Healthy Places Action Menu

Get Healthy will award funding to projects that focus on changing policies and physical environments in ways that make places healthier. Healthy places have good public transportation, affordable housing, walkable and bikeable streets, safe open space, good air quality, and are accessible to community members at all income levels. Get Healthy is very interested in funding projects that leverage strategic collaborations with local organizations and agencies to improve the built, land use and transportation environment and effect long-term policy and environmental level change. Below are some examples. Please note that these are just examples. Get Healthy is very interested in new and innovative ideas.

- Build a community of advocates where you live. Identify an issue area and work with local government or other stakeholder groups to host **a series of informative public engagement sessions** to exchange ideas, inspire public dialogue, and shift the conversation toward solutions. Involve community and local decision makers.

  Local Example: An example is the City of San Mateo's monthly Taste and Talk series which addresses topics such as complete streets, parking policy, health and transportation, and more: http://sustainablestreetssanmateo.com/tasteandtalk/

- Organize **a tour of affordable housing developments, local plan areas, transit lines, or other important features** in your community to build knowledge and advocate for improvements. Tours should be linked to tangible policy change opportunities such as plan adoptions.

  Local Examples: Silicon Valley Leadership Group leads an annual affordable housing tour to showcase affordable housing developers and create opportunities for dialogue around housing affordability: http://nonprofithousing.org/events/event/affordable-housing-tour-2014/

  Local Example: The South San Francisco Coalition for Community Benefits organized a walking tour to inform decision makers about important issues in the Downtown Station Area Plan: http://www.greatcommunities.org/south-san-francisco-gets-walking/

- Create opportunities **for increasing everyday physical activity** through biking, walking, and public transit for vulnerable population's i.e. low income neighborhoods, people of color with high rates of obesity preventable health issues and seniors, children and people with disabilities.

  Local Example: The City of Belmont converted two "paper trails" to actual trails to provide safe access and physical activity opportunities to several destinations for youth and older adults including the local library, Carlmont Shopping Center, Cipriani Elementary, etc).

- Engage and organize your community to **advocate for better public transportation** options and improved access to job centers, hospitals, healthy food retailers, and other important destinations.

  Resource: Visit Urban Habitat's Transportation Justice webpage for regional examples and strategies: http://urbanhabitat.org/tj/all.

- Work with local officials to **conduct walk or bike audits** and identify assets and opportunities in the pedestrian or bicycle network. Use the outcomes of this assessment to advocate for prioritizing key pedestrian or bicycle improvements.

  Local Example: San Mateo-Foster City School District led a walk/bike assessment of streets around each school in the district. They involved city staff and findings were used to identify streetscape improvements and apply for funding.

  Local example: The City of East Palo Alto in collaboration with the Ravenswood School District and various other community partners improved and painted 4 key crosswalks and expanded Safe Routes to School programming, including a pilot Walking School Bus program.

  Resources:

  The Pedestrian Environmental Quality Index offers resources on evaluating pedestrian environments, http://www.sfhealthequity.org/elements/24-elements/tools/106-pedestrian-environmental-quality-index

  The Active School Neighborhood Checklist provides guidelines for evaluating school environments, http://www.saferoutespartnership.org/sites/default/files/pdf/Lib_of_Res/SS_ST_Active_School_Neighborhood_Checklist_Guide-Book_08_10.pdf