

TURNING DATA INTO ACTION: A CDC REACH CORE Project

Turning Data into Action (TDA) : *Fighting Air Pollution in Two Immigrant Communities* is a community-academic partnership that includes community-based organizations (CBOs), local health departments, air quality management agencies, education and housing agencies, and key stakeholders who are working to reduce air pollution and disparities in asthma, cardiovascular disease, and infant birth weight. Los Angeles has among the worst air quality in the nation. Air pollution has the greatest impact on persons living closest to transportation routes, often low-income people of color. The TDA project works to foster community action to change policies and practices to reduce health risks impacted by the disproportionate exposure to air pollution in Boyle Heights and Long Beach, CA. These communities are in close proximity to high volume transportation routes, much of it related to the movement of commercial goods from the ports of Long Beach/Los Angeles to rail yards and warehouses in East LA.

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Project Goals

Turning Data into Action will support and expand existing efforts to reduce health risks related to air pollution. Project goals are to:

- Expand partnerships with local groups and agencies that are concerned with air pollution from the ports, freeways, and warehouse traffic.
- Increase community and policymaker awareness of the effects of goods movement related air pollution on asthma, heart disease, and infant mortality.
- Increase community capacity to participate in land use and goods movement policy decisions.
- Advance policies and practices that reduce air pollution exposures in Boyle Heights and Long Beach.

Evidence-Based Planning Process

There are three phases involved in this project.

Phase one: Build coalitions and set the groundwork for action to change policies and practices.

Phase two: Conduct MAPP assessments to inform the development of a five year Community Action Plan.

Phase three: Implement the Community Action Plan; evaluate its effectiveness and the impact of changes.

Mobilizing for Action Through Planning and Partnerships (MAPP)

Mobilizing for Action through Planning and Partnerships (MAPP) is the model the TDA uses to engage impacted communities to design initiatives to reduce health risks through policy and systems change. MAPP is centered around organizing community stakeholders to engage in four assessments. Each assessment will include the gathering of secondary data, previously conducted assessments, and collecting new data as needed. Community members will synthesize and analyze assessment data and recommend needed changes based on their assessment findings.

Project Organization

The TDA project is led by a central support team and two local MAPP Committees, one in Boyle Heights and one in Long Beach. Each local MAPP Committee will engage community organizations, schools, businesses, faith and social service organizations, unions, and local public health programs and services.



MAPP Assessments

- **Community Themes & Strengths:** This assessment looks to provide a deep understanding of the issues that residents feel are important to their community.
- **Local Public Health System:** This assessment focuses on all of the organizations and entities that contribute to the public's health.
- **Community Health Status:** The Community Health Status Assessment identifies priority community health and quality of life issues.
- **Forces of Change:** The Forces of Change Assessment focuses on identifying forces such as legislation, technology, and other impending changes that affect the context in which the community and its public health system operate.

Project Schedule

2011

Jun-Aug: Organize and conduct four MAPP Assessments

Sep-Dec: Assessment Reporting & Feedback:

Sept: Conduct Community Forum to Review Assessment Findings

Oct: Collect public response to findings and recommendations for action steps

Dec: Complete Planning Report

2012

Jan-Apr: Community Action Plan (CAP) Development

Feb: Conduct Community Forum to Draft Community Action Plan

Apr: Draft CAP Plan and distribute for public comments and recommendations

Aug: Finalize CAP for publication and community wide distribution

Sept: Submit CAP for funding

2012-2017

Implement Community Action Plan (CAP)

Evaluate CAP effectiveness

Project Support Team

The Project Support Team consists of the following: UCLA Center for Health Policy Research which serves as the Central Coordinating Organization, The Children's Clinic (TCC) in Long Beach, the East LA Community Corp. (ELACC) in Boyle Heights, the UCLA Center for Occupational and Environmental Health, the Long Beach Department of Health and Human Services, the Los Angeles Department of Public Health and the Asthma Coalition of Los Angeles County. Local air quality regulatory agencies, community health service agencies, educational, faith, business organizations, and other community stakeholders play an active role in the process.



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Learn More

If you are interested in participating or getting more information please contact us at 310-794-0983 or hdp@ucla.edu.