents, and about 65 percent of all adults are overweight or obese. That works out to nearly 13 million kids and teens, and some 144 million men and women: more than half the population of the United States.^{iv}

- A study of 216 neighborhoods in Maryland, Minnesota, Mississippi, and North Carolina revealed an average of four times as many supermarkets in predominately white versus African-American neighborhoods.^v
- Obesity-related medical expenditures in the United State are approximately \$117 billion annually. The potential savings, if all inactive American adults became physically active, could be \$76.6 billion a year.^{vi}

Healthy eating and active living will only be realized when everyone's neighborhood and city has the ingredients for healthy living. Where can food be purchased? Are fresh fruits and vegetables available? How and where can people be physically active? What is available for children to eat at school? Is it safe to walk to parks or bicycle in the neighborhood? Is there public transportation? To accomplish this, Convergence Partners realize that it is critical to collaborate across the sectors, fields, and systems that impact healthy eating and active living.

What foundations are doing

In the fall of 2005, Kaiser Permanente, the W.K. Kellogg Foundation, and the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation initiated the Healthy Eating/Active Living Convergence Project to better understand how to collaboratively strengthen the work in and among the various fields that are focused on improving the health of people and places across the country.^{vii} Believing that by working together they could better leverage their resources to produce outcomes that none could achieve alone, and that creating a national partnership would raise visibility and more effectively influence practice and policy changes, these funders joined together.

Research and discussion with the field in June 2006 led to the creation of the Healthy Eating Active Living Convergence Partnership, whose members also now include: The California Endowment, Nemours, and the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention.^{viii} The Convergence Partnership has an expansive and ambitious vision of stimulating actions that will lead to healthy people in healthy places. This vision will be realized when:

- Safe neighborhoods, communities, and buildings support physical activity as part of everyday life.
- Fresh, local, and healthy food is available and affordable in all communities and neighborhoods.
- Healthy foods and beverages are promoted in grocery and other food stores, restaurants, and entertainment venues.
- Schools offer and promote only healthy foods and beverages to students.
- Schools promote healthy physical activities and incorporate them throughout the day, including before and after school.
- Workplaces and employers offer and promote access to healthy foods and beverages and opportunities for physical activity.
- Health care organizations and providers promote healthy eating and active living in their own institutional policies and in their clinical practices.
- Government and the private sector support and promote healthy eating and active living environments.
- Organizations, institutions, and individuals that influence the information and entertainment environments share responsibility for and act responsibly to promote healthy eating and active living.

- Childcare organizations, including preschool, after-school, and early childhood settings, offer and promote healthy foods and beverages to children and provide sufficient opportunities for, and promote, physical activity.

These funders seek to accomplish this vision through four key strategies:

- Building support for environmental and policy changes that promote healthy eating and active living;
- Promoting and supporting coordination and connections within the healthy eating and active living field;
- Optimizing and increasing investments in order to enhance the intensity, reach, and the number of community-based initiatives focused on environmental and policy change to enhance healthy eating and active living; and
- Fostering market-based change so that healthy food and opportunities for daily activity are available to all, that they are affordable, safe, convenient and attractively marketed.

"We noted that we all of the funders were supporting place-based, multi-sectoral environmental change around healthy eating and active living for healthy people in healthy places. We asked ourselves: what can be done to accelerate this work, can individual investments be better leveraged, and what collective action can be taken?"

Linda Jo Doctor
W.K. Kellooa Foundation

The funders will invest in these strategies by focusing on equity and specific geographic locations. Equally important will be encouraging leadership and engaging community members, and seeking to address disparities in health status. Multiple sectors will always be engaged as strategies are implemented across different projects and activities.

SECTION 2: MAKING THE CASE: WHAT YOUR FOUNDATION CAN DO

Below are steps you can take to make your case within your foundation, and roles that your foundation can play in support of healthy people in healthy places. The steps do not need to be completed in order, but all will be important for the success and sustainability of your efforts.

Twelve steps to get started

Regardless of foundation size, type, or geographic location, funders interviewed for this toolkit recommended a similar set of steps that they took – or wished they had taken – to initiate or expand their foundation’s efforts to support multi-sectoral, place-based policy and environmental changes to support healthy people in healthy places. Included in the descriptions of these steps are the lessons these foundations learned as they journeyed forward in their work, and questions you can ask yourself as you get started.

Step 1: Building your case: Target the most promising issue area for your foundation.

When deciding what issue to target, you can try focusing on where foundation efforts are already underway, where current funding is most closely linked to multi-sectoral policy and environmental change goals, and/or where partnerships already exist. Often times, tackling the “low-hanging fruit” opportunities will produce both early wins and learning opportunities.

Developing a strategic plan, logic model or theory of change will be important down the road, but you do not need to have all your detailed strategies and outcomes mapped out at the onset. Consider starting with pilot grants to test new strategies, partnerships, and grantmaking approaches.

Ask yourself: What are we already doing in support of healthy people in healthy places that could be further developed, leveraged and expanded to produce greater impact? What efforts would produce early wins and learning opportunities? What new approaches could we turn into pilot grants? Which partners would be easiest to start with? Which current grantees are already working in this arena and how can we expand their efforts?

Step 2: Build support among staff and board leadership. Ensure program executives, the CEO, and board members understand the role of policy and environmental change in advancing healthy communities, and that the standard of practice is now moving toward more comprehensive, cross-disciplinary, and community-based preventive approaches. Be certain to address the costs of inaction, how absent environmental and policy changes, problems will persist, as well as all the costs associated with them.

Link the proposed multi-field effort to the foundation's mission and goals. Show how this new approach will build momentum for the foundation's mission and develop important new strategic relationships. Surface board members' questions and opinions. Identify and cultivate professional and board champions to help make the case and increase support for the new grantmaking direction. Without strong support from the top, efforts to shift the funding paradigm will not be sustainable.

To assist your efforts, The Healthy Eating Active Living Convergence Partnership has developed a PowerPoint presentation that you can use in making your case to foundation staff and boards.

Ask yourself: Who can best encourage the foundation to take this new approach? How can we maintain our leadership's on-going engagement and learning? Who among the Board can become change agents?

Step 3: Map who in the local community may be concerned with working in the targeted issue area(s). Determine all the sectors and systems that have an impact on your issue. This may include transportation, city planning, the food and beverage industry, public health, schools, parks and recreation, agriculture, policy advocates, youth, and community residents. Identify key professionals and providers from across these sectors. Identify community members most impacted by the problem, to ensure that they have a voice in the development and implementation of environmental and policy change solutions. For example, you can tap into the experience of grantees, local residents, parents, youth, and community-based organizations. Identify where the necessary level of existing community infrastructure exists and where productive relationships can be readily developed.

Snapshot: Blue Cross and Blue Shield of Minnesota Foundation

In 2004, the Blue Cross and Blue Shield of Minnesota Foundation announced a new strategic direction to create healthier communities by addressing key social, economic and environmental factors that shape health through grantmaking, awareness building, policy support, and leadership development. Minnesota is becoming increasingly diverse, and communities of color experience some of the deepest health inequities. As a result, projects involving communities of color and Native tribes are of special interest to the Foundation. Among the strategies that the Foundation employed during the 18 month strategic planning process that led to this focus was to educate its board and staff through a series of colloquia with national and state experts regarding the need and opportunities to move "upstream" in order to improve health. Convenings were also held on a regional level with community leaders to gather many perspectives, learn about local needs and set priorities.

Ask yourself: What patterns and trends exist in the community? What systems and fields are involved? Who is doing what?

Step 4: Develop a logic model or theory of change to guide your efforts, track progress, and make mid-course corrections. Once you have gained a better understanding of the issues, the sectors that should be at the table, the types of partners you need to work with, and the outcomes you seek, it is important to create a plan, logic model, or theory of change to guide your efforts.

Logic models and theories of change are planning tools that allow stakeholders to collectively identify the long-term goals of social change initiatives, define all the building blocks required to bring this change about, and clarify the steps to get there. Developing the models and the plan itself, ideally linked to the foundation’s mission, was critical in some funders’ efforts to convince their foundation leadership and boards to shift and embrace a new direction.

It is important to ensure that all stakeholders, including foundation board leadership, are involved to ensure that goals, benchmarks, processes, timelines, roles, and accountability measures are clearly delineated and adhered to. Be sure to regularly evaluate your progress against these benchmarks, and make changes to your plan as needed. View the logic models used by The California Endowment, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, and Kaiser to see how they used this tool to improve community outcomes. *Mapping Change: Using a Theory of Change to Guide Planning and Evaluation* (produced by Grant Craft) provides additional information for foundations about how to create a theory of change.

Ask yourself: What process should we use to develop our vision and road map? Which stakeholders should be involved? Who should lead this effort? What resources do we need? What are our vision, short- and long-term outcomes, and strategies? What are our assumptions and are they logical? Is this doable? How will successful efforts be rolled-out and sustained? How will we measure progress and make necessary mid-course corrections? Do our existing foundation structures support or inhibit this theory of change?

Step 5: Recognize that place matters and limit your geographic scope. Healthy eating and active living will only be realized when neighborhoods, schools, workplaces, child care centers, and cities have the ingredients for healthy living. Specific communities and environments should be targeted, with a clearly defined set of criteria guiding this process.

Snapshot: The California Endowment
The California Endowment (TCE) has a long history of funding statewide policy organizations. For example, it spurred the creation of California’s Strategic Alliance for Healthy Eating and Active Living and led efforts which resulted in California’s ban of junk food and soda sales in its public schools. According to Disparities in Health Director Marion Standish, “As a health funder, if we want to influence behavior we need to try to get at some of the environmental factors that influence behavior and produce health disparities at the same time. The assumption that we could reduce health disparities by simply dealing with the healthcare system didn’t work for me because people arrive at the healthcare door with their disparities in hand. They were the product of health disparities and the healthcare system was not very effectively dealing with these disparities, which are in our society at large.” The California Endowment developed a Logic Model to map out its plan.

It is important to limit the geographic scope of your efforts. Even if your foundation funds broadly, focus on place-based strategies in certain communities. For example, Kaiser found that counties were often too large, and sought to work with smaller communities within counties.

The BlueCross BlueShield Foundation of Minnesota through its Foundation and Center for Prevention funds state-wide, but supports local collaborations.

Ask yourself: Where should we focus our place-placed work? What communities are most impacted? What geographic boundaries make sense given the outcomes we seek?

Step 6: Ensure that you have adequate staff and organizational capacity. Allocate and align resources – human, financial, infrastructure, information tracking, and evaluation systems – to lead, manage and support efforts. Ensure that staff overseeing this work have the time and skills necessary to develop relationships internally across program areas and externally across sectors. This may involve grooming existing staff or hiring qualified staff or consultants to fulfill these roles. It also involves structuring workloads so staff to have time to build relationships. Program officers, whose time is already filled reviewing proposals, conducting site visits, and preparing dockets, will not have the time to support multi-sector collaboration. Additionally, consider the capacity you may need for non-grantmaking activities, such as planning, convening, knowledge creation and dissemination, communication, and technical assistance.

Ask yourself: Do we currently have the capacity to accomplish our goals? What additional resources and expertise are needed? Is this available in-house or do we need to hire qualified staff or consultants to fulfill necessary roles? What non-grantmaking activities will we use? How will we allocate sufficient financial resources to succeed?

Step 7: Develop internal knowledge and understanding across program areas. Invite perspectives of others who are already engaged in this multi-sectoral work to share their experiences, frameworks, and strategies.

Identify and connect with a wide range of peers who bring a prevention and advocacy orientation, ranging from public health professionals to nutrition, food system, transportation, school, and urban development specialists. Bring scientific and clinical experts together with foundation board and staff to discuss the science and theory of change that supports healthy people in healthy places. Learn from local and national colleagues who are already doing this work. Consider ways your foundation’s program areas can better coordinate and collaborate.

Snapshot: W.K. Kellogg Foundation
In addition to expanding its grantmaking strategies in support of healthy people in healthy places, the W.K. Kellogg Foundation is a great example of “walking the talk.” The Foundation changed its own organizational practices in several ways, including: (1) instituting earlier engagement of interested board members regarding programmatic ideas, avenues for success and the challenges encountered, and (2) horizontally integrating grantmaking program areas through its Food & Fitness Initiative. In addition, Kellogg built into its initiative a technical assistance team that had expertise in various content areas, collaboration and multi-cultural processes, and planning.

Ask yourself: What can we learn from existing knowledge, research, and practices? What are others doing to effect positive change? What might we do?

Step 8: Convene and collaborate with allies, key influencers and members of the local, state, and national communities from multiple sectors and systems. Recognize that most funders do not have all the expertise needed in-house. For example, knowledge about transportation, land use, school reform, and food production rarely exists within one foundation. Gaps in knowledge can be filled through collaboration with other foundations, consultants, researchers, organizations, and community members. Collaboration can also allow foundations

to jointly tackle a project that might be perceived as too risky to address alone. Be sure to build in time to share your resources and knowledge. Others have as much to learn from you as you do from them. Begin by convening potential partners to:

- Learn from experts and those most impacted;
- Determine where expertise and knowledge exists;
- Identify areas of intersection across sectors;
- Build a shared vision for a healthier community;
- Surface and begin to align around what is feasible to accomplish; and
- Plan for sustainability and replicability.

Ask yourself: Who are our funding and operational partners – at the national, state and local levels? What does success look like for us? What policy and environmental changes do we seek to make? How can we leverage our respective talents and resources?

Step 9: Turn to foundation colleagues for help and guidance. There is much to be learned from local and national foundation colleagues who are engaged in similar efforts. Not only can you benefit from their experience, reduce your isolation, learn from their mistakes, and replicate their models, but there is also potential to leverage efforts already underway.

“The change and the levels of effort and expertise that need to be brought to bear on this work are bigger than most foundations can really shoulder alone.”

Loel Solomon
Kaiser Permanente

Ask yourself: Where are we stuck and what kind of advice, information, or support do we need to move forward? Which are the models, strategies, and activities of other funders that we might want to borrow or replicate? Would further conversation with other foundations be helpful?

Step 10: Be willing to take risks and stay over the long haul: Though still considered to be “cutting edge” by some, comprehensive, equity-focused, prevention approaches that engage multiple sectors to create environmental change *are* starting to become the standard of practice for improving health outcomes. However, that does not mean that there is a clear-cut path or set of evaluated best-practices to follow. This work inherently involves risk, is ambitious and takes a long time to achieve impact.

Complex initiatives seeking significant environmental changes take years of work, and indicators of success are newly emerging. Short term funding and immediate outcomes will not yield success. Funders must be aware of what it takes at the outset.

Collaborating across disciplines with new partners, and working in support of environmental and policy change, may require foundations to change their approach, both internally and externally. Work with your colleagues and stakeholders to identify potential risks you might encounter as you move outside of your foundation’s comfort zone. For example, there may be perceived risks working with new sectors and partners. Strategies that might work: you can explore how to create a “win-win” outcome by reaching out to the business community, seeking their support to create grocery stores or find creative ways to engage policymakers on issues they care about and also serves your needs. Consider, for example, making a case to city planners to get involved in your grantee initiatives to build parks and more open spaces for physical activity.

Success may be gained through piloting new grantmaking strategies, or shifting internal organizational structures. Continually identify ways to mitigate risks, and update the list as new risks arise. Ensure that your foundation's leadership is aware of the risks, and that foundation policies and procedures do not penalize staff if a grant or strategy does not succeed as planned.

Ask yourself: What are the risks of moving forward with this plan? What speed bumps are we likely to encounter? Which individuals, organizations, and systems are likely to be resistant? Are there steps we can take now to reduce these risks? What are ways you can prepare your foundation for the long-term nature of this work?

Step 11: Walk the talk: Change organizational practices. Demonstrate internally what's being professed externally by instituting healthy food practices and opportunities for physical activity among foundation employees. Efforts being implemented by foundations across the country include providing healthier foods in cafeterias and vending machines, removing trans fats from cafeterias, scheduling "walk breaks" during long meetings, adopting local food purchasing policies, encouraging employees to take the stairs instead of elevators, incorporating walking and biking onto facility sites, and structuring opportunities for learning and coordination across program areas. The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention offers information, ideas, and toolkits to help workplaces become healthier and safer through its Healthier Worksite Initiative.

Ask yourself: What practices do we need to change or institute to reflect our commitment to healthy people in healthy places? How can we make our foundation a healthier environment for our employees and visitors? Who are change agents already working internally and how can they be supported?

Step 12: Communicate and share accomplishments and lessons learned. Share what successes have been realized and how you accomplished them. Similarly, exchange information about efforts that didn't produce satisfactory results, potential risks, and what you recommend doing differently. Share your success stories, useful resources, and the lessons you have learned with the Convergence Partnership for possible dissemination to the field.

Ask yourself: What are we learning? What would be beneficial to share with others? Who is the audience?

The work is not easy, but the rewards are tremendous

There are unique challenges associated with philanthropic efforts seeking to support healthy people in healthy places. Some of these challenges are related to working across disciplines. For example, within a foundation, there may not be structures and systems in place for foundation staff to collaborate effectively across program areas. You might have limited experience working with community-based sectors that need to be at the table, or you might have concerns about working with them. For example, as an environmental funder you may be unsure how to work with city and transportation planners to create more walkable communities. Or perhaps your foundation supports diabetes treatment programs, but never considered how the lack of public transportation, unsafe neighborhoods, and the lack of grocery stores selling healthy foods impacts the ability of community members to eat healthy food. You might not even know who you need to work with, and where to start.

Similarly, there are challenges associated with supporting policy and environmental changes, since they require different approaches than traditional grantmaking. Internally, for example, your foundation's board may associate policy advocacy with lobbying and be unclear about the foundation's legal boundaries. Or as a grantmaker, you might not fully understand which policy targets should be identified, how to develop or support an advocacy or communications campaign. This new territory often comes with a sharp learning curve.

Working across disciplines with new and unusual partners, and working in support of environmental and policy changes, may mean that foundations will need to change how they do business, both internally and externally. There is a need to foster a climate of entrepreneurialism and risk-taking, since new alliances and approaches may move the foundation into uncharted territory. There is also a need to develop new allies and alliances - both inside and outside the foundation.

Foundations across the country are quickly overcoming these challenges. For example, the WK Kellogg Foundation determined that working across disciplines *externally* meant that two program areas (Health and Food Systems & Rural Development) needed to join forces *internally*. As a result, they created a new cross-cutting Food and Fitness Initiative, co-led by program directors from each program area. These two program directors now work hand in hand in a more coordinated approach to healthy eating and active living than either program area was achieving alone. According to one of the program directors, Gail Imig, they realized that “millions of children don't have access to fresh foods that are good for them. Their neighborhoods and communities aren't conducive to exercise and play. Instead, they live in places where a convenience store—if there is one—is the only grocery store, and where facilities like safe playgrounds and bike paths are equally scarce.”^{ix} Bringing the two program areas together in this initiative allowed the foundation to promote long-term, sustainable change by improving the systems that determine how communities are built and how food arrives on the table. This cross-cutting initiative and the close working relationship among the two program directors is now seen as a model within the foundation about how to collaborate across program silos.

Conclusion

Most foundations value opportunities to assume leadership in new trends or to become familiar with ways of leveraging resources to achieve maximum impact. Foundations involved with the Convergence Partnership have spent years researching what it takes to create healthy people in healthy places and are eager to share that knowledge and experience with you.

What have we learned? The overwhelming message is that where children and families live, learn, work and play affects their health. Communities must change in order for the health of its residents to change. Not all communities benefit equally from America's opportunities. So solutions must be tailored to meet the needs of those most affected. An even more critical message is that not one single entity can make the needed changes alone.

Boundaries are being crossed between and among sectors. And there is promise on the horizon. This toolkit will support you in making the case for your foundation to join with your colleagues in addressing the need for place-based, equity-focused, healthy eating active living initiatives. Outlined are steps, rationale, challenges and case studies that will guide you.

Seven roles for foundations

Foundations have many tools available. To succeed in preventing obesity and reducing health disparities, the Convergence Partnership has outlined the following roles foundations can play.^x These roles are based on the Spectrum of Prevention, which offers a systematic framework for developing effective and sustainable primary prevention strategies and approaches.^{xi}

Roles	Strategies	Activities
1. Influence Policy and Legislation	Educate policymakers Foster movement strategy	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Fund grantees to educate decision-makers about policies and legislation that support healthy eating and active living ▪ Encourage state and federal implementation of effective practices ▪ Testify upon request ▪ Facilitate process for creating a strategic road map to delineate role of policy in transforming eating and activity environments
2. Change Organizational Practices	Fund strategies Encourage/require healthy organizational practices	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Fund initiatives that utilize policy and environmental change strategies across multiple sectors ▪ Invest in community infrastructure and leadership development ▪ Expand timeframe of grants to allow sufficient time for organizations to implement policy and environmental changes ▪ Train staff at funder organizations on allowable advocacy activities for funder organizations and grantees ▪ Encourage/require healthy organizational practices at own foundation, for grantees and contractors ▪ Model healthy practices at funder-sponsored convenings
3. Foster Coalitions and Networks	Convene grantees Foster inter-sectoral partnerships Build national strategy infrastructure	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Convene grantees to share, network, and collaborate ▪ Convene organizations from different sectors and facilitate effective communication between groups ▪ Support infrastructure for national strategy network
4. Educate Providers	Provide training and technical assistance to grantees, trainers and consultants, change agents, and funders	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Educate grantees about norms, policy, and environmental change ▪ Establish learning networks for grantees working on policy and environmental changes ▪ Educate “change agents” in schools, communities, industry, government, businesses, day cares, and others ▪ Educate foundation staff, trainers, and consultants about effective advocacy and environmental change strategies
5. Promote Community Education	Provide media advocacy training/support Share public opinions	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Train grantees in effective media advocacy ▪ Implement a media advocacy campaign ▪ Fund a “rapid response media network” to help advocates influence public discussion ▪ Conduct and publicize public opinion polling
6. Strengthen Individual Knowledge and Skills	Strengthen behavioral skills related to environmental changes Empower individuals and build leadership	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Encourage behaviors and skills that utilize and maximize effectiveness of environmental changes ▪ Encourage people to speak up for what they need in their community
7. Conduct Research and Evaluation	Assess community needs Build the evidence base Share learnings and best practices/ promising approaches	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Strengthen surveillance of community factors related to health ▪ Build the research base and evaluate the impact of policies and organizational practice changes on eating and activity behaviors ▪ Identify and disseminate best practices and promising approaches ▪ Prepare documents and support scientific consensus processes to synthesize findings from research and practice ▪ Sponsor research that “frames” your issue

SECTION 3: CHALLENGES AND HOW TO OVERCOME THEM

Along with steps for getting started and lessons learned, funders describe eight major challenges they experienced and share either what they did to overcome them, or what they wish they would have done differently. These are presented in the table below.

Challenges Encountered	Ideas for Making Your Case	Foundation Examples
<p>Foundation is stuck in a traditional health paradigm</p> <p>Your foundation may focus on direct health and clinical care services because it believes that the individual is primarily responsible for making positive changes and because it has traditionally measured success based upon the impact of grantees' services on individuals.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Increase awareness at your foundation about a paradigm shift from a focus on personal responsibility and treatment to understanding the social determinants of health. Explain how policy and environmental change strategies can achieve longer-term impact. ➤ Draw upon outside experts and research from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, the Institute of Medicine, associations such as the American Obesity Association, and nonprofits such as PolicyLink and the Prevention Institute. (see www.policylink.org and www.preventioninstitute.org) ➤ Explain that the standard of practice is now a more comprehensive approach. 	<p>The California Endowment chose asthma for a major 6-year initiative because the root causes of asthma are primarily environmental. They used data linking high asthma rates to low-income communities, suffering from toxic conditions.</p> <p>BlueCross and BlueShield of Minnesota Foundation convened stakeholders and grantees to understand the importance of multi-field environmental and policy strategies for health and broadly distributed its <i>Moving Upstream</i> forum proceedings.</p>
<p>Collaboratives and partnerships are demanding</p> <p>Your foundation recognizes that developing partnerships requires a lot of energy and patience. There are concerns about the time, resources and risks.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Find out what others are already doing and join efforts where there are already collaborative relationships in place. ➤ Collectively identify possible risks of the collaboration. Expect tensions around differing nomenclature, opinions and accountabilities. ➤ Appoint staff with sufficient time to provide technical assistance and energy to structure, convene, and lead collaborative efforts. ➤ Decide early on how decisions will be made and success gauged. 	<p>The Kellogg Foundation carefully planned how it supported community collaborations. First it targeted communities where there was capacity for locally/regionally sourced community food systems and where there was evidence of community partnerships effectively addressing health. Additional criteria included 1) public health departments having working relationships with community groups, (2) some evidence of community planning capacity, (3) involvement of community leaders, (4) food system and community health collaboration, and (5) experience between the built environment and community design.</p>

Challenges Encountered	Ideas for Making Your Case	Foundation Examples
<p>Foundation silos hinder collaboration</p> <p>Like many foundations, yours may have staff divided by issues areas, and by structures and procedures. As a result, program officers work independently from each other. Cross-program efforts might be discussed, but no formal mechanisms support horizontal integration.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Conduct an analysis of the foundation’s programming; identify connections and opportunities to do “cross-programming.” ➤ Establish an internal “kitchen cabinet” to advise and guide grantmaking and non-grantmaking efforts. ➤ Appoint an advisory group comprised of internal and external experts and expose board and staff to this group’s thinking. ➤ Designate staff to do cross-programming work and ensure they have “unequivocal support” from their supervisors. ➤ Pilot an equity-focused, multi-field effort and track progress. 	<p>The Kellogg Foundation brought together programming staff working in health, food systems, youth and education, civic engagement, and philanthropy to develop the Food and Fitness work. The cross-programming effort is co-lead by health and food systems and continues to engage programming staff with a range of expertise and linkages to a variety of networks.</p>
<p>Foundation believes that this work is possible only for larger foundations</p> <p>Your foundation appreciates the major accomplishments of national foundations in this work, and is concerned that as a small foundation it cannot have the same impact.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Local funders are uniquely positioned to translate and connect what the evidence-based research is showing; they are essential to connecting theory to practice. They know the community and its players. ➤ Smaller foundations must recognize that they can leverage and expand their resources through collaboration with other funders. 	<p>A key success factor for members of the Convergence Partnership has been establishing close alliances with smaller, local funders.</p> <p>The Missouri Foundation for Health, Blue Cross and Blue Shield of Minnesota Foundation, and Bullitt Foundation look for opportunities to work with national partners in their states and regions.</p>
<p>Multi-sectoral approaches seem large, complex and overwhelming</p> <p>Your foundation has limited experience working outside of its existing program areas. Staff and board are unsure of the risks and benefits of partnering with city planning departments, schools,</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Continue to highlight relationship between SES, community factors and health. Discuss the trend of moving beyond the health sector. Talk to and engage those who are engaged in these broad initiatives. ➤ Use existing evidence-based research, frameworks, applied examples, and successful outcomes. ➤ Start with something that’s smaller and feasible, rooted in what your foundation is already doing and where there may be solutions, to build interest and support of your 	<p>Kaiser Permanente and The California Endowment commissioned papers from the Prevention Institute and Policy Link addressing topics such as the relationships between obesity, health disparities, school systems, and marketing and advertising.</p> <p>The California Endowment chose to focus one of its initiatives on schools, in part</p>

Challenges Encountered	Ideas for Making Your Case	Foundation Examples
<p>housing developers, transportation experts, businesses, or the agricultural sector.</p>	<p>colleagues and board.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Identify a subset of social determinants of health to get underway. ➤ Convene people who don't yet realize their interests intersect and that if aligned, their efforts would be more powerful than what could be accomplished independently. 	<p>because people want to help kids, and understand the relationship between food and physical activity in the school environment, and because school environments can be regulated.</p> <p>Bullitt Foundation held a funder briefing to connect the issues of farming and food. Forty people attended, and a major outcome of the meeting was learning that their interests and work were aligned.</p>
<p>Staff and board are concerned about shifting grantmaking priorities</p> <p>Your colleagues might have concerns about making changes in grantmaking priorities, which may result in cessation of funding to current and former grantees. Your foundation may want to carve out a "niche" for itself or has concerns about the ability to brand its own initiatives.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Create a "bridge" program which serves to maintain relationships with grantees while beginning your place-based, multi-sectoral focus. ➤ Institute a strong communication plan to clearly convey the rationale for the foundation's new direction and priorities. ➤ Provide opportunities for current grantees to learn and benefit from the new work. ➤ Promote the value of partnership and collaboration without loss of identity. 	<p>Blue Cross and Blue Shield of Minnesota Foundation created a multi-year "bridge" funding program to link former downstream strategies and newer upstream approaches, transitioning funding to the new priorities. As part of this exit strategy, the foundation organized colloquia to share learnings and to recognize and honor the ongoing work of grantees whose support was winding down under the new strategic focus.</p>
<p>Foundation lacks staff capacity</p> <p>You and your colleagues are already stretched thin. Collectively you recognize that the staffing demands for this type of work will be considerable, both in time and expertise needed across content areas.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Recognize this is a resource intensive effort. The foundation benefits in the long term by gradually shifting it's focus and staffing. ➤ Consider outsourcing some of the workload and expertise by retaining consultants and/or commissioning research. ➤ Find a funding partner(s) with the necessary staffing capacity. ➤ Decide to build the effort more slowly over time if 	<p>Each foundation interviewed has built, and continues to build, the staff necessary to lead and support its work, often outsourcing technical assistance functions as needed.</p>

Challenges Encountered	Ideas for Making Your Case	Foundation Examples
<p>Foundation wants to fund across its entire geographic region</p> <p>Your foundation believes it needs to cover its entire geographic funding area, even when that area is especially large.</p>	<p>additional human resources are not available.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Make very clear, conscious choices of where to focus interventions and why. Narrow down the geographic scope with the intent of rolling the effort out over time. ➤ Phase in efforts. 	<p>Blue Cross and Blue Shield of Minnesota Foundation funds state-wide, yet developed a place-based initiative in 16 communities. Each site includes a collaboration of health, housing, environment, and early childhood development sectors.</p> <p>Kaiser operates across nine states, but the focus of its community health initiatives is “no larger than a county and no smaller than a few blocks.”</p>

SECTION 4: CASE STUDIES

Case Study 1: Missouri Foundation for Health

Why this foundation sought to develop a “healthy people in healthy places” initiative

The Missouri Foundation for Health’s (MFH) mission is to “empower the people of the communities we serve to achieve equal access to quality health services that promote prevention and encourage healthy behaviors.” In 2006, MFH program officers attended a national convening of the Healthy Eating Active Living Convergence Partnership and shared the view that foundations need to utilize a socio-ecological model to enhance the health and activity of local communities, reach populations at increased risk of developing obesity, and maximize impact. Rather than joining a national effort, MFH decided to replicate on a state level what the Convergence Partnership was developing nationally and commenced the creation of a new initiative: Healthy & Active Communities (H&AC).

What they did to “make the case” internally

Leveraged existing models To inform their work, MFH’s program officers sought to take full advantage of what others were learning and examined approaches used by other funders and organizations, such as the American Obesity Association. Robert Wood Johnson Foundation’s Active Living by Design served as a primary model.

Developed guiding assumptions MFH applied three assumptions to guide the development of its initiative: a multi-level approach was required to address the complexity of obesity and its multi-faceted causes; a socio-ecological model of change was needed in recognition that individuals are affected by family, schools, and the broader community; and sustained, community level change required continued resources to maintain any benefits. ^{xii}

Encouraged partnerships MFH understood that “there really wasn’t a silver bullet” and that no one program would have the impact MFH sought. ^{xiii} MFH strongly encouraged its grantees to identify and work with stakeholders outside the realm of healthcare. In addition, MFH has sought to be active partners in coalitions such as the Missouri Council for Activity and Nutrition, the Missouri Coordinated Health Coalition, the School Health Coalition and the Healthy Youth Partnership.

Listened and responded to board concerns The foundation’s board was concerned about shifting the percentage of expenditures allocated to direct support to improve health outcomes. Some members wondered if funding projects such as taking soft drinks out of schools and checking kids’ Body Mass Indices might be a better way to proceed. Staff discussed with the board that “to really be effective in the enormous battle against obesity, it would take a much broader approach; that if MFH only focuses on children it was going to lose several generations to this epidemic.” ^{xiv}

Piloted its approach while continuing longer-term planning Another challenge was the considerable time it took to develop the specific goals and implementation strategies required for its multi-sectoral approach. As a result, staff developed a two-pronged approach: piloting grants while continuing to plan. Staff recommended to the board an initial plan to conduct two rounds of two-year funding while they simultaneously developed the *Healthy & Active Communities* Strategic Plan. This allowed staff to begin piloting their new approach while continuing to plan.

The result

New initiative: Healthy & Active Communities MFH’s \$9 million initiative’s vision is: “Through the convening of traditional and non-traditional partners, we will serve as a catalyst to empower communities to increase access to physical activity and nutrition and influence individual and societal attitudes towards maintaining healthy lifestyles.” ^{xv} The initiative addresses obesity prevention and targets community-based organizations to reach populations at increased risk of developing obesity. H&AC supports program implementation, community education, improved community access, and local public policy development. Technical assistance is also provided to grantees on topics such as funding sustainability and social marketing, and convened grantees in smaller, regional peer learning exchanges. A total of 33 grantees were funded to:

- Increase the proportion of adults, adolescents or children who implement sound principles toward achieving and/or maintaining a healthy weight
- Increase the proportion of community coalitions, faith-based organizations or local and state health agencies that provide community education on the importance of good nutrition, physical activity and healthy weight.
- Increase community access to physical activity opportunities and healthful foods.
- Develop or strengthen collaborative efforts to implement local public policies that promote physical activity and healthy eating.

Case Study 2: Kaiser Permanente

Why this foundation sought to develop a “healthy people in healthy places” initiative

In 2002, the leadership of Kaiser Permanente, whose mission is “to provide affordable, high-quality health care services to improve the health of our members and the communities we serve,” determined that the organization could increase its impact on community health by marrying Kaiser’s expertise in clinical prevention and evidence-based medicine with a focus on community conditions and the social determinants of health.^{xvi} According to Loel Solomon, National Director of Community Health Initiatives and Evaluation, “We felt in light of the existing evidence that the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, the Institute of Medicine, and others were generating, we felt we had to go beyond the doctor’s office to have the kind of scale and impact we desired on population-level health outcomes.”

What they did to “make the case” internally

Started with supportive leadership Kaiser leadership believed that communities held the critical resources to address the rise in chronic illness, and that it could make a significant contribution to building the evidence base in this field.

Convened and engaged internal and external stakeholders in planning Kaiser’s Community Benefit Program organized an interactive, two-day conference for Kaiser staff and leadership to create a shared vision of community health improvement that would bring scale and impact to existing efforts in order to measurably advance the health status of Kaiser Permanente communities. In addition, key community partners from public health departments, community clinics, nonprofit organizations, and advocacy coalitions participated in the conference. Having the realistic and practical viewpoints of these on-the-ground partners was critically important to developing Kaiser’s new approach. Real dialogue and lots of space for interaction was key to the success of this important, formative meeting.

Developed a plan Kaiser began developing its new Community Health Initiative (CHI) on several fronts: within each of its regions across the country and among an inter-regional workgroup. Key internal partners in the delivery system and research units were enlisted. Kaiser also called upon and expanded its advisory group and committee structure. From November 2003 to September 2004 Kaiser worked to develop its CHI Framework.^{xvii}

Listened and responded to staff concerns Internal engagement and listening was needed to address staff and leadership concerns that the new initiative needed greater focus, felt overwhelming, and did not clearly connect with their daily work as health providers.^{xviii} As a result, Kaiser focused the initiative on “Healthy Eating, Active Living”, or HEAL, as a thematic focus to address obesity. Targeting this significant and growing public health problem in the communities Kaiser serves resonated throughout organization, and increased the organization’s support for an upstream, public health-oriented approach. Focusing on HEAL also allowed the Community benefit staff to more effectively partner with internal stakeholders involved on the clinical approaches to obesity, heart disease and other clinical conditions associated with inactivity and unhealthy eating.

Learned from and partnered with other foundations Board and senior staff appreciated that Kaiser would not be forging ahead alone, and pursued opportunities to collaborate with the W.K. Kellogg Foundation, Robert Wood Johnson Foundation, and The California Endowment (TCE). Kaiser recognized, for example, that it did not have expertise on transportation, land use, school reform, and food purchasing. Gearing up to design and launch a comprehensive community health initiative that involved multiple parties in multiple content areas required developing strong partnerships and a lot of learning. This was a win-win for all partners. For example, Kaiser recognized it had a lot to learn from TCE’s considerable grantmaking expertise and its focus on place-based strategies. In turn, Kaiser benefited TCE because of its on-the-ground intelligence through its physicians and public affairs staff who had detailed knowledge of potential local partners and grantees, and by the ability of a healthcare organization to frame the obesity crisis as something requiring more than medical interventions.

The result

Community Health Initiatives A strategic framework outlines Kaiser’s vision and the key elements of the initiatives include: long-term (7-10 year) partnerships across multiple-sectors in communities that were “no larger than a county and no smaller than a few blocks,” engaging and leveraging the strengths of local communities, conducting multi-level interventions (including environmental and policy change), focusing on racial and ethnic health disparities, utilizing evidence-informed public health practices, and evaluating their effectiveness.

Healthier organizational practices Demonstrating internally what it was professing externally, Kaiser helped create local farmers markets near Kaiser facilities, changed food purchasing practices to include greater local sourcing, changed what was available in its vending machines, removed trans fats from its cafeterias, encouraged employees to take the stairs, and incorporated biking and walking onto sites.

Case Study 3: Robert Wood Johnson Foundation

Why this foundation sought to develop a “healthy people in healthy places” initiative

The Robert Wood Johnson Foundation (RWJF) is the nation’s largest philanthropic organization devoted to improving health and health care. The third of its four goal areas is promotion of healthy communities and lifestyles. Active Living by Design (ALbD) was launched in December of 2001 as part of a family of programs funded by the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation (RWJF) to increase physical activity among all Americans. RWJF created these programs in response to the growing national crisis of physical inactivity, obesity and chronic disease. Since then, the Foundation has enhanced and evolved its Active Living programming, which now has a major focus on preventing childhood obesity. RWJF remains committed to creating environments that support active living and healthy eating as part of its efforts to reverse the childhood obesity epidemic by 2015.

What they did to “make the case” internally – and externally

Built upon an existing approach Pursuing multi-sectoral, policy and environmental change approaches is not new to RWJF, as evidenced for example, by its tobacco work. RWJF explicitly states when describing the foundation’s aforementioned third goal that “our health behaviors, level of social interaction, and other factors outside medical care are important influences on overall health.”^{xi} When launching ALbD, RWJF considered this to be “a prime opportunity to promote healthy behaviors that have been largely removed from our daily routines”...and believed “this approach could enable millions of sedentary Americans to integrate physical activity into their lives and as a result address other dilemmas faced by communities, such as traffic congestion, air pollution, crime and safety.”^{xx}

Commissioned and utilized data to make decisions and set strategies When deciding in 2007 to address this country’s childhood obesity epidemic, solid research and objective evidence about the problem provided a strong rationale.^{xxi} RWJF noted that more than two-thirds of adults and one-third of children in America were obese or at risk for obesity. Data regarding the alarming escalation of childhood obesity during the past four decades, increasing rates of children being diagnosed with “adult” illnesses (such as type 2 diabetes), and the increased risk of overweight and obese children for heart disease, stroke, asthma, and certain types of cancer were among the most compelling evidence used by RWJF.

When ALbD was launched, the foundation believed that “strategies to promote physical activity through the built environment offered great promise and are a more meaningful approach than just advocating for traditional activities such as sports, aerobics or weightlifting because such structured activities only resonate with a small percentage of the population.”^{xxii}

Made efforts to connect “silos” One of the major challenges faced by RWJF in implementing ALbD was that people working in the “active living” fields were often not well-integrated with those working in the “healthy eating” fields. RWJF recognized the need to build bridges and support greater integration among sectors, and incorporated such efforts into its initiative: “While the full magnitude of the [health] threat finally is beyond doubt and debate...what movement we see is jerky and fragmented, with a hodgepodge of disconnected, uncoordinated efforts rising in schools, communities, businesses, youth organizations, philanthropies and government at all levels.”^{xxiii}

The result

Active Living portfolio of programs RWJF’s suite of programs encourages research, leadership, and program strategies to address the connections between health and the built environment

- Active Living by Design, which promotes partnerships across the United States to influence healthier lifestyles through community design^{xxiv}
- Active Living Leadership, designed to support government leaders in improving the health, well-being, and vitality of communities through increased active living
- Active Living Network, a national coalition of professionals, advocates of health and physical activity, and anyone interested in promoting safe, active, and healthy people and places
- Active Living Research, the research arm of the Active Living suite, responsible for investigating and identifying policies and environments to support active communities
- Active Living Blueprint, a coalition of organizations that “develops strategies to increase physical activity among adults ages 50 and older.”
- Active Living for Life, a program that “seeks to increase the number of American adults ages 50 and older who engage in regular physical activity” through the creation of specific physical education programs

RWJF’s obesity initiative This effort will build on the foundation’s work in improving health from a built environment perspective, focusing on “improving access to affordable healthy foods and opportunities for safe physical activity in schools and communities.” Special attention will be given to children in low-income communities. The funding will also go towards the foundation’s past investments in research on changing school and community environments to improve physical activity and nutrition in children.

SECTION 5: RESOURCES AND ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

Resources

Below we provide select resources that the Convergence Partnership and other funders have found particularly useful in “making their case” to support healthy people in healthy places, including documents that funders created while making their case, such as logic models, presentations, and conference proceedings.

We also encourage you to share resources with the Convergence Project so that we might share them with other foundations. Send us the resources you create (e.g., a theory of change, RFP, case statement, or white paper), an existing report that was particularly helpful to you, or your story - the approaches and tactics you used to expand your foundation’s support for healthy eating and active living; or the challenges you encountered and how you overcame them.

Reports, Documents, and Presentations

A Place for Healthier Living: Improving Access to Physical Activity and Healthy Foods (Joint Center for Political and Economic Studies/Policy Link, 2004)

Active Living By Design Primer (Robert Wood Johnson Foundation, 2006)

Banning Junk Food and Soda Sales in the State’s Public Schools (The California Endowment, 2006)

Building Stronger Communities for Better Health (Joint Center for Political and Economic Studies and PolicyLink, 2004)

Childhood Obesity E-Zine (Frameworks Institute, 2007)

Common Community Measures for Obesity Prevention Project Logic Model (Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, 2007) [add link to document]

Community Health Initiatives: Working Together to Improve Health, Building Our Shared Vision (Kaiser Permanente, November 2003 Conference Proceedings) [add link to document;

Does the Built Environment Affect Physical Activity? Examining the Evidence (Transportation Research Board, Institute of Medicine, 2005)

Healthier Worksite Initiative Toolkits (Centers for Disease Control and Prevention)

Healthy Eating Active Communities Logic Model for Community Collaboratives (The California Endowment, 2006)

Introducing the Healthy Eating Active Living Convergence Partnership, Convergence Partnership, Oakland, CA. 2008.

Framing the Food System: A Frame Works Message Memo (Frameworks Institute, 2006) [Note: Draft is indicated on this report, but a more recent version does not appear to exist online, and this is what is published on the WKKF site]

Kaiser Permanente's Framework for Community Health Initiatives (Kaiser Permanente, 2004)

Kaiser Permanente's Community Health Initiative Logic Model for Evaluation (Kaiser Permanente, 2004) [add link to PPT]

Mapping Change: Using a Theory of Change to Guide Planning and Evaluation (Grant Craft, 2006).

Moving Upstream: Working Together to Create Healthier Communities (BlueCross and BlueShield of Minnesota Foundation's report on a statewide policy forum on the social determinants of health, 2006)

Preventing Childhood Obesity: Health in the Balance (Institute of Medicine, 2004)

Profiles of Innovative Work: Regional and Organizational Profiles (Healthy Eating Active Living Convergence Partnership, 2006)

Request for Applications: Healthy & Active Communities Initiative Policy Assessment (Missouri Foundation for Health, 2007)

Request for Applications: Healthy & Active Communities Initiative Model Practice Building (Missouri Foundation for Health, 2007)

The Impact of the Built Environment on Community Health: The State of Current Practice and Next Steps for a Growing Movement (PolicyLink, 2007)

Toward Total Community Health: Kaiser Permanente's Healthy Eating/Active Living (HEAL) Initiative (Kaiser Permanente, September 2006. Internal PowerPoint presentation) [add link to PPT;]

We Will Reverse the Epidemic of Childhood Obesity (President's Message in the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation Annual Report, 2006)

Why Place Matters: Building A Movement for Healthy Communities (produced by PolicyLink for The California Endowment)

Making the Case: Why Support Healthy People in Healthy Places? The Healthy Eating Active Living Convergence Partnership, 2008.

Websites

The websites of all organizations involved in the Convergence Project and some of the foundations interviewed for this toolkit are full of useful resources. In particular, the following sections of their websites will prove particularly helpful for foundations seeking information and models to guide their efforts in support of healthy people in healthy places.

Berkeley Media Studies Group: Healthy Eating Active Communities

Centers for Disease Control and Prevention: Division of Nutrition, Physical Activity, Overweight, and Obesity; Designing and Building Healthy Places; Overweight and Obesity

Trends; State Based Nutrition and Physical Activity Programs; and Healthier Worksite Initiative
Kaiser Permanente Community Benefit Program and Community Health Initiatives
Missouri Foundation for Health: Healthy and Active Communities
Nemours Health and Prevention Services: Healthy Eating and Physical Activity
PolicyLink Center for Health and Place and Healthy Food Retailing
Prevention Institute: Nutrition and Physical Activity and the Strategic Alliance for Healthy Food
and Activity Environments: Environmental Nutrition and Activity Community Tool (ENACT)
Robert Wood Johnson Foundation: Active Living By Design, Active Living Research, and the
Childhood Obesity program area
The California Endowment: Healthy Eating Active Communities (HEAC)
WK Kellogg Foundation Food & Fitness Initiative and Food Systems Framing Research

Acknowledgements

Thanks to those who graciously gave their time and expertise to inform this document:
Jamie Bussel (Robert Wood Johnson Foundation), Joan Cleary (The Blue Cross and Blue Shield
of Minnesota Foundation), Kathryn DeForest (Missouri Foundation for Health), Dinah Dittman
(Kaiser Permanente), Linda Jo Doctor (W. K. Kellogg Foundation), Jasmine Hall-Ratliff
(Missouri Foundation for Health), Gail Imig (W. K. Kellogg Foundation), Robin Mockenhaupt
(Robert Wood Johnson Foundation), Amy Solomon (Bullitt Foundation), Loel Solomon (Kaiser
Permanente), and Marion Standish (The California Endowment).

ⁱWhy Place Matters: Building A Movement for Healthy Communities (produced by PolicyLink for The California
Endowment) provides a framework to understand the relationship between community conditions and health,
analyzes the connections among all of the environmental factors that contribute to a healthy community, and
identifies both protective and negative environmental effects on community health. (available at:
http://www.policylink.org/documents/WhyPlaceMattersreport_web.pdf)

ⁱⁱ “Introducing the Healthy Eating Active Living Convergence Partnership”, page 1. Convergence Partnership,
Oakland, CA. 2008.

ⁱⁱⁱJoint Center for Political and Economic Studies/Policy Link (2004). A Place for Healthier Living: Improving
Access to Physical Activity and Healthy Foods (available at <http://www.policylink.org/pdfs/JointCenter-HealthyLiving.pdf>) and W.K. Kellogg Foundation Food and Fitness Overview (available at
<http://www.wkkf.org/default.aspx?tabid=75&CID=383&NID=61&LanguageID=0>)

^{iv} Robert Wood Johnson Foundation (2006). Annual Report President’s Message (available at
<http://www.rwjf.org/pr/product.jsp?id=18649&topicid=1024>)

^v Morland, K., Wing S., Diez R.A., Poole C. Neighborhood Characteristics Associated With The Location of
Food Stores And Food Service Places. American Journal of Preventive Health. 2001;22(1):23-9. As cited in:
Prevention Institute (2007). Healthy Eating & Physical Activity: Addressing inequities in Urban Environments,
p.4 (available at <http://www.preventioninstitute.org/sa/pdf/RWJNC.pdf>)

^{vi} Robert Wood Johnson Foundation. Active Living by Design website. (available at
www.activelivingbydesign.org/filealbd_primer_low.pdf)

-
- vii “Introducing the Healthy Eating Active Living Convergence Partnership”, page 3. Convergence Partnership, Oakland, CA. 2008.
- viii “Introducing the Healthy Eating Active Living Convergence Partnership”, page 3. Convergence Partnership, Oakland, CA. 2008.
- ix WK Kellogg Foundation website. Program Directors: Committed to improving the quality of life for kids and families in a way that will last a lifetime (<http://www.wkcf.org/Default.aspx?tabid=90&CID=383&ItemID=5000410&NID=5010410&LanguageID=0>)
- x From this Convergence Partnership Document: General Roles for Funders, pp 11-12.
- xi More information about the Spectrum of Prevention is available at (1) Cohen, L, Chehimi S. Beyond Brochures: The Imperative for Primary Prevention. In: Cohen, L, Chavez V, Chehimi S, eds. *Prevention is Primary*. San Francisco: Jossey-Bass; 2007: 3-24. (2) Cohen, L, Swift, S. The spectrum of prevention: developing a comprehensive approach to injury prevention. *Inj Prev*. 1999;5:203-207.
- xii Missouri Foundation for Health (2007). Request for Applications-Healthy & Active Communities Initiative-Model Practice Building.
- xiii Interview with Jasmine Hall-Ratliff, Missouri Foundation for Health (October 2007)
- xiv Interview with Kathryn DeForest, Missouri Foundation for Health (October 2007)
- xv *ibid*
- xvi Kaiser Permanente Community Benefit leadership news release: kp.org/newsroom/national/archive/people/nat_020227_baxter.html
- xvii Kaiser Permanente (2004). Framework for Community Health Initiatives (available at <http://xnet.kp.org/communitybenefit/chi/tools/docs/background/CHIFramework.pdf>)
- xviii Interview with Dinah Dittman, Kaiser Permanente (October 2007)
- xix Robert Wood Johnson Foundation website (<http://www.rwjf.org/about/mission.jhtml>)
- xx Robert Wood Johnson Foundation (2002). RWJF Launches \$16.5 million Active Living program (www.rwjf.org/programareas/resources/product.jsp?id=21703&pid=1138&gsa=pa1138)
- xxi Robert Wood Johnson Foundation website. Obesity Epidemic Continues to Grow <http://www.rwjf.org/newsroom/activitydetail.jsp?productid=20431&type=109>
- xxii Robert Wood Johnson Foundation website. Robert Wood Johnson Foundation Provides \$20 Million Dollar Grant To Support Expansion of Healthy Schools Program (available at www.rwjf.org/programareas/features/feature.jsp?id=21184&typeid=151&pid=1138)
- xxiii Robert Wood Johnson Foundation (2006). Annual Report President’s Message (available at <http://www.rwjf.org/pr/product.jsp?id=18649&topicid=1024>)
- xxiv Robert Wood Johnson Foundation (2006). Active Living By Design Primer (available at <http://www.activelivingbydesign.org/fileadmin/template/documents/primer/Primer2007.pdf>)