



## HAMILTON COUNTY PUBLIC HEALTH

PREVENT. PROMOTE. PROTECT.

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## NEWS

### **Hamilton County Public Health Awarded \$6.7 Million as Part of Recovery Act Prevention and Wellness Initiative, *Communities Putting Prevention to Work***

**HAMILTON COUNTY, OHIO** – Today, Hamilton County Public Health was awarded a grant of \$6.7 million for a county-wide obesity prevention program.

This grant award is part of the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services' Communities Putting Prevention to Work initiative to support public health efforts to reduce obesity, increase physical activity, improve nutrition, and decrease smoking—four critical actions for combating chronic diseases and promoting health.

The \$372.8 million, funded by the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009, was awarded to 44 communities. These communities are receiving awards to implement policy, systems and environmental change strategies over the next two years as one of several initiatives of HHS Communities Putting Prevention to Work.

“Prevention is the key in order to change health behaviors for improving physical activity and healthy eating,” said Tim Ingram, Health Commissioner. “Expanding community based prevention efforts will provide sustainable, lasting change for the residents of Hamilton County.”

The competitive funding awards to cities, towns, and tribes across the country will allow communities to support healthy choices among their residents through a variety of methods including increasing the availability of healthy foods and beverages, improving access to safe places for physical activity, discouraging tobacco use, and encouraging smoke-free environments.

Specifically, the work that Hamilton County Public Health and its partners will be doing includes school-based vending policies, social marketing campaign, community garden development, access to safe spaces for physical activity through school-to-community shared use agreements, policies to support 30 minutes of physical activity in after-school programs, expanding the use of existing subsidies for community recreation and expanding infrastructure for faith-based health ministries to provide social support for change.

To learn more about *Communities Putting Prevention to Work*, visit [www.hhs.gov/recovery](http://www.hhs.gov/recovery) and [www.cdc.gov/chronicdisease/recovery](http://www.cdc.gov/chronicdisease/recovery).

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