COMMUNITY TRANSFORMATION GRANTS:
SUPPORTING GOOD HEALTH AND PREVENTING ILLNESS
IN AMERICA’S HOME TOWNS
FACT SHEET

WHAT ARE COMMUNITY TRANSFORMATION GRANTS?

Each of us is responsible for our own health. But what goes on in our community can have a big impact on our health, too. We all want to live in communities that offer healthy living conditions. That’s what Community Transformation Grants are all about. They provide communities with new and unprecedented resources to:

- Prevent illness and injury.
- Support active living.
- Support parents’ efforts to help their children grow up healthy.
- Keep health care costs under control.

COMMUNITY TRANSFORMATION GRANTS HELP YOUR HOME TOWN TO BE A HEALTHY TOWN

Many American communities make healthy choices easy choices for their residents. In these communities, there are plenty of gyms, safe places to jog, and community recreation centers with gleaming swimming pools and sports fields. The children play and exercise in well maintained parks and playgrounds. But in many other American communities, there are obstacles to healthy living:

- Parks and playgrounds are littered, broken, or unsafe.
- There are few places to get out and exercise – some communities don’t even have sidewalks for walking.
- School meals are low in nutritional value, school vending machines sell junk food, and students don’t get regular physical education classes.
- Access to fruit and vegetables is limited because there are no supermarkets.
- Dilapidated housing, crumbling schools, abandoned factories, and freeway noise and fumes cause illness and injury.
- The poor overall conditions cause higher levels of obesity and chronic disease, including diabetes, heart disease, and cancer, leading to higher health care costs.
COMMUNITY TRANSFORMATION GRANTS CAN BE THE SOLUTION

With a Grant, a community can:

- Improve nutrition and physical education programs in the schools.
- Launch initiatives to reduce tobacco use, especially among children and adolescents.
- Offer active living options such as bike paths, walking trails, and recreational facilities.
- Improve access to healthful, affordable foods through farmers’ markets and by making fresh fruits and vegetables available in local stores.
- Create injury prevention programs.
- Encourage workplace wellness programs and offer healthy choices at work cafeterias.
- Develop community gardens.
- Reduce pollution.
- Provide more information about healthy choices, such as healthy options in restaurants.
- Offer healthy choices in neighborhoods that need extra help.

COMMUNITY TRANSFORMATION GRANTS: A LOCAL SOLUTION, AN AMERICAN SOLUTION

- The Grants aren’t a health program dictated by bureaucrats far away. The community’s plans are developed by community members working together at the local level – small business owners, faith leaders, youth leaders, employers, community groups, parents, law enforcement officials, schools, health care providers, and individuals.
- Using the resources and know-how offered by the Grants, the community creates health initiatives tailored to its specific needs.

IT’S MORE THAN BETTER HEALTH, TOO

A healthy community can reap all of these benefits:

- Better overall quality of life.
- Greater community pride.
- Support for housing values.
- New job opportunities created by employers attracted to a community that supports health and safety.

HEALTHIER, LONGER LIVES IN COMMUNITIES WE CAN BE PROUD OF – WE DESERVE IT!

Community Transformation Grants are provided under the new health care law. For more information about how your community can apply for a grant, contact: (Contact information).

####