



## Bureau of Chronic Disease Prevention and Health Promotion

### Healthy Communities, Healthy People Program

**Chronic diseases—such as heart disease, cancer, and diabetes— are the leading causes of death and disability in Florida.**

These diseases account for 7 of every 10 deaths and affect the quality of life for over 90 million Americans. Although chronic diseases are among the most common and costly health problems, they are also among the most preventable.

Adopting healthy behaviors such as eating nutritious foods, controlling portion sizes, being physically active, and avoiding tobacco use can prevent or control the devastating effects of chronic diseases.

The Florida Department of Health is working toward a healthy Florida through the Healthy Communities, Healthy People Program with the goal of reducing death and disability due to chronic diseases such as heart disease, stroke, diabetes and cancer.

**The Florida Department of Health works with state and community partners to create environmental and policy changes for healthy lifestyles.**

Some examples of these changes are:

- Safe and accessible sidewalks, parks, and walking/bike trails
- Heart-healthy choices in vending machines and cafeterias
- Policies to promote clean outdoor air
- Work site policies to promote healthy eating and physical activities among employees
- Conveniently located farmers markets in communities
- Tobacco prevention and cessation education in schools and work sites
- School facilities open to the public after school hours
- Faith-based organizations providing health education

Bureau of Chronic Disease Prevention and Health Promotion  
Healthy Communities, Healthy People Program  
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#### State Level Responsibilities

- Provides funding, guidance, and training to help communities develop, implement, and evaluate strategies to prevent chronic disease
- Provides grants to increase physical activity and improve nutrition
- Interprets state and federal laws, policies and regulations related to preventing chronic disease and helps communities to successfully implement and report as necessary
- Serves as a liaison for community needs and concerns to state and federal agencies and leaders
- Evaluates the progress and success of community-based programs in accomplishing local, state and federal goals and objectives
- Reports on progress with Florida's legislatively mandated Healthy Communities/Healthy People Act
- Responsible for monitoring Healthy People 2010 goals and objectives related to chronic disease
- Ensures that all allocated funding sources are maximized to provide community level services
- Partners with other state, federal, public and private organizations to address chronic disease prevention and health promotion activities
- Participates in national organizations linked to chronic disease prevention and health promotion

#### Community Level Responsibilities

- Community-based coordination and activities in all 67 Florida counties
- Develops, mobilizes and engages partnerships in communities, work sites, schools and health care settings to inform, educate and implement social, policy and environmental changes that address chronic disease risk factors
- Participates in and assumes a leadership role in the community for chronic disease issues.
- Educates communities and their leaders on chronic disease statistics, needs and opportunities for improvement in the community
- Participates on local health councils
- Participates in community health assessment activities
- Advises county health department leadership on all chronic disease prevention and health promotion needs and activities
- Provides a 25 percent match in funding received from the state level Bureau of Chronic Disease Prevention and Health Promotion