

EHHD ACHIEVE Initiative

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Eastern Highlands Health District



ACHIEVE Initiative: Action Communities for Health, Innovation, and Environmental Change

Background

- Eastern Highlands Health District: 10 member towns
Andover, Ashford, Bolton, Chaplin, Columbia,
Coventry, Mansfield, Scotland, Tolland, Willington
- Funded by CDC in 2009 to implement ACHIEVE
- Funding primarily for training & facilitation



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What we know about what happens TODAY...

Common practices & environmental situations in our communities, organizations, institutions, and homes **do not** necessarily support health and prevent chronic disease such as:



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Processed Foods

Endless Opportunities



Screen time



Fast Food



Sedintary Life



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What we know about how to create sustainable change...

Policy, practices, & environmental changes that make it *easy* to eat nutritious foods, be physically active, and avoid tobacco products support good health.



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MISSION
POSSIBLE!

Increase opportunities for
Healthy Eating and Active
Living & Tobacco-free
communities through PSE
Best Practices



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Creating CHANGE in your Community

Lessons learned from the EHHD
ACHIEVE Initiative



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Silo Approach

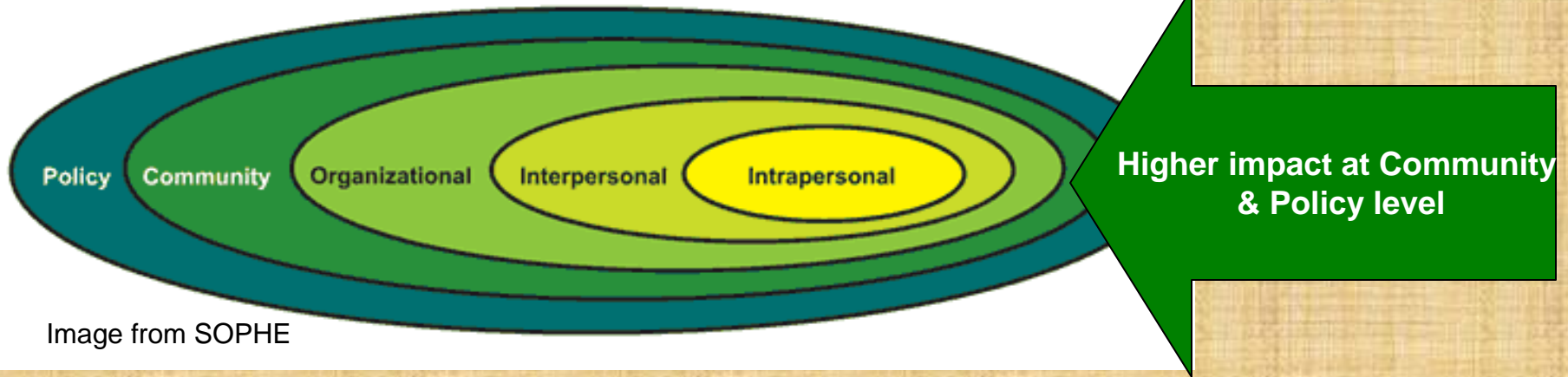
One site, one
change, some
progress.



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Ecological Model

Ecological Model for Health Promotion Interventions



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Ecological Model

1. Build a **C**ommunity **H**ealth **A**ction **R**esponse **T**eam (CHART)
2. Assess current status/conduct policy scan (CHANGE Tool)
3. Create a Community Action Plan
4. Empower CHART to carry out Action Plan & create change in their community circles through PSE best practices
5. Measure, document, & celebrate change



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Step 1

Build a **Community Health Action Response Team (CHART)**

Team of 10 to 15 key leaders in community

Who to include on your CHART:

- Mayor or Town Manager
- Town Planner
- Town Parks & Recreation
- School Superintendent, Principal, or BOE Member
- YMCA
- Pivotal leaders in the community (Business/Chamber of Commerce, faith community, hospital CEO, child advocate)



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EHHD CHART

Health District: Director of Health & Health Promotion
Coordinator

Member Towns: Town Planner (2), Park & Recreation
(2), Social Services Director

Schools: BOE member, School Nurse Supervisor, &
Private School CEO

Health Care: Community Outreach Coordinator, VNA

Key Informant: CT SNAP Program Director

Key Informant: University Kinesiology Professor

NOTE: EHHD BOD is comprised of each member town
CEO, and is informed/involved in the EHHD ACHIEVE
Initiative



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EHHD CHART

Three basic responsibilities:

- ❖ Embrace and support the ACHIEVE mission to change policy and environment to improve access to healthy food and opportunities for physical activity
- ❖ Create Mission Statement and Vision for ACHIEVE Initiative
- ❖ Participate in CHART meetings and activities



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EHHD ACHIEVE Vision

The Eastern Highlands Health District communities offer and encourage opportunities for *all* residents to have daily access to physical activity, healthy foods, and tobacco-free environments to support healthy behaviors.



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Step 2

Assess current status/conduct a policy scan

Facilitate use of CHANGE Tool in community

- Two levels of use: **internal** data collection & **external** messaging and promotion of best practices
- Start with a Community At Large Assessment
- CHART will determine order of other sectors to address



CHANGE Tool:

- Paints a picture of **current prevention policies and strategies**
- Provides a systematic way to **assess and document community needs and assets**
- Optimizes the use of available **local resources and partnership** for addressing community needs
- Monitors and tracks progress across one or more years by using a 1-to-5 rating scale that allows users **to measure incremental changes**



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Community Health Assessment and Group Evaluation (CHANGE)

- ✓ Developed by the CDC
- ✓ Used for the past 2 years across the country in ACHIEVE and Healthy Community (CDC-funded) sites
- ✓ Evidence-based best practices



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Community Health Assessment and Group Evaluation (CHANGE)

- ✓ Collect data
- ✓ Determine areas for improvement
- ✓ Plan policy, systems, and environmental change strategies to advance efforts to reduce risk factors for chronic disease



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Areas of Best Practice Identified

Nutrition

Physical Activity

Tobacco

Chronic Disease Management

Leadership



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Sectors

Community at Large

Worksite

Community Organization or Institution

School

Health Care



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Examples of Best Practices



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Cancer

Chronic Disease

Obesity

CDC Publication

**Recommended Community Strategies
and Measurements to Prevent ~~Obesity~~
in the United States (2009)**

**Poor nutrition &
Inactivity**



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CDC CHANGE Tool

**Contains over 50 best practices for
each sector such as:**



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Worksite Best Practices:

Provide access to a free or low cost employee health risk appraisal or health screenings.

Institute healthy food and beverage options in vending machines.

Implement a referral system to help employees' access tobacco cessation resources or services, such as quitline (e.g., 1-800-QUIT-NOW)

School Best Practices:

Ban the use of or withholding of physical activity as a punishment.

Ban using food as a reward or punishment for academic performance or behavior.

Prohibit the sale of sugar-sweetened beverages.

Community Organization Best Practices:

Institute pricing strategies that encourage the purchase of healthy food and beverage options.

Provide a safe area outside (e.g., through lighting, signage, crime watch) to walk or be physically active.

Institute a smoke-free policy 24/7 for outdoor public places.



CHANGE Tool Rating Scale

Response #	Policy	Environmental Change
1	Not identified as problem	Elements not in place
2	Problem identification/gaining agenda status	Few elements in place and/or well developed
3	Policy formulation and adoption	Some elements are in place and/or well developed
4	Policy implementation	Most elements are in place and/or well developed
5	Policy evaluation, adjustment and/or termination	All elements in place and well developed
99	Not applicable	Not applicable



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Resources for PSE CHANGE

- [CDC CHANGE Action Guide](#)
- [CHANGE Tool Group Facilitation Cards](#)
- [CT ACHIEVE Website](#)
- [CDC Community Strategies & Measurements](#)
- [CT ACHIEVE FaceBook](#)



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Step 3

Create an Action Plan

Identify Goals & Objectives

- > **Goals:** Broad View
- > **Objectives:** PSE oriented

Dynamic document: Revise as needed



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Examples

EHHD Goals

GOAL 1: By December 31, 2011, maintain (and work for improvement of) aggregate health indicator scores of children in the EHHD Community (for example: sick days, BMI, discipline referrals).

GOAL 2: By December 31, 2011, improve aggregate wellness scores of workforce in community (for example: sick time, BMI, blood pressure, cholesterol).



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Examples

EHHD Objectives

- By December 2012, the number of schools in EHHD member towns with a Safe Routes to School Master Plan will increase from 4 to 8.
- Promote the 9-5-2-1-0 for Health! Campaign through print, electronic, and mass media; and through presentations to PTO and faith communities in all ten EHHD member towns by May, 2012.
- By December 31, 2012, increase the number of schools in the EHHD member towns from 0 to 4 that meet 100% of the criteria for “Better Choice Recommendations” as set forth by the CT Nutrition Standards list of acceptable foods and beverages.



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Step 4

Empower CHART to Create CHANGE in Community

- Training
- Access to resources
- Venue to share impact/results



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Step 5

Measure, Document, & Celebrate Change



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PSE Change: Measuring Progress



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Evaluation of PSE

- ✓ Traditional methods of evaluating **programs** is not a good fit
- ✓ Evolving field of study & practice



A Guide to Measuring Advocacy & Policy,

Annie E. Casey Foundation

Measure Core Outcome Areas:

- Shifts in Social Norms
- Strengthened Organizational Capacity
- Strengthened Alliances
- Strengthened Base of Support
- Improved Policies
- Changes in Impact



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CHANGE Tool completed (baseline + 2 years):

Community at Large

Worksites

School (private)

Community Organizations



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Policy and Environmental Changes facilitated by CHART:

- Lactation Protocol for worksites
- Review & revision of land use & subdivision regulations
- SRTS Master Plans developed for multiple schools
- Temporary Food Permits set expectation for healthy food
- Healthy Eating Resolutions passed
- 9-5-2-1-0 for Health Campaign
- Pre-K Snack Policy addressed in schools



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Most Significant Success:

Evidence of shifts in social norms,
increased capacity & stronger
partnerships



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Success indicators:

- Community leaders are all talking the same language (regarding PSE), and referencing CDC best practices
- Leading to many PSE changes in many sectors in the community that reflect the CDC best practices (worksites, early childhood collaboratives, schools, childcare, faith communities, etc)
- Expanded ACHIEVE across state through partnership of CCP & DPH (4 CT ACHIEVE communities)



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CT ACHIEVE Initiative

Technical Assistance & Training for 4 CT ACHIEVE Teams

Resources posted on website & FB:

- Facilitation tools for CHANGE
- Action Plan template
- Model Policy, Best Practice, Success Stories

Available to you as a resource



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Links for CT ACHIEVE

[CT ACHIEVE Website](http://www.ehhd.org)

(www.ehhd.org)

[CT ACHIEVE FaceBook](#)

(Search Pages for: CT ACHIEVE)



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Questions?



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