Hello Everyone,

Welcome to the Catalyzing Communities Learning Collaborative December 2023 newsletter! This month, we are featuring resources that can help you craft meaningful and impactful Op-Eds or Opinion Essays and share your expertise with the world. We've also 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, and our best for a peaceful and bright holiday season and new year.

The Catalyzing Communities Team

Resources and articles of interest

- READ: The Columbia Climate School developed a guide on "Writing and Submitting an Opinion Piece."

- EXPLORE: The Op-Ed Project provides tips on op-ed writing, suggestions about basic op-ed structure, guidelines on how to pitch op-ed pieces to publications, and information about top outlets that publish op-eds. Started as an effort to increase the number of women op-ed writers.

- READ: Duke University's Communicator Toolkit contains useful tips and guides for effective Op-Ed writing.

- WATCH: The National Press Club Journalism Institute hosted a program titled, "How op eds can amplify original voices & engage new communities" which features a distinguished panel that offers tips for broadening the voices news organizations feature and the audiences they reach.

- READ: The Harvard Kennedy School developed a guide to crafting an Op-Ed pitch which is an opportunity for you to give an editor a condensed sense of your writing without them having to read your entire piece.

- EXPLORE: The Narrative Initiative builds "skilled, well-resourced narrative power centers starting in social movement spaces, as close to the ground as possible, to run meaningful narrative interventions that support multiracial, pluralistic democracy." Check out their resources HERE.

- READ: Momentum Communications Group developed a guide to help non-profits craft effective and meaningful Op Eds.

Tools and Guides

- The Urban Institute developed a tool to catalog the federal funding initiatives by program, geography, and project type, allowing users to evaluate equity in funding decisions.

- The National Collaborating Centre for Determinants of Health developed the PRACTICE BRIEF: Movement Building as Intersectional Practice to Achieve Health Equity which aims to "challenge public health at all levels to think and work in different ways regarding intersectoral practice."

- The Google News Initiative and The Society of Professional Journalists are particularly interested in training journalists working in the Southern region of the United States. SPJ Training Program in association with Google News Initiative will be held for newsrooms, small groups, conferences, conventions and regional events. Click HERE for more information.

- The Dignity and Precision in Language webinar by Poyenter "offers three decision-making tools to help journalists find the most precise words to ensure that all subjects and sources are described with dignity." You can start this webinar at any time!

Events

- Please join AARP Oregon and ChangeLab Solutions, a nonpartisan organization dedicated to advancing health equity, for a discussion titled, "A Community-Centered Approach to Improving Health and Health Equity." This presentation on **December 7 10-11:30am PT** will cover the concepts and examples of how to incorporate equity into community planning, as well as point to resources. Register **HERE**.

- [County Health Rankings & Roadmaps](#) will host the ["Taking a local health and equity approach to climate change"](#) webinar on December 12 3pm ET. This webinar will explore the relationship between the climate and our health. Portland State University Professor Dr. Vivek Shandas will share his research that shows how segregation polices, such as redlining, created disinvestment in communities. Resulting lack of access to parks and other infrastructure mean rising temperatures and greenhouse gas emissions are deepening health inequities. Register **[HERE](#)**.

Funding sources/opportunities

- [The NIH Build UP Trust Challenge](#) seeks new approaches to improve engagement with underserved populations with a focus on increasing their participation in disease research and adoption of existing and new tools and strategies to detect, treat and monitor diseases and disorders. The NIH Build UP Trust prize challenge aims to utilize new and existing strategies to improve engagement with underserved populations, in order to generate new solutions that address trust as a barrier to the adoption of both new and existing healthcare tools and diagnostics. These new solutions can include improvements to existing tools/devices, as well as the creation of new ones. **Submissions Due:** December 5, 2023. **Apply [HERE](#).**

- Federal Office of Rural Health Policy, Health Resources and Services Administration and the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services seeks applicants for [The National Rural Health Policy, Community, and Collaboration Program](#). The National Rural Health Policy, Community, and Collaboration Program will award funding to a single entity to develop and maintain projects that will help support rural communities through a broad range of activities. **Application Deadline**: December 14, 2023. **Apply [HERE](#)**.

- Health Resources and Services Administration and the Maternal and Child Health Bureau, U.S. Department of Health and Human Services seek applicants for [The Healthy Start: Eliminating Disparities in Perinatal Health program](#). The Healthy Start: Eliminating Disparities in Perinatal Health program provides grants to improve health outcomes before, during, and after pregnancy and reduce racial/ethnic disparities in rates of infant death and adverse perinatal outcomes. **Application Deadline:** December 15, 2023. **Apply [HERE](#)**.

- [The Walmart Foundation](#) seeks applicants to the [The Walmart Community Grant Program](#) which provides grants to support the unique needs of local communities in the service areas of Walmart and Sam's Club stores. **Application Deadline:** December 31, 2023. **Apply [HERE](#)**.

- The National Institute on Minority Health and Health Disparities, National Institutes of Health, U.S. Department of Health and Human Services seeks applicants for [Understanding and Addressing the Impact of Structural Racism and Discrimination on Minority Health and Health Disparities (R01 Clinical Trial](#)

Optional). This program provides funding to support intervention research to address the impact of structural racism and discrimination (SRD) on minority health and health disparities. **Application Deadline:** January 7, 2024. **Apply HERE**.

- The Chef Ann Foundation will soon begin accepting proposals for the Partnerships for Local Agriculture & Nutrition Transformation in Schools (PLANTS) grant program. PLANTS will fund eight collaborative projects led by groups of local partners advancing systemic and equity-driven approaches to transforming school food supply chains. Projects should seek to build and strengthen relationships among community-based food system stakeholders and school districts as well as expand scratch cooking in schools in order to build healthier school meal programs. **Application Deadline:** January 22, 2024 10PM ET.. **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