Congratulations to Big Cities Health Coalition (BCHC) Members Recognized as National Leaders in Promoting Health

Eleven BCHC Health Departments Join Nationwide BUILD Health Challenge

Washington, D.C. – The Big Cities Health Coalition (BCHC) congratulates 11 BCHC member health departments who, along with their community-based organization and hospital partners, were recognized by leading national philanthropies as BUILD Health Challenge awardees. These leaders in advancing community health join a cohort of seven other awardees (18 in all) who have partnered with nonprofits, hospitals and health systems, and other local organizations to develop Bold, Upstream, Integrated, Local, and Data-Driven (BUILD) initiatives to reduce health disparities and improve community well-being.

Three BCHC members are part of partnerships that will receive implementation grants of $250,000. These grants will allow each collaboration to expand the impact of existing community health efforts and gain momentum in addressing social and economic factors that impact health:

- The Cleveland Department of Public Health will collaborate to remediate substandard housing in the Brooklyn Center neighborhood.
- The New York City Department of Health and Mental Hygiene will collaborate to improve housing conditions and energy efficiency for low income residents in five Bronx neighborhoods.
- The Alameda County Health Department will collaborate to promote economic development and reduce health disparities in West Oakland.

Eight additional BCHC members are part of partnerships that will receive planning grants of $75,000. These grants will support targeted, neighborhood-based efforts to strengthen health improvement action plans, with the opportunity to apply for an additional year of implementation funding:

- The Los Angeles County Department of Public Health will collaborate to create a community with healthy eating and inviting urban spaces while engaging with youth leaders in South Los Angeles.
- The Chicago Department of Public Health will collaborate to integrate legal, medical, and public health services to improve the health of the immigrant population in the New City and East Garfield Park neighborhoods.
- Denver Public Health will collaborate to support the community in developing solutions to the social, environmental, and economic factors that have the greatest impact on child health and wellness with the goal of eliminating health disparities by the time each child enters school.
• The *Baltimore City Health Department* will collaborate to develop a comprehensive youth violence prevention plan for the Druid Hill and Upton Heights neighborhoods.

• The *Detroit Department of Health and Wellness Promotion* will collaborate to revitalize blighted neighborhoods surrounding Chandler Park to create job opportunities, improve access to healthy food, strengthen transit infrastructure, and reduce crime.

• *Public Health – Seattle and King County* will collaborate to develop a plan to improve economic development and housing in the city’s International District.

• The *Florida Department of Health in Miami-Dade County* will collaborate to reduce violence and more effectively assist trauma victims in their recovery in the Liberty City neighborhood.

• The *Multnomah County Health Department* (Portland, OR) will collaborate to reduce disparities in East Portland by expanding access to affordable housing, green spaces, and healthy food.

“Whether they tackle food insecurity, substandard housing, violence, or other social and environmental determinants of health, these BUILD Health Challenge awardees will advance the well-being of their communities and the field of public health as a whole,” said Chrissie Juliano, BCHC Deputy Director. “BCHC is proud that the good work of our members and the strong partnerships they’ve built are being recognized, and we look forward to supporting them as they roll out these exciting projects.”

**About BCHC and the National Association of County and City Health Officials**

The Big Cities Health Coalition (BCHC) is a forum for twenty-seven leaders of America’s largest metropolitan health departments to exchange strategies and jointly address issues to promote and protect the health and safety of the 52 million people they serve. Together, these public health officials directly affect the health and well being of one in six Americans. Support for the Big Cities Health Coalition is provided by the de Beaumont Foundation and the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation. For more information about BCHC, please visit [www.bigcitieshealth.org](http://www.bigcitieshealth.org).

The BCHC is a project of the National Association of County and City Health Officials (NACCHO). NACCHO represents the nation’s 2,800 local governmental health departments. These city, county, metropolitan, district, and tribal departments work every day to protect and promote health and well being for all people in their communities. For more information about NACCHO, please visit [www.naccho.org](http://www.naccho.org).

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