



Welcome to Compass Points, the Florida Department of Health (DOH)'s forum for news and discussion on community health assessment and health improvement planning. We strongly encourage you to submit questions, anecdotes, lessons learned and success stories to be shared with others across the state. These quarterly e-news bulletins include information on activities, resources, and tips for conducting community health assessments in your county.

Best regards,

Chris Abarca and the COMPASS (Comprehensive Assessment, Strategic Success) Team

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News From the Field

The [Community Agenda](#) initiative is a community engagement process to examine data and establish priorities to improve local health and human services in Flagler and Volusia counties. Beginning in 2004 with a small group of key representatives from community groups, the effort has expanded widely. The [Community Agenda Snapshot 2009](#) is the result of hundreds of volunteers committed to making Volusia and Flagler counties better places to live, work and play. The document uses data to paint a picture of health and social trends and conditions. Further, the data collection and reporting process along with the community review are designed to be sustainable as a collaborative, systematic community health improvement effort. Patrick Johnson, administrator, Flagler CHD, serves as the Community Agenda Snapshot steering committee co-chair. Visit www.agendavf.org/ to access the report and for more information on the initiative.

Congratulations to [Duval CHD](#) on receiving funding from the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation as part of "Building Evidence for Quality Improvement Initiatives in Public Health Practice." Duval CHD will evaluate the use of the "Model for Improvement" approach to improve clinic immunization rates for children ages 19 to 35 months. The evaluation will also address the costs and benefits of using the approach, lessons that can be applied to other projects, and impact on staff knowledge and stakeholder satisfaction.

The [Public Health Accreditation Board \(PHAB\)](#) announced the participants in the beta testing of the national voluntary accreditation program for state, local and tribal public health agencies. PHAB will test the accreditation program through this beta test that will evaluate the standards, measures, processes and written support documents. The Miami-Dade CHD and Florida Department of Health (state health office) were chosen from a field of 145 candidates. The Miami-Dade CHD is one of 19 local health departments selected from a pool of 131 applications from across the country including 16 from Florida. For more information on national voluntary accreditation of public health agencies, visit www.phaborg.org.

The [Gulf Coast Community Foundation of Venice](#), Florida recently awarded more than \$2.1 million in grants to 25 local non-profit organizations. Operating grants to health and human services organizations included Coastal Behavioral Healthcare, First Step of Sarasota and Jewish Family and Children's Services of Sarasota-Manatee. Several organizations that work with youth received funding including Big Brothers Big Sisters of the Sun Coast, Child Protection Center, and Children First. Read more about these programs and the foundation's work at www.gulfcoastcf.org

The statewide Health Care Transition Services Task Force for Youth and Young Adults with Disabilities will use a modified MAPP framework for conducting a comprehensive assessment and planning process for their important work. Staff from the DOH's Children's Medical Services and the Florida Health Care Transition Initiative of University of South Florida College of Medicine identified the MAPP model as a robust framework that lends itself to collaborative health planning for groups working on targeted health issues.

Your CHD's and/or community's news belongs here! Share your news with colleagues; e-mail items to Christine.Abarca@doh.state.fl.us

Mark your calendar and plan to join your colleagues from around the state for a conversation on community health assessment, health improvement planning, and MAPP on Monday, October 19 from 3-4 pm ET. This is an opportunity to express your opinions, ask questions, raise concerns, and share your achievements. The toll-free call-in number is 888-808-6959, conference code 2691017#. The agenda will be e-mailed to members of the COMPASS distribution list.

Send agenda items and/or additions to the distribution list to [Christine Abarca@doh.state.fl.us](mailto:Christine_Abarca@doh.state.fl.us)

Visit the COMPASS Web Site and Web-Based Tool Kit

The [COMPASS website](#) has been updated! The information and resource warehouse for community health assessment and health improvement planning can be accessed at www.doh.state.fl.us/COMPASS/. Materials from the four-part web conference series on "Partnerships for Improving Community" have been posted. From the left navigation menu under the "training" heading, select [partnerships](#) to access the presentations and resource documents. We welcome your comments and suggestions on ways to improve the web site and will gladly post reports and/or products resulting from your assessment and planning work. Send them to [Christine Abarca@doh.state.fl.us](mailto:Christine_Abarca@doh.state.fl.us)

What's New on CHARTS?

The [FloridaCHARTS](#) team invites you to try the new [interactive community maps](#) application. This application displays maps for births, deaths, fetal and infant deaths and U.S. Census data. All data are displayed at the census tract level. You may choose to display quartiles based on all Florida census tracts or calculate results for only one county's data. The maps also make available indicator data and census tract reports. Follow this link to launch the application: www.floridacharts.com/charts/CensusTractMap.aspx. Check out the many features of this public health statistics web site at www.floridacharts.com.

Meetings, Trainings, Events, Resources and Opportunities

Need to better understand how collaboration works (or doesn't!) in your community partnerships? Are you new to the terms "social network analysis" and "connectivity" as they apply to community-based collaborations? Tune in on Wednesday, September 30 from 3:00 - 4:30 pm ET for a web conference and web demonstration of [PARTNER](#) (Program to Analyze, Record and Track Networks to Enhance Relationships) presented by Danielle Varda from the University of Colorado, Denver. PARTNER is an Excel-based tool that allows public health system partners to measure and monitor collaborative activity over time. Using social network analysis techniques, progress can be measured by assessing partner involvement and mechanisms of resource exchange among partners. The PARTNER tool is a great partnership assessment and evaluation resource. The National Association of County and City Health Officials (NACCHO) recommends its use in the MAPP process and the DOH Office of Health Statistics and Assessment is pleased to sponsor the web conference as a resource for building stronger community partnerships.

To participate in the web conference you'll need a phone and computer with internet access. Connection and call-in information will be sent to those on the COMPASS distribution list or upon request. Seats cannot be reserved in advance but the web conference service should be able to accommodate all. For more information on the web conference, contact [Christine Abarca@doh.state.fl.us](mailto:Christine_Abarca@doh.state.fl.us) or [Laurie Osgood@doh.state.fl.us](mailto:Laurie_Osgood@doh.state.fl.us) Visit the PARTNER web site for a glimpse of the tool at www.partnertool.net/

Learn more about becoming "Certified in Public Health" as a public health professional. The [National Board of Public Health Examiners](#) is sponsoring web conferences to provide information on the purpose, goals and process of voluntary certification. The next webinar will be held on Tuesday, October 20 at 11 am ET. To register and for more information on credentialing public health leaders, visit www.publichealthexam.org/about.cfm

The Department of Health is currently assessing chronic disease incidence and prevention needs in the State of Florida and requests your help. A short survey was created to obtain public opinion as DOH plans how to best prevent and control chronic disease in Florida over the next five years. Please take five minutes to complete this 10-question survey and feel free to forward the survey on to others. You can access the survey at: http://www.surveymonkey.com/s.aspx?sm=KFe4zW4u1pDIP21pkP9lfg_3d_3d. More information on DOH's [comprehensive cancer control program](#) is available at <http://www.doh.state.fl.us/family/cancer/index.html>

The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), National Center for Chronic Disease Prevention and Health Promotion, Division of Adult and Community Health, announces the opportunity to apply for Recovery Act funds to reduce risk factors, prevent and/or delay chronic disease, and promote wellness. This initiative, entitled "Communities Putting Prevention to Work", will address obesity, physical inactivity, poor nutrition and tobacco use/exposure. Thirty (30) to 40 local projects will be funded. Letter of intent deadline is October 30 with the final application due on December 1, 2009. A pre-application conference call for those in the Eastern and Central time zones will be held on Thursday, October 1 from 11 am - 12:30 pm; call-in number 1-888-390-0788, leader name is Amy Bell, passcode is 3746637. Much more information and the full announcement is available at <http://www.grants.gov> or <http://www07.grants.gov/search/search.do?jsessionid=HyCpK4nLv6RQG2wd1ZVY5tj72bw0YhHbYZbpFXGhspLBHgKjMYI785172635?opId=49571&mode=VIEW>

The [Tony Hawk Foundation](http://www.tonyhawkfoundation.org) offers grants to fund public skatepark projects in low-income areas. The foundation is looking for projects that include local skaters in the design process, are located in low-income and/or areas with a high population of at-risk youth, can demonstrate a strong grassroots commitment to the projects and encourage skaters to be responsible for their own safety. Grants range from \$1,000 to \$25,000. The next deadline is October 1, 2009. Full details are available at <http://www.publicskateparkguide.org/>

Applications are invited for [State Farm's Youth Advisory Board](http://www.statefarmyab.com) Service-Learning Grants Program. Grants are available for projects that address the issues of environmental responsibility, natural and societal disaster preparedness, driver safety, financial education, and accessing higher education/closing the achievement gap. Grants will range from \$25,000 to \$100,000 each and all nonprofit 501(c)(3) organizations, educational institutions and governmental entities are eligible to apply. Nonprofit organizations must demonstrate how they plan to interact with students in public K-12 schools. The deadline to apply is October 2, 2009. Guidelines and online applications are available at <http://www.statefarmyab.com/apply.php>

[Ashoka's Changemakers](http://www.changemakers.com) launches Rethinking Mental Health Competition. Designed to help address the social stigmas that surround serious mental illnesses and prevent access to care, the online open-source competition invites entries featuring innovations that allow individuals, families and communities to move past narrow perceptions of mental health and expand the understanding and collective involvement in finding solutions. Innovators are invited to nominate groundbreaking solutions, submit innovative ideas, vote for the top finalists and interact with a network of supporters. Three winners will receive \$5,000 to further their work. Entries are due by October 14, 2009. Visit <http://www.changemakers.com/en-us/mentalhealth> for more information.

The fall 2009 cycle is open for [Lowe's Charitable and Educational Foundation Toolbox for Education](http://www.toolboxforeducation.com) Grant Program. The program prioritizes funding requests that have a permanent impact such as facility enhancement as well as landscaping/clean up projects. Projects that encourage parental involvement and build stronger community spirit will be favored. Grants may be requested for amounts between \$2,000 and \$5,000. The deadline to apply is October 16, 2009. The Toolbox for Education web site at www.toolboxforeducation.com/ has complete details.

To encourage the growth of health-focused youth garden programs, the [National Gardening Association](http://www.nationalgardening.org) has created the [2009 Healthy Sprouts Awards Program](http://www.kidsgardening.com). These programs support school and youth garden programs that teach about nutrition and the issue of hunger in the U.S. To be eligible, a school or organization must plan to garden in 2010 with at least 15 children between the ages of 3 and 18. Twenty awards will be made and will include gardening supplies and resources. The top five programs will receive gift certificates valued at \$500. The application deadline is October 17. Visit www.kidsgardening.com for complete information.

[UnitedHealth Group](http://www.unitedhealthgroup.com) and [Youth Service America](http://www.youthserviceamerica.org) are offering children the opportunity to become "Health Heroes" by learning about childhood obesity, designing programs to address it, and implementing the programs in their communities. UnitedHealth Heroes is a service-learning health literacy initiative designed to encourage young people, working through educators and youth leaders, to create and implement local hands-on programs to address the issue of childhood obesity. Grant recipients will receive up to \$1,000 to support their projects that engage youth between the ages of 5 and 25 in the planning and implementation process and take place during the [Semester of Service 2010](http://www.youthserviceamerica.org) (MLK Day, Jan. 18 to Global Youth Service Day, April 23-25). For guidelines and application, visit www.ysa.org/. The deadline to apply is October 22, 2009.

The [NFL Youth Football Fund Grassroots Program](http://www.nfl.org) invites applications for grants for capital expenditures to support youth football programs in low- to moderate income areas within NFL target markets. Strong preference will be given to proposals that seek to upgrade existing facilities, demonstrate active use of the fields, attract matching funds, involve local partnerships with nonprofit community partners to promote youth and community programming and provide for continuing maintenance and field safety. Grants can range from \$50,000 to \$200,000. The application deadline is October 30, 2009. The [Local Initiatives Support Corporation](http://www.lisc.org), which manages and provides technical assistance to the program, houses complete program guidelines at www.lisc.org/

The [CVS Caremark Community Grants Program](http://www.cvs.com) provides support to community organizations and public schools. The 2009 Community Grants program will award funds to organizations working to provide disabled children and youth (under age 21) with health and rehabilitation services and/or programs that enable and encourage physical movement and play. In addition, grants will be made to organizations that provide uninsured individuals with needed care. Grants will be made up to \$5,000 each. Visit the CVS

Caremark web site for complete program information and application materials (<http://info.cvscaremark.com/community/our-impact/community-grants>). Apply by October 31, 2009.

The [Build-A-Bear Workshop Foundation](#) is accepting grant applications for work that supports families, children, animals and the environment. In the area of children's health and wellness, the foundation will review applications at the end of October. Grants range between \$1,000 and \$10,000 each with an average award of \$2,500. Grant guidelines and application forms are available at www.buildabear.com/.

The [Anna Lalor Burdick Program](#) offers support for human reproduction education for young women. The program focuses on young women who have inadequate access to information regarding reproductive health. The funding program emphasizes support for projects that demonstrate realistic plans to achieve greater financial self-sufficiency, support for new or smaller organizations including grassroots efforts, support for collaborative efforts among nonprofit organizations, and projects that may be successfully replicated. Grant awards generally range from \$10,000 to \$50,000. Concept papers are due by November 1, 2009. Complete program guidelines are available at the [Lalor Foundation](#) web site at www.lalorfound.org/

The [Alzheimer's Foundation of America](#) (AFA) is accepting applications for grants to support family respite care services. These grants are designed to help alleviate the cost of respite care for families caring for loved ones with Alzheimer's disease or a related dementia. Funds may be used for in-home care, adult day programs or other types of respite. Applications must be made through one of AFA's participating nonprofit member organizations. The deadline for fall cycle is November 1, 2009. Visit the [AFA](#) web site for further information (www.alzfdn.org/AFAServices/family_grant.html).

The [National Gardening Association](#) and Home Depot are continuing the [Youth Garden Grants](#) program. For the 2010 grant cycle, 100 grants are available for amounts up to \$1,000. Schools and community organizations with child-centered garden programs are eligible. Applicants must plan to garden with at least 15 children between the ages of three and 18 years. The deadline to apply is November 2, 2009. Complete program guidelines are available at www.kidsgardening.com/YGG.asp

Cash awards for innovative domestic violence prevention programs are available from the [Mary Byron Project](#). The Mary Byron Project, a national organization working to address the root causes of domestic violence and build safer, healthier communities, created the Celebrating Solutions Awards to honor local innovations that demonstrate promise in breaking the cycle of violence. The nomination deadline is November 17, 2009. Guidelines and nomination forms are available at <http://marybyronproject.org/CelebratingSolutions.html>

[Home Depot](#) is accepting applications for the [Building Healthy Communities Program](#). Grants are for community improvement projects that include activities such as refurbishment of affordable or transitional housing, landscaping, community facility improvements and development of green spaces. Awards of up to \$2,500 will be made. The final grant cycle for 2009 opens October 15 and closes December 15, 2009. Visit the Home Depot web site for program information and eligibility quiz at <http://corporate.homedepot.com/wps/portal/>.

The [AAUW \(formerly known as the American Association of University Women\) Community Action Grants Program](#) provides funds to individuals, AAUW branches and state organizations as well as local community-based organizations for innovative programs that promote education and equity for women and girls. One-year grants of \$2,000 to \$7,000 provide seed money for new projects. Two-year grants (\$5,000 to \$10,000) provide start-up funds for longer-term programs that address the particular needs of the community. Visit the AAUW web site at www.aauw.org/ for complete program guidelines and information on other funding opportunities. The application deadline is January 15, 2010.

The [Kresge Foundation](#) announces new relief loan fund for human service agencies responding to the effects of the economic crisis. In response to the economic crisis and impact it is having on human service provider organizations, the Kresge Foundation has established a 24- to 36-month, interest-free program-related investment fund offering bridge loans of \$250,000 to \$500,000 to organizations so that they may be better able to meet the ever-increasing demand for food, shelter, and other emergency services. Homeless and domestic-violence shelters, safety-net providers, affordable housing and supportive services, legal aid services, emergency assistance providers, and multi-service health and human service organizations are encouraged to apply. Visit the Kresge Foundation web site for complete program information at www.kresge.org/.

The CDC's [National Center for Injury Control and Prevention](#) announces the posting of the updated [Ten Leading Causes of Death and Injury Charts](#). The charts are available as pdf and jpg files and include the two most recent years of data available. Access the charts at www.cdc.gov/injury/wisqars/LeadingCauses.html

[2008 Health Tracking Physician Survey](#) establishes new baseline for how physicians organize and practice medicine. Because physicians' clinical decisions determine how 90 percent of every health care dollar is spent, policy-makers need to understand how physicians organize and practice medicine. According to findings of the 2008 Health Tracking Physician Survey released from the

Center for Studying Health System Change (HSC), about three out of four physicians surveyed are accepting new Medicare patients; the vast majority of physicians surveyed contract with managed care plans; and nearly six in 10 physicians provided charity care in 2008. Supported by the [Robert Wood Johnson Foundation](#), the survey covers a wide variety of physician and practice information. Peruse the survey results at <http://www.rwjf.org/files/research/hscbulletin35sept2009.pdf>



About COMPASS

Please share this e-news with community partners, colleagues, and anyone interested in impacting your community's health.

Community health assessment practice is the process of systematically collecting, analyzing and using information to educate and mobilize communities, develop priorities, gather resources, and plan actions to impact the public's health. Assessment is a core function of public health practice. Assessment is the foundation for the other two core functions of public health; Policy Development and Assurance. The information, tools and resources of COMPASS are designed to improve the capacities of Florida's public health workforce to develop strategies and interventions which lead to improved population health through community partnership building, collaboration and resource sharing. <http://www.doh.state.fl.us/compass/>

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This message is a service of the Florida Department of Health, Office of Health Statistics and Assessment

