

8th Annual New Partners for Smart Growth

Building Safe, Healthy
and Livable Communities



January 22-24, 2009
Albuquerque, NM

The Public Health Track

A national, multi-disciplinary conference that approaches community design from a public health and safety perspective.

Presented by the Local Government Commission and sponsored by U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, Kaiser Permanente, Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, National Association of REALTORS®, HDR, Inc. and Smart Growth Network, along with many others.

www.newpartners.org

“Smart growth is key to creating healthy communities and healthy people. This conference is an excellent opportunity for public health professionals to interact with architects, planners, politicians and others and to learn about the latest trends in this burgeoning field.”

– Tracy Kolian, Policy Analyst
American Public Health Association

■ ABOUT THE EVENT

This conference will bring local elected officials, planners, transportation professionals and traffic engineers, health professionals and public health advocates, parks and recreation professionals, urban designers, social equity advocates, school officials and school board members, community leaders and many others together to explore new approaches to community design from a comprehensive public health and safety perspective.

This dynamic event has grown significantly since it began several years ago, and gets its strength from the variety of participants and speakers who cross disciplines to share experiences and insights, and valuable tools and strategies to encourage the building of healthier communities. Today, there are more reasons than ever to join hands with new partners and work toward our common goal of creating safe, healthy and livable communities.

■ PROGRAM AND AGENDA

The three-day program is loaded with a mix of plenaries, interactive breakouts, implementation workshops, trainings and networking opportunities. You will have access to the latest on cutting-edge smart growth issues, healthy eating and active living initiatives, implementation tools and strategies, best practices, case studies, interactive learning experiences, new partners, new projects and new policies.

KEY SESSIONS THAT EMPHASIZE THE CONNECTION

These are just some of the sessions on the program designed for health professionals of all types:

■ Thursday, 11:00 am-12:30 pm

Stories from the Field: Health and Planning Agencies Collaborate

This session will highlight the successes and challenges encountered in health-related collaborations in two very different California communities. One urban middle-class neighborhood in Northern California developed a Streetscape Improvement Plan, while a lower-income rural community in Southern California created a Vision Plan for future growth that addresses transportation, land use, health, safety and environmental issues. Both projects will feature lessons learned and highlight the role and contribution of local health agencies in collaborating to create safe walking and bicycling environments and improve the economic and social vitality of neighborhoods.

■ Thursday, 11:00 am-12:30 pm

Safe Routes to School: Changing the Habits of an Entire Generation

This workshop will examine the implementation of successful Safe Routes to School (SRTS) programs. Hear about New Mexico's SRTS and how an MPO secured funds to develop a districtwide program. Get ideas from a public health professional on how another community forged non-traditional partnerships to upgrade safe routes infrastructure. The session includes updates on the federal SRTS program and increased SRTS funding in the next transportation bill.

■ Thursday, 12:00-5:00 pm

Promoting Healthy Eating and Active Living through Improvements in the Built Environment: What Health Professionals Need to Know and What They Can Do

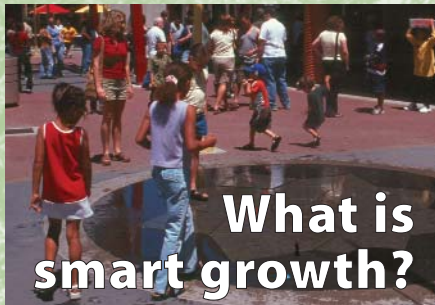
This session will explore the role of health professionals in influencing community design to help promote healthy school, work and play envi-

ronments. Focusing on current policy issues, this session will help health professionals, planners, government officials and other partners uncover effective collaborations to increase physical activity and access to healthy food. (Pre-registration and fee required).

■ Thursday, 1:30-3:00 pm

Communities in Action: Forging Partnerships for Healthy Environments

This session will highlight a national partnership and two local programs each drawing upon the experience of public health professionals and community planners to create healthy communities. Each initiative focuses on policies and environmental changes that support increased physical activity and healthy nutrition. Panelists will describe challenges and solutions for building public support and offer practical examples for fostering healthy living and informed decision-making that can be replicated in other communities.



What is smart growth?

Smart growth is a national movement that focuses on the design of safer, healthier and more livable communities using a multi-disciplinary approach. Smart growth supports the creation of built environments that promote regular physical activity, neighborhood livability, less air and water pollution due to decreased driving, injury and crime prevention, the preservation of open space for farms and increased availability of fresh, locally grown foods.

Among the invited speakers...

- ◆ Nancy Baer, MSW, Manager, Injury Prevention and Physical Activity Promotion Projects, Contra Costa Health Services
- ◆ David Broudy, Epidemiologist, New Mexico Department of Health
- ◆ Andrew Dannenberg, Medical Epidemiologist, NCEH, Centers for Disease Control and Prevention
- ◆ Christine Gibson, Community Liaison Public Health Nurse, Los Angeles County Department of Public Health
- ◆ Jennie Hefelfinger, Ph.D., MPH, MS, ACHIEVE Project Manager, National Association of Chronic Disease Directors
- ◆ Kimberly Hodgson, Program Development Associate, Planning and Community Health Research Center, American Planning Association
- ◆ Deb Hubsmith, Director, Safe Routes to School National Partnership
- ◆ Hannah Burton Laurison, Senior Associate, Public Health Law and Policy
- ◆ Leslie Mikkelsen, Managing Director, Prevention Institute
- ◆ Robert Ogilvie, Ph.D., Program Director, Planning for Healthy Places, Public Health Law and Policy
- ◆ Loel Solomon, Ph.D., Director, Community Health Initiatives and Evaluation, Kaiser Permanente

BETWEEN SMART GROWTH AND PUBLIC HEALTH

■ Friday, 10:15-11:45 am

Food Policy Councils – Catalysts for Integrating Food and Land Use Policy

With the growing awareness of the impact of urban and regional planning on food security and environmental sustainability, food policy councils have become important vehicles for policy change. This session will explore the councils' role in developing and implementing land use policies that make our food systems safer and more sustainable.

■ Friday, 10:15-11:45 am

Vacant Property Strategies for Equitable and Healthy Communities

Capacity building, advocacy and visioning have been successful in empowering distressed communities to reclaim vacant properties. Experts will introduce programs that have enabled residents to create safe, livable neighborhoods by returning once-derelict property to productive reuse.

■ Friday, 1:15-2:45 pm

Building a Sustainable Food System...from the Ground Up

A variety of forces such as global warming, rising energy prices, obesity rates and a lack of healthy foods in neighborhood stores are converging to create new bountiful landscapes, better local food sheds and sustainable, equitable food systems. These changes have the potential to connect individuals to their food system, improve health, transform blight and generate economic growth. This session will explore practical strategies for integrating healthy, sustainable food systems into new and planned communities as well as existing inner-city neighborhoods.

■ Friday, 3:00-5:00 pm

Integrating Public Health Issues into Local and State Planning

Come learn about three case studies – a county Active Living resolution, a Health Impact Assessment on a state infrastructure project and the update

of a local Comprehensive Plan. Find out how these opportunities were used to create long-term partnerships between public health and planning departments. What kind of political alliances, organizational structures and financial commitments were necessary? How do we move from individual projects to public commitments?

■ Saturday, 2:45-4:00 pm

Implementing Model Practices to Promote a Healthy Built Environment

The CDC and the National Conference of State Legislatures have produced a report on model practices and policies promoting a healthy built environment. This session will explore approaches states, cities and counties have undertaken to promote health communities and healthy living, and how they might be applicable in your state. Experts will discuss the challenges and opportunities behind these innovative smart growth practices and successful outcomes.

Public Health and Livable Communities

More sessions of interest to health professionals

In addition to sessions designed specifically around health issues, you will find a number of related smart-growth topics useful to your work and community:

- ◆ Smart Growth for Families: Strategies to Support Child Care
- ◆ Smart Growth 101
- ◆ Tools for Changing Policy: Giving Voice to Underserved Communities through Photovoice and GIS Mapping
- ◆ Not So New Partners: Youth Engaged for Sustainable Communities
- ◆ Making the Connections – Smart Growth, Aging & Livable Communities
- ◆ Innovative Strategies for Grocery Store Development
- ◆ No Farms, No Food? Models for Sustainable Food and Farming Systems
- ◆ Award Programs: Building Healthy Communities for Active Aging and Livable Communities

■ SCHOLARSHIPS AVAILABLE!

A limited number of need-based scholarships to cover registration fees will be given to participants who would not otherwise be able to attend. Priority will be given to individuals representing small nonprofits, community-based and grassroots organizations, local policymakers, health officials, and those traveling to Albuquerque from other states.

For an application and instructions on how to apply for a scholarship: www.newpartners.org/scholarships.html

■ CONFERENCE LOCATION



The conference will be held at the Albuquerque Convention Center in downtown Albuquerque, NM. The Hyatt Regency Albuquerque Hotel is the headquarters hotel for the conference, and is offering a special group rate of \$99 single/double occupancy. Make your reservations by calling (800) 233-1234. The

DoubleTree Albuquerque Hotel is also offering guest rooms at the \$99 group rate. Call (800) 584-5058 to make your reservations. For both hotels, please indicate you are attending the New Partners Conference.

■ FOR MORE INFORMATION

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“There is strong and growing evidence that healthy community design leads to healthy, more active and more socially connected people. This conference is a place where we can learn together about what works to create healthy, thriving communities – and then put it into action.”

– Loel Solomon Ph.D., National Director,
Community Health Initiatives and
Evaluation, Kaiser Permanente

Register Now!

www.newpartners.org

Visit the web site for a complete list of conference sponsors and cosponsors.

