

Cross-sector Innovation Initiative Profile: Health Education Council, Serving Populations at Risk (CA)

Project Title and Tagline

West Sacramento Accountable Community for Health: Working Together to Promote Healthy Lives and Happy Hearts – A multi-sector alliance of health, local government and community partners dedicated to health equity focused on access to healthy food, improved walkability, community connection and tobacco prevention.

Project Summary

West Sacramento Accountable Community for Health (WSAC-ACH) is a multi-sector alliance of health, local government, social services and residents working to promote healthy, happy hearts: aiming to reduce cardiovascular disease risk and morbidity especially in highly impacted neighborhoods. WSAC-ACH will align resources across sectors, focusing on data sharing, sustainability and interventions to improve strategies and outcomes responsive to resident heart health-priorities. The WSAC-ACH has prioritized equity and community engagement as core principles and is actively engaging diverse residents. WSAC-ACH uses community-based asset mapping and participatory approaches to activate community assets, build resident advocacy and increase social connection among residents to impact the resident-priorities of healthy food access, walkability, social connectedness and tobacco prevention.

Self-sufficiency is key goal of WSAC-ACH and has been woven into its design. The collaborative will design a long-term funding mechanism like a Community Wellness Investment Fund, which will align new funding and redirect existing funding to heart disease prevention in West Sacramento's low-income neighborhoods.

Community Description

West Sacramento is one of the area's oldest communities, encompassing 22 square miles, with a population of 55,000 people. The city is ethnically diverse with 26 languages spoken at the high school. One quarter of deaths in the city are due to heart disease and stroke. Kaiser Permanente identifies the city's Broderick neighborhood as a Focus Community and residents have a heart disease rate 23% higher than the average for Yolo County. Only 50% of fifth grade students were in the healthy fitness zone. Over 85% of children in the Broderick neighborhood are eligible for free and reduced-price lunch, 15% are food insecure, and 50% receive Medicaid. Residents are dependent on cars versus walking, biking or public transportation.

Expected Impact on Systems Alignment, Population Health, and Health Equity

Short-term outcomes will include healthier diets, increased walking, decreased tobacco use and increased community connectivity. Longer-term impacts to include reduced BMIs, improved hypertension management, adequate glycemic control, decreased rates of heart disease and reduced health inequities.

Key Partners

- Center for Land-Based Learning
- City of West Sacramento
- Communicare Health Centers
- Elica Health
- Kaiser Permanente
- Partnership Health Plan of California
- River City Medical Group
- Yolo County Children's Alliance
- The Yolo County Health and Human Services Agency

Grantees are working toward population health and health equity priorities, as well as addressing one or more pillars of alignment (as indicated by a checkmark below).

Population Health and Health Equity Focus

- Chronic disease
- Obesity, nutrition, physical activity

Systems Alignment Areas

- Share a vision and a set of priority outcomes
- ✓ Create a shared data and measurement system
- ✓ Establish appropriate financing with incentives and accountability
- ✓ Strong governance with leadership and defined relationships driven by the voice and participation of community members

Cross-sector Innovation Initiative Overview

With funding from the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation, the Center for Sharing Public Health Services and the Public Health National Center for Innovations are co-leading the Cross-sector Innovation Initiative, a joint effort that aims to understand and support innovative multi-sector partnerships between public health, healthcare, and social services that ultimately transform practice towards working in alignment to improve population health, wellbeing, and equity for all.