

Arnell Hinkle

Arnell Hinkle is the founding Executive Director of the California Adolescent Nutrition and Fitness (CANFit) Program. In this role, she is responsible for all aspects, including grant-making, program development, fiscal management, training, and technical assistance, of the day-to-day operation of a statewide program serving low-income, multi-ethnic adolescents. Ms. Hinkle's efforts to produce culturally appropriate nutrition and physical activity education training resources emphasizing youth leadership are nationally recognized, and she has provided consultation to numerous private, state and national agencies including the 100 Black Men of America, Inc., South Dakota Lakota Sioux Diabetes Education Project, the Region 10, U.S. Bureau of Maternal and Child Health, and the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. She is a recipient of the 2003 Robert Wood Johnson Community Health Leader Award. As a Eureka Communities Leadership Fellow, Ms. Hinkle worked with the Washington, DC -based policy group, Forum for Youth Investment, to examine how the youth development field can incorporate nutrition and physical activity standards into after-school programs.

In the course of providing training and technical assistance to CANFit Program grantees, Arnell has experience working directly with residents of over eighty African American, Latino, Southeast Asian, Filipino, and American Indian, low-income communities throughout California. In addition to her work in the United States, she has also been involved in international development projects in India, Ecuador and Scotland.

Prior to her work at CANFit, Ms. Hinkle was Project Coordinator of the Hunger and Chronic Disease Prevention Program of the Contra Costa County Health Services Department, a professional chef, and organic farmer. Arnell has a AB degree in Geology from Princeton University, and both a BS in Nutrition and Clinical Dietetics, and a Masters in Public Health from the University of California, Berkeley. She is a Registered Dietitian and Certified Health Education Specialist.