



Catalyzing Communities

A ChildObesity180 Initiative

Hello Everyone,

Welcome to the Catalyzing Communities Learning Collaborative February 2024 newsletter! This month, we are featuring resources that highlight themes of housing, food security, and equity. 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.

The Catalyzing Communities Team

Resources and articles of interest

- READ: "[How Stable, Affordable Housing Can Help Tackle Food Insecurity](#)" by Kimberly Burrowes. [Housing Matters an Urban Institute Initiative](#). This resource examines the connection between housing stability and food access while also outlining ways policymakers can make a difference.
- EXPLORE: [Move for Hunger](#) "is a national non-profit organization that mobilizes transportation networks to deliver surplus food to communities in need." Explore their resources and tools on hunger and homelessness in the U.S. [HERE](#).
- READ: The [Food Research and Action Center's](#) blog, "[Food Insecurity and Housing Instability Are Inextricably Linked](#)", by Alexandra Ashbrook "lifts up opportunities to take action to support millions of families who are experiencing food insecurity and housing instability."
- LISTEN: [Feeding America](#) released the podcast: "[Combating Food Insecurity—One Meal at a Time: A Conversation with Dion Dawson](#)." Dion's Chicago Dream delivers over 11,000 pounds of food per month to more than 1,300 Chicago residents each week, helping to alleviate the food insecurity that

so many in his community face. Tune in to this powerful and inspiring episode where Dion discusses how the charitable food experience must be imbued with dignity, the ways that food insecurity is a social justice issue and so much more.

- READ: Catalyzing Community team member, Yuilyn (Yui) Chang Chusan, presented “Diabetes Distress or Housing Instability: Which Is a More Salient Psychosocial Stressor for Low-Income People With Diabetes in the United States?” at the American Society of Nutrition Conference in 2023. Read the abstract [HERE](#).
- EXPLORE: The Health Equity Training Plan, curated by the [Public Health Foundation](#) (PHF), can benefit individuals who would like to build on their foundational knowledge of health equity or those who are familiar with the [Foundations of Health Equity Training Plan](#) and want to explore more advanced content within each of the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) Office of Health Equity’s six [Health Equity Domains and Competencies](#): policy and organization policy, infrastructure, communication, community engagement, structural and social determinants of health, and anti-racism. Read more about the plan [HERE](#).
- READ: [Guiding Principles to Address the Impact of Healthcare Algorithms on Racial and Ethnic Disparities in Health and Healthcare](#), addresses the use of healthcare algorithms and provides the healthcare community with guiding principles to avoid repeating errors that have tainted the use of algorithms in other sectors.

Tools and Guides

- [The Chart Book: Housing and Health Problems Are Intertwined. So Are Their Solutions](#), developed by [the Center on Budget and Policy Priorities](#), “describes the relationship between housing and health, then highlights cross-sector policy solutions that promote positive health outcomes, greater housing stability, and advancements in racial, health, and housing equity.”
- [Community Solutions](#) developed the [Learning Brief: How Communities Assess the Quality of Their Homelessness Data](#). This learning brief describes the four components used to assess whether a community has achieved quality by-name data and the changes and improvements that communities have made on each.

Events

- The Minority Health Conference, the largest and longest-running student-led health conference in the country, aims to raise awareness around minority health and mobilize students, academics, and community members to take action for change. The conference was founded and is led by students at the Gillings School of Global Public Health, UNC-Chapel Hill. This year's conference: [The Building Blocks to Well-Being: Connections Between Health and Stress](#), will take place BOTH in-person at 100 Friday Center Drive, Chapel Hill NC 27599 and virtually on **February 23, 2024 9:00 AM-4:30 PM**. Register [HERE](#) by February 9, 2024 5:00 PM.

Funding sources/opportunities

- The USDA is seeking applicants for [The Gus Schumacher Nutrition Incentive Program \(GusNIP\) Produce Prescription Program](#) which provides funding to support projects that demonstrate and evaluate the impact of prescribing fresh fruits and vegetables on the improvement of dietary health through increased consumption of fruits and vegetables, the reduction of individual and household food insecurity, and the reduction in healthcare use and associated costs. **Application deadline:** February 28, 2024. **Apply [HERE](#).**
- [The AARP Community Challenge](#) provides funding for projects that work to improve livability for all residents of a community. Applications from rural communities are encouraged. **Application deadline:** March 6, 2024, 5 p.m.ET. **Apply [HERE](#).**
- The USDA Food and Nutrition Service offers funding for [Supporting the Use of Traditional Indigenous Foods in the Child Nutrition Programs Cooperative Agreement](#). This opportunity will provide funding for organizations led and staffed primarily by members of federally recognized tribes and/or Native Hawaiians to provide tailored training, technical assistance (TA), and support for school food authorities (SFAs) that serve tribal communities and participate in the National School Lunch Program (NSLP). Awardees will also develop culturally relevant nutrition education materials for students to accompany the traditional indigenous foods that are served and train school nutrition professionals and other school staff on providing nutrition education to students. **Application deadline:** March 18, 2024, by 11:59 pm ET. **Apply [HERE](#).**
- The NIH seeks applicants for [Transformative Research to Address Health Disparities and Advance Health Equity \(U01 Clinical Trial Optional\)](#). This opportunity will provide funding to support innovative intervention research addressing social determinants of health (SDOH) which, if successful, would have a major impact on preventing, reducing, or eliminating health disparities and advancing health equity. **Application deadline:** March 23, 2024. **Apply [HERE](#).**
- A new funding opportunity from [Healthy Eating Research](#) is focused on supportive family policies and programs that have strong potential to impact

equitable access to nutritious food in communities, nutrition security, diet quality, and improved nutrition and health outcomes. **Application deadline:** April 3, 2024. **Apply [HERE](#).**

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For more information about Catalyzing Communities, visit:

<https://catalyzingcommunities.org>