



***Public Prevention Health Fund: Community Transformation Grants***  
**Los Angeles County Department of Public Health's Award Summary**

On September 27, 2011 the Los Angeles County Department of Public Health (DPH) was notified of a \$9.8 million grant award from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) as part of the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services' (HHS's) *Community Transformation Grants* (CTG) initiative. The funding will support the first year of a planned five-year initiative to prevent chronic disease and reduce health disparities in the county population through interventions that create healthy and safe environments and improve access to evidence-based clinical preventive services.

This funding will enable DPH and its community partners to build upon the successful efforts already underway in the areas of chronic disease prevention and control. Through the RENEW and TRUST projects, funded by the CDC's *Communities Putting Prevention to Work* (CPPW) initiative, DPH has worked with numerous community partners to develop innovative strategies aimed at reducing youth access to tobacco products and exposure to secondhand smoke, increasing utilization of effective tobacco cessation services, enhancing clinical preventing services, improving nutrition and increasing physical activity. The additional funding from the CTG will help Los Angeles County continue this broad, innovative and comprehensive prevention strategy in our diverse communities.

The CTG funding is focused on five strategic directions including tobacco-free living; active living and healthy eating; clinical and other preventive services; social and emotional wellness; and healthy and safe environments. The following is a summary of the strategic areas that will be addressed in the county through the CTG funding. These strategic areas align with the evidence-based recommendations from Healthy People 2020 and the *National Prevention Strategy* recently released by the Office of the U.S. Surgeon General.

**Strategy 1: Tobacco-free living**

- Support cities in LA County (LAC) in implementing evidenced-based strategies to reduce exposure to secondhand smoke (SHS) in multi-unit housing and outdoor areas
- Support cities and unincorporated areas in LAC in implementing strategies to reduce youth access to tobacco products
- Work with businesses to establish systems, procedures and protocols to reduce exposure to SHS and increase access to and utilization of effective tobacco cessation services
- Partner with community-based organizations serving high-risk populations, including those with mental illness, substance abuse issues and homelessness to establish systems, procedures and protocols to reduce exposure to SHS and increase access to and utilization of effective tobacco cessation services
- Implement a targeted social marketing and public education campaign to increase access to and utilization of effective tobacco cessation services among vulnerable populations
- Develop and implement a standard protocol for tobacco use screening and referral to tobacco cessation services within large health care organizations in LAC
- Support teachers in providing tobacco-use prevention education and cessation resources at LAC schools with high rates of tobacco use among their students



### **Strategy 2: Active living and healthy eating**

- Partner with hospitals serving low-income communities in LAC to develop policies that support breastfeeding among new mothers and achieve Baby-Friendly certification
- Work with LAC school districts in low-income communities to increase fresh preparation of school meals to improve nutrition and student participation
- Support teachers in implementing evidence-based physical education (PE) requirements in LAC schools with high levels of obesity and physical inactivity among their students
- Support cities in LA County in implementing strategies that increase access to healthy food and beverage options
- Increase the acceptance rate of *CalFresh* benefits among farmers' markets across LAC
- Support businesses and public agencies in LAC in implementing healthy food procurement practices

### **Strategy 3: High impact clinical and other preventive services**

- Adopt and implement a patient-centered medical home or team-based care approach to promote standard protocols to deliver high impact clinical preventive services within large health care organizations in LAC in underserved communities
- Establish a practice-based learning network among health care organizations and health advocacy groups to promote sharing of lessons learned and dissemination of best practices on clinical preventive services in LAC

### **Strategy 4: Social and emotional wellness**

- Adopt and implement standard protocols in targeted clinic sites in the Department of Health Services (DHS) Ambulatory Care Network to screen for depression and problem drinking among low-income patient populations

### **Strategy 5: Healthy and safe physical environments**

- Support the City of Los Angeles in developing a health and wellness element within the city's general plan
- Implement land use and transportation strategies that promote active living and community safety in LAC, focusing on communities with high rates of obesity
- Expand the County Parks After Dark program to increase community safety and provide youth development opportunities, especially among youths affected by gang violence