



Catalyzing Communities

A ChildObesity180 Initiative

Hello Everyone,

Welcome to the Catalyzing Communities Learning Collaborative May 2023 newsletter! This month, we are featuring resources that explore intersectionality, power dynamics, and positionality in the context of public health practice, research, and policy.

We are also excited to announce our first keynote speaker of the year! Dr. Nimali Fernando, pediatrician and founder of [The Dr. Yum Project](#) will be giving a (virtual) Keynote presentation followed by a moderated Q&A on **Thursday, June 22, 12pm-1pm ET!** There will be more details to come, but if you want to register in advance, click [HERE!](#) We encourage you to spread the word to your networks, colleagues and community members!

We've included several events, toolkits, and funding opportunities that may be of interest. We hope these will be helpful to you and your community partners.

Feel free to forward this newsletter to others in your community who might be interested.

Thank you for your partnership!

The Catalyzing Communities Team

Resources and articles of interest

- READ: MMC Institute for Teaching Excellence (MITE) defines and explains [Positionality, Intersectionality, and Privilege in Health Professions Education and Research](#). The objectives of this resource are (1) define the terms privilege, positionality, and intersectionality and (2) identify your positionality as you engage in teaching and research activities.
- EXPLORE: The CDC features [health literacy activities by state](#) which includes state and local collaborations and academic, government, and non-profit organizations with a health literacy focus. They exemplify goals in the [National Action Plan to Improve Health Literacy](#). Specifically, they cross organizational

boundaries, provide new knowledge to the field, or convene diverse groups and people with an interest in health literacy.

- READ: In partnership with the National Collaborating Centre for Healthy Public Policy (NCCHPP), the NCCDH brought a small group of public health practitioners and researchers together to share [perspectives on the relevance and application of intersectionality in public health](#). The contributors discuss their understanding of intersectionality and how it is currently applied in public health practice, policy and research focused on the social determinants of health and health equity. They identify gaps and opportunities to better integrate an intersectional lens into various aspects of equity-oriented public health activity.
- WATCH: The NACHHO's plenary session of [Building Power for Health Equity](#), features Dr. Tony Iton, Senior Vice President for Healthy Communities at The California Endowment. Dr. Iton is a leader of the health equity movement, having significantly spread awareness of and instigated action in response to the fact that zip codes are more important than genetic codes when it comes to health. During the panel, Dr. Iton highlights the Building Healthy Communities theory of change and lessons learned and shared his thoughts on how local health departments can advance a health equity practice.
- READ: [Addressing power dynamics in community-engaged research partnerships](#). Lauri Address, Tristen Hall, Sheila Davis, Judith Levine, Kimberly Cripps & Dominique Guinn. Journal of Patient Reported Outcomes. (2020).

Tools and Guides

- The Association of State and Territorial Health Officials (ASTHO) designed a [Health Equity Policy Toolkit](#) to support public health leaders in leveraging the policy development process to achieve health equity in their jurisdiction. The toolkit includes an overview of core health equity concepts, such as defining the Social Determinants of Health (SDOH) and intersectionality, as well as descriptions and examples of common policy levers within public health leaders' authority or influence. Key considerations for using the policy levers to advance health equity are also provided. Lastly, the toolkit includes resources for supporting health departments in the policy development process.
- The Urban Land Institute's [Building Healthy Places Toolkit: Strategies for Enhancing Health in the Built Environment](#) outlines evidence supporting opportunities to enhance health through changes in approaches to buildings and projects. Developers, owners, property managers, designers, investors, and others involved in real estate decision making can use the strategies described in this report to create places that contribute to healthier people and communities and that enhance and preserve value by meeting the growing desire for health-promoting places.

Events

- [The Trans NIH Workshop: Innovative Approaches to Improve Maternal Health](#) will take place **in-person AND virtually on May 8-9, 2023, 9:00am – 6:00pm EDT** to bring together technology developers, medical device experts, small business innovators, implementation scientists, MMM researchers and academic, industry, and community-based partners. The goal of this event is to connect the research community with small businesses that are developing new approaches to improve MMM and its associated health disparities. Click [HERE](#) to register.
- The Picower Institute for Learning and Memory in conjunction with the JPB Foundation presents the biennial Spring Symposium titled, [Environmental and Social Determinants of Child Mental Health](#) on May 11 8:30am-5pm ET (virtual). Register [HERE](#).
- The AMMC Center for Health Justice hosts the [Maternal Health Equity Workshop: From Story to Data to Action](#) on **Thursday, May 18, from 10am to 3pm ET (virtual)** which will explore how and whether available qualitative tools like NLP, which use machine learning to process and interpret qualitative data, can retain the wisdom of patient and community member stories as those stories are transformed into data. Register [HERE](#).
- The Learning Collaborative presents a (virtual) keynote presentation by Dr. Nimali Fernando, pediatrician and founder of [The Dr. Yum Project](#) on **Thursday, June 22nd 12pm- 1pm ET**. If you want to register in advance, click [HERE](#)!

Funding sources/opportunities

- NIFA requests applications for the [GusNIP Produce Prescription Program](#) for FY2023 to support projects that aim to demonstrate and evaluate the impact of prescribing fresh fruits and vegetables on (1) the improvement of dietary health through increased consumption of fruits and vegetables; (2) the reduction of individual and household food insecurity; and (3) the reduction in healthcare use and associated costs. **Application deadline:** May 16, 2023. **Apply** [HERE](#).
- As part of a cooperative agreement to implement the USDA Food and Nutrition Service's [Healthy Meals Incentives Initiative](#), Action for Healthy Kids is offering competitive grants, up to \$150,000 per [SFA, to small and/or rural school food authorities](#) to support efforts to improve the nutritional quality of their school meals. **Application deadline:** May 26, 2023 5:00pm ET. **Apply** [HERE](#).
- AmeriCorps VISTA is a program that provides resources and staffing for organizations and agencies working to alleviate poverty and address poverty-

related problems in local communities. Through this opportunity, AmeriCorps seeks concept papers for the [AmeriCorps VISTA program](#) from outcome-driven organizations that share the AmeriCorps VISTA mission. **Application deadline:** Wednesday, June 7, 2023. **Apply [HERE](#).**

If this newsletter was forwarded to you and you'd like to receive it directly, send an email to CatalyzingCommunities@tufts.edu

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<https://catalyzingcommunities.org>