

Leslie Mikkelsen

Leslie Mikkelsen is Managing Director of Prevention Institute. She develops new programs and strategies to place prevention in the center of efforts to improve community health and well-being. A key emphasis of her work is on systems approaches to promoting healthy eating and physical activity. In this capacity, she provides training and facilitation for local and state coalitions. Her work outlines strategies for shifting community environments to support healthier behaviors. She has authored “Environmental and Policy Approaches to Promoting Healthy Eating and Physical Activity Behaviors” a research paper for The California Endowment as well as “The Links between the Neighborhood Food Environment and Childhood Nutrition” for the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation. She coordinates the Strategic Alliance for Healthy Food and Activity Environments, a network advocating to make healthy eating and physical activity options more accessible in California. She also serves on the Kaiser Permanente Food Policy Steering Committee and is co-coordinator of the Health Care Without Harm Food Work Group. Before joining Prevention Institute, Leslie worked for the Alameda County and New York City Food Banks where she directed programs designed to address hunger and mobilize community advocacy to support anti-hunger policies. She is a Registered Dietitian and received her Master of Public Health degree from the University of California at Berkeley.