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New Report – State Approaches to Testing School Drinking Water for Lead

Reports of lead contamination have emerged in schools and communities across the country. The focus on this issue is deserved: even at low levels, lead exposure is harmful, especially in young children. Drinking water is important for proper hydration and oral health and can serve as a substitute for sugary drinks in order to help children grow up at a healthy weight. But water must be safe to drink.

This report describes the features of statewide initiatives in operation between January 1, 2016 and February 28, 2018 in 24 states and the District of Columbia to conduct testing for lead in school drinking water, and the prevalence of elevated lead concentrations in tap water in public schools based on available data. To identify and summarize the features of state policies and programs, researchers conducted online searches using a search

engine and by scanning state legislative and department websites and existing resources from public health organizations. Researchers communicated with state government agencies to verify their policy or program and to request relevant documents and up-to-date data on water quality test results for lead.



Key findings of the study include that there is no uniformity in:

- ❖ States’ approaches to create and oversee programs to test for elevated lead in school drinking water
- ❖ States’ action levels
- ❖ States’ protocols to test school drinking water for lead and to share their findings
- ❖ States’ recommendations for school responses to testing
- ❖ States’ organization and maintenance of water quality data

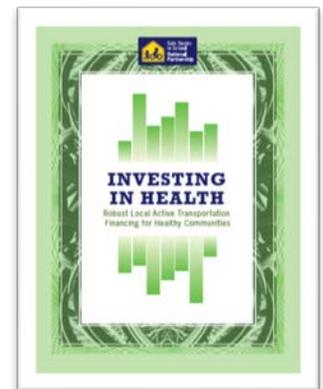
EPA recently released updated guidance on testing drinking water for lead in schools and childcare; access the new version of the 3T’s for Reducing Lead in Drinking Water Toolkit [here](#). Read the full [report](#) and additional resources from the National Drinking Water Alliance on school drinking water safety [here](#).

Two New Reports from Safe Routes to School National Partnership!



Investing in Health: Robust Local Active Transportation Financing for Healthy Communities

This new report from Safe Routes to School National Partnership will help health professionals and others understand why we need robust active transportation financing, what the evidence shows, and how we can use funding to create healthy, active communities. The report explains what active transportation financing is and how it works, sets out the benefits of increased active transportation financing in local government, examines different approaches in local communities, and explores important considerations regarding policy goals and campaign directions.



To transform our communities into healthy places, we need to invest in creating streets and neighborhoods that make regular physical activity easy to achieve through walking and bicycling. But communities can't develop robust active transportation networks that support a range of users without adequate funding. The good news is that local governments can employ proven active transportation financing strategies to create active communities, improving health and well-being for everyone in communities—children, families, and older adults. Read report [here](#).

Building Blocks: A Guide to Starting and Growing a Strong Safe Routes to School Program

Safe Routes to School is a fun and proven way to get kids healthier and make communities safer and stronger. Safe Routes to School programs increase walking and biking to school by building sidewalks, crosswalks, and bike lanes so it's safe for kids to get to school by foot or bike and providing bike and pedestrian safety education and encouragement for students and families to walk and bike to school. A new toolkit, Building Blocks: A Guide to Starting and Growing a Strong Safe Routes to School Program, will help you kick off a new Safe Routes to School program or strengthen your existing one. We'll take you step by step through how to start a program, how to get your school and city on board, and how to make your program stronger over time. We will introduce you to the background, lingo, and everything you need to know to develop your strongest possible Safe Routes to School program. Download toolkit [here](#).

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Shared Used Playbook

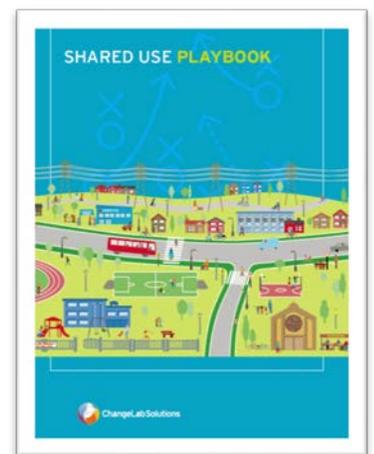
Get your Community Moving!

Opportunities for recreation and physical activity are essential for personal and community health. Yet many communities across the country do not have enough safe, affordable, high quality spaces for play, exercise, and recreation. Shared use agreements—also known as joint use agreements, memoranda of understanding, and contracts—allow public and private property owners to broaden access to their underutilized facilities for community use.

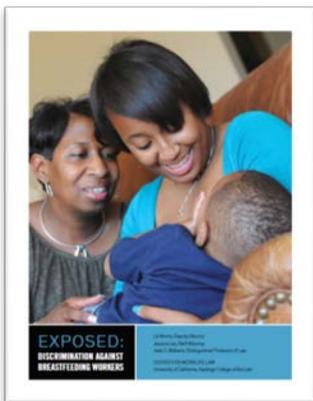
ChangeLab Solutions developed the Shared Use Playbook for public health advocates, community leaders, and local government officials who want to learn more about implementing shared use agreements. In addition to highlighting real-world examples, the Playbook discusses the various benefits that shared use can have for a community's health:

- ❖ Regular physical activity is crucial for the prevention and control of chronic disease.
- ❖ Access to nutritious food through shared use community gardens and farmers' markets helps address obesity, hunger, and poor nutrition.
- ❖ Shared use agreements maximize the impact of existing facilities; they are an efficient and economical use of resources.

Shared use agreements can be used in a wide range of settings. They can involve a variety of partners and achieve goals that are unique to a particular community or locale. As a widely promoted strategy to create opportunities for physical activity, shared use is particularly useful for cities and towns that want more park spaces. Shared use agreements are not a substitute for adequate public infrastructure investments, but they can be an important component of larger initiatives to promote healthy living and advance health equity. Read Shared Use Playbook [here](#).



Report on Discrimination Against Breastfeeding Workers



The Center for WorkLife Law has released a report titled "Exposed: Discrimination Against Breastfeeding Workers." The report exposes the devastating consequences of breastfeeding discrimination, including job loss, negative health outcomes, sexual harassment, and weaning earlier than doctors recommend. According to the study, 27.6 million women of childbearing age do not have the basic protections needed by all breastfeeding workers. The report features the stories of breastfeeding women who struggled with a lack of accommodations, hostility, and retaliation, including an NYPD police officer, an emergency room nurse, a kindergarten teacher, and a U.S. Air Force Airman. It also offers the seven components of a model policy states can enact to ensure breastfeeding workers are able to earn a living for their families without jeopardizing their health. The report was released alongside an [interactive map](#) of state laws that impact breastfeeding workers and a shareable video. Read report [here](#) and sharable video [here](#).

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Webinars

Addressing Health Outcomes and Disparities at Native Hawaiian and Pacific Islander (NHPI)-Serving Health Centers: Highlighting Innovative Partnerships and Interventions

Tuesday, January 29, 1:00pm

Join us for a live webinar to learn more about the role of health centers in improving health outcomes for medically underserved Native Hawaiians and other Pacific Islanders. Presenters will share key findings from AAPCHO's new report entitled, "Analysis of Native Hawaiian and Pacific Islander Health Outcomes at Health Centers: UDS 2017". Register [here](#).

Fourth Generation Intervention Planning for Health Promotion

Thursday, January 31, 1:30pm

During this webinar by Society for Public Health Education (SOPHE), Participants will enhance their understanding of the evolution of health promotion interventions and the specific ability to apply the latest fourth-generation interventions in practice settings. The recruitment and outreach applied to engage and retain the women minority participants from the urban communities; steps in an interventional program; session activities to support theory constructs; and the statistical analysis of data collected using a valid and reliable tool along with the anthropometric and clinical data will be described. Register [here](#).

Creating Safer Communities for All

Wednesday, February 13, 11:00pm

Pedestrian safety is a critical part of planning for healthy, active, and engaged communities. At America Walks, we believe that a safe systems approach and built environment interventions are important to achieving fewer pedestrian injuries and fatalities. Learn about resources and ideas to improve safety with this webinar. Register [here](#).

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Funding Opportunities

2019 Empowering Older Adults and Adults with Disabilities through Chronic Disease Self-Management Education Programs

Close Date: Jan 29, 2019

The Administration for Community Living (ACL), U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) forecasts the possible availability of Fiscal Year (FY) 2019 funds to make three-year grants to approximately 10 entities to develop capacity for, bring to scale, and sustain evidence-based programs that empower older adults and adults with disabilities to better manage their chronic conditions. ACL intends to compete these 10 grants via two options (both with 36-month grant periods): (A) Sustainable Systems Grants: approximately six grants of \$500,000 to \$900,000 focused on developing integrated, sustainable systems for delivering evidence-based chronic disease self-management education and self-management support programs. (B) Capacity-Building Grants: approximately four grants of \$50,000 to \$150,000 to build capacity to introduce and deliver evidence-based chronic disease self-management education and self-management support programs within underserved areas and/or populations. Learn more [here](#).

Health and Climate Solutions

Close Date: February 08, 2019

Through this funding opportunity, Robert Wood Johnson Foundation (RWJF) seeks to develop and amplify the evidence around a set of approaches that improve community health and well-being and advance health equity, while also addressing climate change adaptation or mitigation. Eligible, local approaches can focus on one or more of a range of determinants of health—including, but not limited to: air quality; energy sources; transportation or mobility design; food and water systems; housing; and health systems. Proposals should specify the determinants of health that the given approach is addressing, and the expected impact on health and well-being. Grant funds will support research and evaluation activities to develop the best possible evidence highlighting what is working well with the select approach and why; where there have been opportunities and challenges; and how other communities may learn from this approach to tackle similar challenges. *All interventions eligible for this funding must have been implemented and active for at least one year as of the date of the application. Learn more [here](#).

Culture of Health Leaders

Close Date: February 20, 2019

Culture of Health Leaders is a leadership development opportunity for people working in every field and profession who want to use their influence to advance health and equity. Our leaders' innovation helps build a Culture of Health, one that enables everyone in America to live longer, healthier lives. Through this Robert Wood Johnson Foundation program, our leaders will be prepared to collaborate and provide transformative leadership to address health equity in their communities. Learn more [here](#).

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Leveraging Health Information Technology to Address Minority Health and Health Disparities

Close Date: March 4, 2019

National Institute on Minority Health and Health Disparities (NIMHD) has released a new funding opportunity announcement (FOA). The FOA is designed to support research that examines the impact of leveraging Health Information Technology to reduce disparities by increasing access to and delivery of care, improving patient–clinician communication, and improving health outcomes for minority health and health disparity populations in the United States. NIMHD encourages inquiries concerning this funding opportunity and welcomes the opportunity to answer questions from potential applicants. Learn more [here](#).

Interdisciplinary Research Leaders

Close Date: March 13, 2019

Interdisciplinary Research Leaders is a leadership development opportunity for teams of researchers and community partners, including community organizers and advocates. These teams use the power of applied research—informing and supporting critical work being done in communities—to accelerate that work and advance health and equity. Their innovation helps build a Culture of Health, one that enables everyone in America to live longer, healthier lives. Learn more [here](#).



Training Resources

Title	Date / Time	Format	Location	Info	Registration
Nutrition Update: A Different Look at MyPlate: Nutrition Hot Topics for Each Food Group	Tue, 2/26 11:00 AM	Webinar	-----	Flyer	Register Here

Visit the CDPH Trainings and Resources page for the latest training related information and [calendar](#) of all scheduled trainings and events. Please seek approval from Project Officer and Contract Manager prior to travel.

If you would like to submit content or have any questions or comments about the Champions for Change – Healthy Communities Initiative newsletter, please contact Tania Marquez at tmarquez@ph.lacounty.gov