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COI Highlight: Shared Success Local Control and Accountability Plan Workshop Held in San Diego County



The Opportunity

The Local Funding Control Formula (LCFF) now allows school health advocates the opportunity to advocate for investments in the whole child by including such elements as good nutrition, physical activity and mental-health support in the district's budget. LCFF allows for quality input from stakeholders, such as parents, school staff, and the students themselves. The new funding method signed into law by Governor Jerry Brown in 2013 presents welcome opportunities to address student wellness in many ways.

The Solution

Under LCFF, there is now an opportunity for districts themselves to decide how to spend much of the funding they receive from the state. Districts are now required to gather input

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from multiple stakeholders, including employees, parents, and community partners. Even students are asked to provide input on how funding is spent.

Local Control and Accountability Plans (LCAPs) are created to help school districts in California shape programs that better assist students in achieving their goals, especially students in low-income communities. School districts are required to describe how they plan to spend the designated funding for these students and how the funding will impact student achievement.

In San Diego County, a LCAP forum held December 2015 convened diverse school district stakeholders including principals, nurses, parents, and food service staff representing sixteen school districts and fourteen community organizations. Participants were provided an overview of the LCAP process and priority areas, local examples of how and why districts have included wellness components into LCAPs, and strategies for wellness teams and other stakeholders to advocate for integration of wellness components into LCAPs.

The workshop was organized through a collaboration between the San Diego County Office of Education, California Department of Education, San Diego County Childhood Obesity Initiative, University of California San Diego Center for Community Health, and Dairy Council of California.

"Everyone agrees healthy schools are important, but there isn't always the funding necessary for some of the important components that support student health," said Deirdre Kleske, Healthy Works Program Specialist for the County of San Diego Health and Human Services Agency. "With the state's new method of funding schools there is an opportunity to support programs like physical education, after-school sports, nursing, and physical and mental health services."

Participants learned ways to incorporate components of their district's Local School Wellness Policy into the LCAP to support healthy school environments, improve student outcomes, and strengthen engagement of students and parents.

San Diego Unified School District, Chula Vista Elementary School District and Cajon Valley Union School District presented on how wellness components came to be integrated into their districts' LCAPs and what their districts hope to achieve through this designated funding.

Kate McDevitt, senior manager of school wellness programs at the UC San Diego Center for Community Health, presented on how district employees and community partners could better serve in their roles as advocates, and become informed about opportunities provided by LCAP.

The key messages of the event focused on communication and collaboration.

"From the district perspective, it's about educating stakeholders," said Paige Metz, Health and Physical Education Coordinator for the San Diego County Office of Education. "By educating people about advocating for school districts, we can

build capacity. If parents, employees, students or community partners are interested in seeing districts support efforts around physical health, mental health and other health-related programs, this is an opportunity to have a voice in the process."

What's Next?

In their evaluations of the event, attendees cited their increased knowledge of the LCAP process, and how they felt more clear about their roles as advocates. Attendees said they expected to measure wellness policy implementation at both the school and district level.

Many expressed a hope that the workshop could be held annually.

Event organizers are optimistic that schools will become increasingly adept at formulating their LCAPs and increasing the input from community and school stakeholders on the topic of student wellness, ultimately leading to healthier students in healthier schools.

For more information, contact Deirdre Kleske, Healthy Works Program Specialist, County of San Diego Health and Human Services Agency, at 619-542-4002 or Deirdre.kleske@sdcounty.ca.gov.

Collaboration Corner

The "Collaboration Corner" is a new section of the newsletter where we are asking partners to post collaborative opportunities, such as partnering on grant applications, volunteer opportunities, and other requests COI partners may be interested in supporting. Please email [Nina Ghatan](#) content by the 15th of the month and it will be included in the next newsletter.



Photo courtesy of Dunk Tank Marketing

Announcements

- The Media Domain is excited to announce Joangrace Espiritu, of the YMCA Childcare Resource Service, is a new Co-chair for the Media Domain! Joangrace has been involved with the Early Childhood Domain for many years and we're thrilled to tap into her creativity and marketing experience in her new role.
- Community Health Improvement Partners (CHIP) is seeking a new [CEO](#) and Lemon Grove HEAL Zone [Manager](#).
- Check out CHIP's most recent [blog](#)

post if you're interested in learning about all of the great farm to school efforts in San Diego County.



Joangrace Espiritu

News of Note



From Farm to Lunch Table

Healthy Eating- From School Breakfast to Family Meals

Healthy Food Powwow



Events

7th Health Datapalooza

Washington, DC | May 8-11, 2016

Health Datapalooza convenes diverse partners from healthcare, non-profit, public, private, and technology sectors to bring data to life in a way that redefines healthcare. [For more information...](#)

Building a Healthier Future Summit

Washington, DC | May 18-20, 2016

The Building a Healthier Future Summit provides a unique opportunity for public, private, non-profit, government, and academic organizations to identify actionable steps to create healthier environments for all children. [For more information...](#)

Research and Resources

2015 State of Farm to School in San Diego County Report

The third annual State of Farm to School report is now available. School districts spent \$6.9 million on local and regional foods in 2014-2015, which is over 120% increase since last. Click [here](#) to read the report.

Rethink Your Drink: Reducing Sugar-Sweetened Beverage Sales in a Children's Hospital

Our partners at Rady Children's Hospital and UC San Diego **published** their research

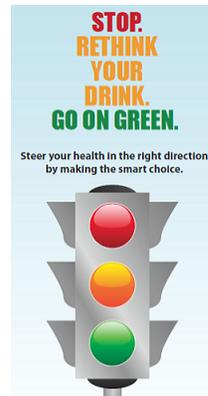
findings in Health Promotion Practice Journal on the impact of Rethink Your Drink on sugar-sweetened beverage consumption at Rady Children's Hospital.

Parenting Style Linked with Lower Child BMI

UC San Diego researchers found that in conjunction with weight management programs, warmer parenting styles were associated with decreased or stable body mass index. The [findings](#) were published in Childhood Obesity.

The Impact of the First 1000 Days on Childhood Obesity

Healthy Eating Research issued a [brief](#) on the critical timeframe (from conception until age two) for the development of childhood obesity.



The Use of Brand Mascots and Media Characters: Opportunities for Responsible Food Marketing to Children

Healthy Eating Research developed a [brief](#) on the impact brand mascots and cartoon characters have on the food choices children make and its impact on children's health.

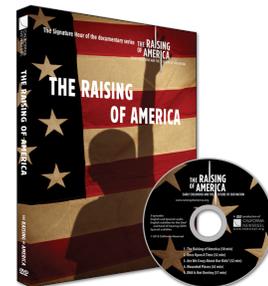
211 San Diego: Nutrition, Healthy Weight, Physical Activity, and Diabetes Resource

San Diego County residents, healthcare providers, and agencies have access to FREE nutrition, healthy weight, physical activity, and diabetes resources by dialing "2-1-1" or clicking [here](#).



The Raising of America: Early Childhood and the Future of Our Nation

The Raising of America is a series of documentaries that look at the social determinants of health and the impact of policy, systems, and environmental changes on child development and wellbeing. The documentary can be streamed free of charge from April 1-17th by following this [link](#).



Grant Opportunities

2016-2017 Walk, Ride, and Roll to School Mini-Grant Program

Application deadline: April 22, 2016
SANDAG iCommute team is now accepting applications for the 2016-2017 Walk, Ride, and Roll to School Mini-Grant Program to support active transportation and safe routes to school. [For more information...](#)

Let's Move! Active Schools Activation Grant

Application deadline: April 30, 2016
Sportime & SPARK, School Specialty, Inc. is offering 50 grants to schools enrolled in Let's Move! Active Schools that have completed school assessments by April 30th. [For more information...](#)

Carol M. White Physical Education Program (PEP)

Application deadline: May 20, 2016
The US Department of Education has awarded millions of dollars to schools and community-based organizations to improve high quality physical education program through PEP. [For](#)



[more information...](#)

GO! Grants

Application deadline: June 1, 2016

Kids in the Game is offering GO! Grants between \$1,000-\$5,000 to elementary schools to support before, during, or after school physical activity programs. [For more information...](#)

How do you like our eNewsletter? [Send us feedback.](#)

We actively seek newsletter content from our partners. If you or your organization would like to submit content, please [email](#) it to Nina Ghatan.

The San Diego County Childhood Obesity Initiative is a public-private partnership facilitated by [Community Health Improvement Partners](#), a San Diego-based 501(c)3.

Disclaimer: The newsletter is for educational purposes only and does not constitute an endorsement of any product, resources, legislation, or intellectual content included in the newsletter outside of specified workgroup activities or official partnership statements approved by our Leadership Council.

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