

# Working Together to Enhance Public Health Capacity in Communities



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# CDC's Strategy and Goals



# CDC Health Protection Goals



Healthy People in Every Stage of Life



Healthy People in Healthy Places



People Prepared for Emerging Health Threats



Healthy People in a Healthy World



# EPA/CDC/ATSDR Community Collaborative

- Community centered
- Coordination between environmental protection and public health programs



<http://www.cdc.gov/nceh/ehs/CEHA/collaboration.htm>



# Partnerships: Federal, State, Local

- Increasing effectiveness of existing agency partnerships in support of communities
- Increasing trust and efficiency among citizens and government partners
- Building networks within a community to increase its ability to address problems



# Community Linkage to Public Health Solutions

- Understanding environment and health connection
- Linking local leaders to federal resources
- Building local problem-solving capacity



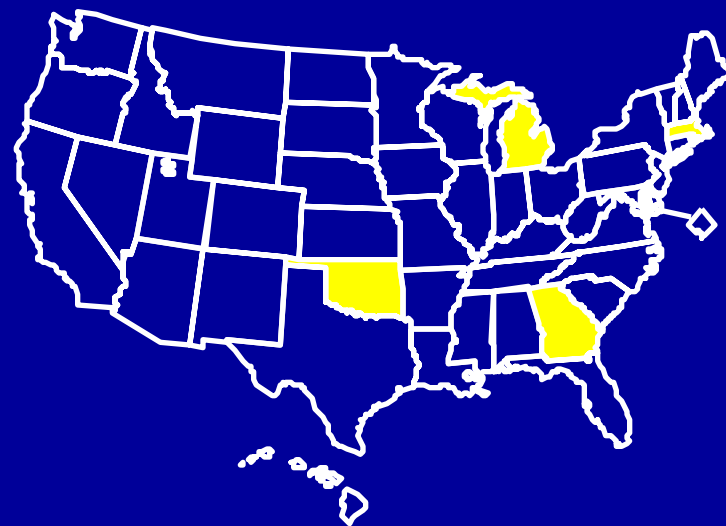
# Collaboration Outcomes

- Addressing multiple public and ecologic health aspects of built and natural environments
- Reducing health disparities
- Decreasing environmental health hazards for vulnerable populations (children and elderly)
- Improving environmental health literacy
- Promoting environmental justice



# Diverse Pilot Communities

- Boston
- Cherokee Nation
- Grand Rapids/  
Kent County,  
Michigan
- Savannah





# CDC Environmental Health Capacity-Building Cooperative Agreements

Rounds I & II, 2001–2007

11 Grantees (I) & 14 Grantees (II)

## State and Local EH Programs

- Allegheny County, PA
- Boston, MA
- Bucks County, PA
- Detroit, MI
- State of Iowa
- Island County, WA
- Multnomah County, OR
- New York City, NY
- Republic of Palau
- State of New Mexico
- State of Wisconsin

## Regional Academic Centers

- Johns Hopkins University (NE)
- Loma Linda University (SW)
- University of Alabama at Birmingham (SE)
- University of Illinois at Chicago (MW)
- University of Washington (NW)
- Tulane University (LA)
- Emory University (GA)

Round III, 2007–2010

11 Grantees

## State and Local EH Programs

- Alaska Native Tribal Health Consortium
- Boston, MA
- Children's EH Network of DC
- State of Iowa
- Jefferson County, AL
- Kent County, MI
- Multnomah County, OR
- Muncie Bureau of Water Quality, IN
- Republic of Palau
- State of Wisconsin
- Wampanoag Health Service, MA (Tribal)



Products, Resources, and Information  
<http://www.cdc.gov/nceh/ehs/CapacityBuilding>



# Examples of CDC Capacity-Building Projects

- Boston Safe Auto Shops Project
  - 94% decrease in acetone and 88% decrease in toluene in air at one shop
  - Expansion to Safe Nail Shops Project
- Muncie, Indiana
  - Rain gardens project



# Examples of CDC Capacity-Building Projects

- Regional Academic Environmental Public Health Centers



## Environmental Public Health Practice in the Southeastern United States



Southeast Regional Academic Center  
for Environmental Public Health  
.....  
School of Public Health  
University of Alabama at Birmingham



# ATSDR Pediatric Environmental Health Specialty Units

**The Mid-Atlantic Center for Children's Health and the Environment**

A Pediatric Environmental Health Specialty Unit

**UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA**

PEDIATRIC ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH SPECIALTY UNIT  
(PEHSU)

**Pediatric Environmental  
Health Program**



Children's Hospital Boston



Southeast  
Pediatric Environmental  
Health Specialty Unit



**SOUTHWEST CENTER FOR PEDIATRIC  
ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH**



**Pediatric Environmental Health Specialty Unit**

University of Washington



# Health Equitability and Sustainability

- Local-level partnerships are key to identifying barriers to good health for all
- Lessons learned from working with these communities hold promise for knowledge transfer to other communities, regardless the problems they face



# Action Steps

- Disseminating lessons-learned about community-based environmental health assessments
- Providing the evidence base for methodologies that promote community engagement
- Participating in work groups that define and organize the collaboration's activities
- Offering technical assistance in communities where EPA and CDC/ATSDR have relationships with local partners



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