



Catalyzing Communities

A ChildObesity180 Initiative

Hello Everyone!

Welcome to the first Catalyzing Communities Learning Collaborative newsletter! The purpose of these emails is to facilitate information sharing and networking among all eight Catalyzing Communities partners, based on your great suggestions from the January Learning Collaborative workshop. We plan to circulate one each month.

Below you will find a list of resources, updates and other items of interest. We want this to be useful to you in your work, and would love to hear any feedback you have on the structure or content of these newsletters. We know you also receive valuable resources, and encourage you to please share those with us so we can include them here! Feel free to forward or mention any relevant content/resources that you would like to see featured in these monthly emails to anyone on the Catalyzing Communities team.

Thank you for your partnership, and have a great March!

The Catalyzing Communities Team

Resources and articles of interest

- March 4th was World Obesity Day! To find more information, visit this site: <https://www.worldobesityday.org>
- [The Relational Work of Systems Change](#). Katherine Milligan, Juanita Zerda & John Kania. (2022).
- [Centering Equity in Collective Impact](#). John Kania, Junious Williams, Paul Schmitz, Sheri Brady, Mark Kramer & Jennifer Splansky Juster. (2021).
- Link to a podcast outlining a story about an abandoned grocery store, and food access more generally in Garfield Park (Chicago). It features TJ Crawford, the Executive Director of the Garfield Park Rite to Wellness Collaborative. [Grocery Stores Abandoned West Garfield Park. Will the City Step in?](#)
- Yvonne D. Greer's podcast recorded live on YouTube: "[Back to the Kitchen: Healthy Cooking Series with Community Champion Discussions](#)" Season 2 started on February 16th.
 - Tune in for the next episode, "[Back to the Kitchen: Promoting Healthy Eating in Youth](#)", airing live March 9th 1-2:30PM (CST).

Speaker Events (virtual)

- [Food Literacy for All](#) is a community-academic partnership course based at the University of Michigan. Structured as an evening lecture series, Food Literacy for All features different guest speakers each week to address challenges and opportunities of diverse food systems.
- [The Friedman School Speaker Series](#) includes presentations from professionals across a wide range of topics in the field of nutrition. Our speakers include both researchers and practitioners of nutrition science and policy from academia, government, industry, and the non-profit sector. “Live” on Wednesday afternoons from 12:15-1:15pm (ET) on the academic year schedule.

Funding sources/opportunities

- [The Center for Science in the Public Interest \(CSPI\)](#) seeks to support communities as they explore local, state, and federal policy interventions to elicit systemic change and advance a just and equitable food environment. CSPI is launching grant opportunities for 2022.

Publications/publicity

- Check out the Catalyzing Communities website to see community pages for Worcester, MA, Garfield Park (Chicago), IL and Harris County, TX!
 - [Worcester, MA](#)
 - [Garfield Park \(Chicago\). IL](#)
 - [Harris County, TX](#)