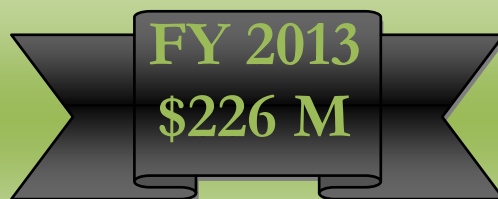


# Community Transformation Grants



~~~~~ Fund the Community Transformation Grants ~~~~~

**REQUEST:** *Fund the CTG program at \$226 million in FY2013 to empower communities to transform places where people live, work, learn, and play to promote prevention and improve health by lowering rates of chronic disease.*

Created by the Affordable Care Act, the Community Transformation Grant (CTG) Program supports states and communities that tackle the root causes of poor health so Americans can lead healthier, more productive lives. In 2011, the CTG program awarded \$103 million to 61 state and local government agencies, tribes and territories, and nonprofit organizations in 36 states, along with \$4.2 million to 7 national networks of community-based organizations.

All grantees work to address the following priority areas: 1) tobacco-free living; 2) active living and healthy eating; and 3) quality clinical and other preventive services. CTG communities integrate the most valuable lessons learned to advance evidence-based practices in community-based approaches to chronic disease prevention from the Healthy Communities and REACH (Racial & Ethnic Approaches to Community Health) programs, as well as Communities Putting Prevention to Work (CPPW) program.

Two-thirds of current CTG grantees address one or more other population groups experiencing disparities, including but not limited to the homeless and those living in underserved geographic areas.

## **Investing in Prevention Improves the Public's Health:**

- Prevention shows a 5-to-1 return on investment. An investment of \$10 per person per year in proven community-based programs to increase physical activity, improve nutrition and prevent smoking and other tobacco use could save the country more than \$16 billion annually within 5 years.<sup>1</sup>
- A recent CDC report found that the United States has saved billions of dollars in healthcare costs as a result of major public health achievements during the 21<sup>st</sup> century's first decade.<sup>2</sup>
- Obesity accounts for more than 300,000 deaths per year and is associated with more than \$147 billion in annual medical care expenditures. According to recent findings from Trust for America's Health, reducing obesity rates by five percent could lead to more than \$29 billion in health care savings in five years.<sup>3</sup>
- Preventing heart attacks, strokes, other cardiovascular diseases, and cancers requires addressing risk factors such as tobacco use, nutrition, and physical activity. Reducing deaths related to these causes requires people have access to community and clinical preventive services such as behavioral interventions, disease screening and treatment.
- Effective, evidence-based community, environmental, and infrastructure interventions can help individuals, families, and communities make healthy choices more easily than unhealthy choices.
- By giving Americans more choices and making American communities healthier, these grants help improve health, reduce health disparities, and lower health care costs.

# Community Transformation Grants



~~~~~ Protect the Prevention and Public Health Fund ~~~~~

## CTG Community Activities:

Current grantees have identified prevention activities that will reduce chronic disease rates, and address health disparities within their geographic areas. A few examples are:

- The Wisconsin Clearinghouse for Prevention Resources, a unit of University Health Services, plans to use the money to address obesity and tobacco use in Wisconsin and increase early screening for chronic diseases such as heart disease and cancer.
- The University of Rochester Medical Center will develop HEART (Health Engagement and Action for Rochester's Transformation), a comprehensive initiative to improve the health of Monroe County residents by creating a community environment that supports healthy behaviors, thus preventing chronic disease and reducing health care costs.
- The Minnesota Department of Health will provide local grants to implement proven strategies in targeted communities with the greatest need based on poverty, smoking and obesity rates, mental health, chronic disease burden, race and ethnicity.
- The Maryland Department of Health and Mental Hygiene will serve the entire state of Maryland minus large counties, an estimated population of 1,900,000 including a rural population of over 300,000, to focus on expanding efforts in tobacco-free living, active living and healthy eating, and quality clinical and other preventive services.

With continued funding the CTG program can achieve its expected five-year grant cycle and reach more than 1 in 3 U.S. citizens—about 120 million Americans.

Continued funding is vital to help Americans make healthier choices and take personal responsibility for their health and the health of their families and children. Investing in prevention will reduce health care costs, keep Americans healthy and at work, and improve the quality of life for all.

<sup>1</sup> Prevention Institute and the Trust for America's Health. *Prevention for a Healthier America: Investments in Disease Prevention Yield Significant Savings, Stronger Communities*. Available at: <http://healthyamericans.org/reports/prevention08/Prevention08.pdf>. Accessed May 31, 2009

<sup>2</sup> *CDC Identifies 10 Public Health Achievements of First Decade of 21st Century*. [http://www.cdc.gov/media/releases/2011/p0519\\_publichealthachievements.html](http://www.cdc.gov/media/releases/2011/p0519_publichealthachievements.html). Accessed February 28, 2012

<sup>3</sup> Trust for America's Health. *Bending the Obesity Cost Curve*. Jan 2012 Issue Brief. Available at: <http://healthyamericans.org/assets/files/TFAH%202012ObesityBrief06.pdf>. Accessed February 28, 2012