



Compass Points

SPRING 2011

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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 will include information on activities, resources, and tips for conducting community health assessments in your county.

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

Best regards,

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

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News From the Field

Lauren Husband, Duval CHD's Healthy Jacksonville Coordinator, recently led 90 community partners through a goal setting and strategy identification exercise as part of the **Partnership for a Healthier Duval's** MAPP process. As a result, the four community health priorities (access to health care, mental and behavioral health, chronic care management, and communication) now have written goals and strategies. Partners are currently working on constructing a community health improvement plan with measurable objectives and action implementation plan.

Julianne Price, statewide [PACE EH](#) (Protocol for Assessing Community Excellence in Environmental Health) coordinator and member of the **Indian River CHD** environmental health division, led a community-driven effort to demolish two hurricane-ravaged abandoned homes in Gifford. Read about this successful community effort in *TCPalm* at <http://www.tcpalm.com/news/2011/feb/09/abandoned-houses-in-gifford-razed-at-request-of/>.

On May 6, **Northeast Florida Counts** goes live! For the past year, more than 25 community partners have been working together to create a regional web-based information system that will provide easy to understand, health-related quality of life indicators and best practices. The [Health Planning Council of Northeast Florida](#) has taken the lead on coordinating this effort.

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

Next Statewide Meet-Me Call, , Monday, July 18 from 3-4 pm ET

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, July 18 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.

The April 18th meet-me call featured an update from **Gulf CHD's Marsha Player** and **Clarissa Herndon** on their partnership work towards completing a community health improvement plan. **Julie Zaharatos** and **Shelly Glasgow-Wilson** from the Health Council of South Florida reported on innovations and updates to www.miamidadematters.org. A goal setting and strategy identification technique was presented by **Laureen Husband**, Duval CHD's MAPP coordinator. Thank you for the informative and inspiring presentations!

Visit the COMPASS Web Site and Web-Based Tool Kit

There are no new features on the COMPASS website this quarter. Stay tuned for new resources to support the forthcoming CHD mini-grant projects to support community health improvement planning and agency accreditation preparation. Visit the web site at www.doh.state.fl.us/COMPASS to access tools and resources to support your community health improvement efforts. 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

What's new on CHARTS

A flexible reporting tool for birth data is now available. The [CHARTS birth rates and birth counts queries](#) provide recorded and resident data since 1989. Birth counts by zip code, census tract and city and report type options (e.g., frequency, per cent or rate) are available. Choose from a list of standard reports or drag and drop data fields to build a custom report. Provisional data for the current year are also available. A data dictionary, help documents and how-to video tutorial explain the measures, row, column and filter variables and other system features.

The **Minority Health Profile** reports provide a snapshot of key indicators across a variety of health issues, enabling communities to see areas of greatest disparity between **blacks** and whites, between **Hispanics** and non-Hispanics, and between **American Indians** and the total Florida population. A rate ratio for each indicator compares the minority rate to the majority rate and hyperlinked tables allow sorting the data. These two features help communities identify health issues of greatest importance to their minority populations.

Coming soon: Death data query system, infant mortality query system, and updated mortality atlas

Events, Resources and Opportunities

University of Florida College of Public Health and Health Professions in partnership with the **UF Area Health Education Center (AHEC)**, **Suwannee River AHEC**, and **WellFlorida Council** announces the 3rd Annual public health training session. **“Public Health 2011: Planning for Change” will be held on Thurs., May 5 from 8:30 – 3:15 pm** in Gainesville. A web cast will also be available. The training session is free and continuing education credits will be offered. Advance registration is required. Register online at www.mph.ufl.edu/conference.

Miami-Dade AHEC's **3rd Annual Women's Health Conference** will be held on **Sat., May 7** in Hollywood, Florida. The “It's Time,” conference theme brings focus to issues that matter most to women in Florida. The \$120 registration fee includes food and all conference materials. Learn more about the conference and register at www.thewomenshealthconference.org/about/day2

The **Florida AHEC Network** is holding the **3rd Annual Florida Tobacco Conference** at Shingle Creek Resort, Orlando, on **June 8**, 2011 from 8:00 am – 5:00 pm. The purpose of the Tobacco Summit is to bring Florida's Health Professionals together to educate and

inform them about the newest tobacco related treatment options, trends and areas of interest. This one-day Summit will host speakers from the University of Florida, Nova Southeastern University and UMDNJ. Continuing education is available for health care professionals. To register, go to

<https://www.ahecregistration.org/index.php/welcome/vieweventdetails/f7664060cc52bc6f3d620bcedc94a4b6>

[MAC AIDS Fund U.S. Community Grants Program](#) Announces Food and Nutrition Guidelines. The MAC AIDS Fund United States Community Grants Program supports organizations working to address the link between **poverty and AIDS** through grants for programs that provide food and nutrition or housing services to people living with HIV and AIDS. Visit <http://www.macaidsfund.org/#/work/application>. The deadline to apply is **May 6, 2011**.

The [Dollar General Literacy Foundation](#) provides support to **schools, libraries, and literacy-based nonprofit organizations** throughout Dollar General's thirty-five-state market. The foundation is now accepting applications for Back to School Literacy Grants and Youth Literacy Grants. Visit http://www.dollargeneral.com/dgliteracy/pages/grant_programs.aspx. The deadline to apply is **May 18, 2011**.

NACCHO Funding Opportunity for Community Health Assessment and Community Health Improvement Plan Accreditation Prerequisites NACCHO is pleased to announce a funding opportunity for local health departments (LHDs) to engage in a robust community health improvement process that yields exemplary community health assessments (CHAs) and community health improvement plans (CHIPs), two of the three accreditation prerequisites. The project will provide 12 competitively-selected LHD demonstration sites with a \$35,000 grant and comprehensive training and technical assistance to complete a health improvement process, which engages community partners, addresses the social determinants of health, and uses quality improvement and quality planning techniques, over an 18-month period (July 2011-December 2012). **All selected sites must intend to apply for accreditation after December 2012, but before December 31, 2014.** NACCHO is pleased to offer this opportunity with support from the [Robert Wood Johnson Foundation](#).

Within the cohort of demonstration sites, NACCHO is particularly interested in supporting at least one each of the following approaches: 1) LHDs that co-lead the process with a non-profit hospital(s); 2) Two or more LHDs with a history of formally sharing services that engage in a joint improvement process; 3) Regional or district LHDs; 4) LHDs that collaborate with a Tribe(s); 5) LHDs that partner with an academic institution (e.g., schools or programs of public health, nursing or medicine; [CDC-funded Prevention Research Center](#); [HRSA-funded public health training center](#); etc.) to assist their process; and 6) LHDs that partner with a public health institute to assist their process. Although special consideration will be given to applicants that embody one or more of the approaches outlined above, it is fully anticipated that the cohort will include sites that fulfill the applicant requirements but do not plan to exemplify one of these approaches.

Applications are due by May 23, 2011. An informational call outlining this funding opportunity will be held on **Thursday, April 21, 2011 at 3:30 p.m. EDT**. For more information about the opportunity, the call, and how to apply, visit <http://www.naccho.org/chachip/demo>.

[Health Impact Project Announces Call for Proposals to Build Healthier Communities Through Informed Decision Making](#). Grants of up to \$125,000 will be awarded to government agencies, educational institutions, and nonprofits studying the potential **implications of health policy proposals on health** at the local, tribal, or state level. Visit <http://www.healthimpactproject.org/>. The deadline to apply is June 1, 2011 (Brief Proposals).

[\\$2.1 Million in Grants Available through Playful City USA Program](#). With more than one-third of children overweight or obese and only one in five children living within walking distance of a park or playground, cities and towns across the country are re-evaluating

the importance of an often-overlooked factor in quality of life: play. National nonprofit KaBOOM! is now offering 103 **play-related grants** totaling \$2.1 million between 2011-13 through Playful City USA, a national recognition program honoring cities and towns that make play a priority and use innovative new programs to get children playing outdoors. Visit www.kaboom.org/playfulcityusa. Applications are due **June 1**.

[Robert Wood Johnson Foundation Announces Call for Proposals for Active Living Research: Building Evidence to Prevent Childhood Obesity](#). Rapid response grants of up to \$150,000 will be awarded to nonprofits working on time-sensitive studies of emerging or anticipated changes in **physical activity-related policies or environments related to children and adolescents**. Visit <http://www.rwjf.org/applications/solicited/cfp.jsp?ID=21121>. The deadline to apply is **July 1**, 2011.

[Women Helping Others Foundation Invites Grant Applications for Programs to Assist Women and Children](#). The [WHO \(Women Helping Others\) Foundation](#) supports grassroots charities that serve the overlooked **needs of women and children** in the United States and Puerto Rico. The foundation prioritizes specific projects and programs that address **health and social service needs**. The foundation recognizes the value of new programs created to respond to changing needs and will consider projects of an original or pioneering nature within an existing organization. Visit http://www.whofoundation.org/Funding/Who_funding.asp. The deadline to apply is **September 6**, 2011.

[2011 Community Impact Grants](#) available from the [Home Depot Foundation](#). Grants of up to \$5,000 are available to support community improvement activities including repairs, refurbishments and modifications to low-income and/or transitional housing or community facilities. For more complete program guidelines and application procedures, visit <http://www.homedepotfoundation.org/how-we-help/grants.html> The application deadline is **October 31**, 2011.

[Robert Wood Johnson Foundation and Pew Charitable Trusts Announce Health Impact Project](#). Up to fifteen projects that **demonstrate the effectiveness of health impact assessments** and that are led by state, tribal or local agencies, educational institutions or nonprofits will be awarded grants of up to \$150,000. Visit <http://www.rwjf.org/applications/solicited/cfp.jsp?ID=20921>. The deadline to apply is **open**.

County Health Rankings for 2011 are now available. The *County Health Rankings* show us that where we live matters to our health. Every county in the U.S. is ranked on health outcomes (how healthy we are) and health factors (what influences health). Counties can see where they are doing well and where they are not so they can take action to improve health. The Robert Wood Johnson Foundation is collaborating with the [University of Wisconsin Population Health Institute](#) to develop these Rankings for each state's counties. To find your county health rankings, go to <http://www.countyhealthrankings.org/>.

New data confirm that **job losses and program cuts in LHDs** continue. [NACCHO](#) periodically surveys local health departments (LHDs) to measure the impact of the economic recession on LHDs. The [latest survey](#) found that between January 2008 and December 2010, **LHDs lost 29,000 jobs to layoffs and attrition, roughly 19 percent of the nationwide LHD workforce**. In 2010, 18,000 LHD employees were subjected to reduced hours or mandatory furloughs. Forty percent of LHDs had to make cuts between mid-2009 and mid 2010 to important programs such as population-based primary prevention, maternal and child health, and environmental health. Findings from this survey are being shared with government agencies, Members of Congress and the press. To read the full report, go to <http://www.naccho.org/topics/infrastructure/lhdbudget/loader.cfm?csModule=security/getfile&PageID=181468>

The Robert Wood Johnson Foundation recently hosted a [webinar](#) called "What Shapes Health?" to explore how our **environments and experiences, including those that influence development in childhood, shape our opportunities to live healthy lives**. The panel provided insights on how, despite an abundance of information about healthy lifestyles and the most advanced medical care in the world, millions of Americans

experience needlessly poor health and don't practice healthy behaviors. For many, the path to a healthy or unhealthy life is influenced by factors largely beyond their control, like the neighborhoods they grew up in, their parents' income and level of education, and the stress they've experienced in their daily lives. For an archive of this webinar, related issue briefs, or to find out about subsequent webinars in this series, go to http://www.rwjf.org/vulnerablepopulations/product.jsp?id=72030&cid=XEM_206603#.

The [CDC Health Disparities and Inequalities Report - U.S. 2011](#) is the first of what the CDC promises will be periodic reports "examining health disparities in the U.S." [Download the PDF \[116p\] version of the report.](#)

A special supplement of *Family & Community Health* spotlights health equity and on-the-ground efforts to tackle the social determinants of health in communities that are part of the CDC's Racial and Ethnic Approaches to Community Health (REACH). Available free. Go to <http://journals.lww.com/familyandcommunityhealth/toc/2011/01001>.

Free **On-Line Violence Prevention Course**. One way CDC is helping the nation prevent violence is a free on-line course that's available 24 hours a day, seven days a week. It's called Principles of Prevention. The course - which offers continuing education credits - teaches key concepts of primary prevention, the public health approach, and the social-ecological model. The course is designed for those working to stop violence from ever happening. It helps professionals move from the problem to the solution. The course is available at www.vetoviolence.org/pop. For additional information on Principles of Prevention, contact [Jennifer Middlebrooks](mailto:jod5@cdc.gov) (jod5@cdc.gov).

Marking the 1-year anniversary of the national public health initiative called [text4baby](#), a service that sends free text messages to **pregnant women and new mothers** with health information and reminders, journalist David Bornstein blogs about its success (135,000 women have enrolled) in the [New York Times](#) (Feb. 7, 2011). He writes that the success of the service is due in part to a broad partnership of "community health organizations, wireless carriers, businesses, health care providers and government health agencies," many of which had a hand in creating the service and use the service to promote their own particular interests. Currently there are more than 500 organizations involved in promoting the service. With more than 90% of Americans owning cell phones, text messaging looks like a promising way to reach people and affect their health behaviors, especially low income people who might not have regular access to a doctor.



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/>

email: Christine.Abarca@doh.state.fl.us

phone: 850 245-4009, ext 2071

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

