

Working in Partnership towards Equity: Creating Safe and Healthy Communities

Amanda M. Navarro, DrPH, MPH
Associate Director
PolicyLink, Program Director, Convergence Partnership

Program Director





PolicyLink is a national research and action institute advancing economic and social equity by Lifting Up What Works. ®

Steering Committee



The Convergence Partnership is a collaborative of six major funders and the CDC engaged in multi-field, equity-focused, policy and environmental change efforts to achieve healthy people and healthy places.

Steering Committee



- The Robert Wood Johnson Foundation
- Nemours
- W.K. Kellogg Foundation
- Kaiser Permanente
- The California Endowment
- Kresge Foundation
- Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (Technical Advisors)

Place Matters



Communities of Opportunity

Parks
Sidewalks
Grocery Stores
Financial Institutions
Better Performing
Schools
Good Public
Transportation

Good Health Status

Poor Health Status

contributes to health disparities:

Obesity
Diabetes
Asthma
Infant mortality

Low-Income Communities

Fast Food Restaurants
Liquor Stores
Unsafe/Limited Parks
Poor Performing Schools
Increased Pollution and
Toxic Waste Sites
Limited Public
Transportation

Policy Matters



- Policy impacts the economic, social, physical and services environments
- Policies not traditionally thought of as health policies (transportation, land use, education, economics) impact health and obesity rates.



Accelerate and amplify efforts to create environments that support healthy people in healthy places







Vision



Healthy People Living in Healthy Places

This vision will be realized when all neighborhoods, schools, preschools and workplaces offer fresh, local, healthy food and safe places to play and be active.

This requires the broad expertise and influence of funders, advocates, and practitioners working across multiple fields to create healthy environments.

Strategies



Equity-focused Environmental and Policy Change Multi-field Partnerships

CONVERGENCE

National Policy Initiatives



Access to Transportation

Federal Transportation
 Reauthorization

Access to Healthy Foods

- National Healthy Food Financing Initiative
- Farmers' market access for those receiving federal food assistance
- Influencing the 2012 Farm
 Bill

Federal Policy Advocacy

- Health Reform
- ARRA Community Grants
- Sustainable Communities
- Healthy People 2020
- Child Nutrition
 Reauthorization

Building the Field Locally and Regionally



Philanthropic Initiatives

- Innovation Fund
- Regional Convergence
 - Promote and support connections in the field
 - Increase and leverage investments to expand the intensity, reach and number of efforts focused on policy and environmental change

Access to Physical Activity

- Violence Prevention-Healthy Eating Active Living Project
- Joint Use in School Yards

Tools



Policy Briefs

- Promising Strategies for Creating Healthy
 Eating and Active Living Environments
- Recipes for Change: Healthy Food in Every Community
- Fostering Physical Activity for Children and Youth: Opportunities for a Lifetime of Health





The Transportation Prescription: Bold New Ideas for Healthy, Equitable Transportation Reform



THANK YOU!

Amanda M. Navarro amanda@policylink.org

Convergence Partnership www.convergencepartnership.org