

Health Program

2017

We work to reduce health disparities among children and adults by addressing conditions that lead to poor health outcomes.

Pursuing an education, achieving economic security and participating as a productive member of society all depend on sound health. Health, in turn, is strongly influenced by the places people live. Too often, the deck is stacked against people in low-income neighborhoods. They are disproportionately affected by polluting industries, violence, inadequate housing and economic underinvestment.

We believe the United States should shift more resources from addressing disease to promoting good health and by focusing on conditions that affect not just individuals, but whole communities. The U.S. spends nearly \$3 trillion a year on health care, devoting an unsustainable level of resources to medical care and only the most limited funding to improving health at the community level.

Everyone should have access to resources that support health: things like safe, affordable housing and neighborhoods, fresh food and economic opportunities. We seek to help communities overcome the environmental and social disadvantages that contribute to poor health so that everyone has the chance to enjoy productive, self-determined lives.

WE INVEST THROUGH THESE FOCUS AREAS:

Accelerating community-centered approaches to health which includes:

- Community-based collaborations, which brings together health care, public health and local and grass-roots organizations to improve population health and health equity.
- Leadership development, which aims to build the next generation of public health leaders.
- Innovative population health programs and policies, which advances efforts to spread successful program models and policies that link clinics and communities.

Developing healthy places which supports:

- Healthy Housing and Neighborhoods
- Healthy Food Systems that benefit low-income communities
- Equitable Transportation and Land Use



TEAM MEMBERS

David D. Fukuzawa
Managing Director

Chris M. Kabel
Deputy Director

Stacey Barbas
Senior Program Officer

Katie W. Byerly
Health Fellow

Laura L. Lamberti
Program Team Assistant

Phyllis D. Meadows
Senior Fellow

KEY INITIATIVES



FreshLo

The Kresge Health and Arts & Culture programs collaborated to fund neighborhood-scale projects demonstrating creative, cross-sector visions of food-oriented development through the FreshLo initiative. FreshLo projects intentionally integrate healthy food, creative placemaking, community development and equity in their work.



BUILD Health Challenge

The Kresge Health program is one of the founding partners in The BUILD Challenge which encourages communities to build meaningful partnerships among hospitals and health systems, community-based organizations, local health departments and other organizations to improve the health of local residents.



Emerging Leaders in Public Health

The Emerging Leaders in Public Health initiative equips local public health officers with knowledge and skills to transform the role of public health in their community. Over 18 months, pairs of public health leaders receive leadership coaching and development as well as a grant to develop and implement a transformative concept to deliver a new model of public health for their community.

For more information, visit kresge.org/programs/health.

The Kresge Foundation
3215 W. Big Beaver Road, Troy, Michigan
248-643-9630

