



Eastern Highlands Health District

4 South Eagleville Road • Mansfield CT 06268 • Tel: (860) 429-3325 • Fax: (860) 429-3321 • Web: [www.EHHD.org](http://www.EHHD.org)

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## **PRESS RELEASE dated March 26, 2015**

### **Contacts:**

Rob Miller, Director of Health at Eastern Highlands Health District, 860.429.3325;  
[millerRL@ehhd.org](mailto:millerRL@ehhd.org)  
Roberta Rewers, APA, 312.786.6395; [rewers@planning.org](mailto:rewers@planning.org)

### ***Eastern Highlands Health District Community Health Action Response Team (C.H.A.R.T.)* Receives Grant Funding from the American Planning Association to Combat Chronic Disease**

WASHINGTON, DC – The *Eastern Highlands Health District Community Health Action Response Team* has received a \$100,000 grant from the American Planning Association through its [Plan4Health](#) program to combat two determinants of chronic disease—lack of physical activity and lack of access to nutritious foods.

Plan4Health is a 15-month program that strengthens the connection between planning and public health. Seventy-five percent of the program’s funding supports local and state coalitions working to advance public health through better planning and partnerships. The program is implemented in partnership with the [American Public Health Association](#) (APHA) and represents a major new collaboration between planners and public health professionals. Funding for Plan4Health was provided through a grant from the [Centers for Disease Control and Prevention](#) (CDC).

“This is an exciting new opportunity to improve the health of our communities through diverse partnerships,” said Anna Ricklin, AICP, manager of APA’s Planning and Community Health Center. “Collaboration is key if we want to continue to create communities of lasting value that are equitable and healthy for all residents.”

Eighteen coalitions were selected for the Plan4Health program after a competitive review process. The program is being administered through [APA’s Planning and Community Health Center](#) that is dedicated to integrating community health issues into local and regional planning practices by advancing research, outreach, education and policy.

### ***Eastern Highlands Health District Community Health Action Response Team (C.H.A.R.T.) Coalition***

**Mansfield, CT** - Small and rural planning and zoning commissions often have limited capacity. In response, the Eastern Highlands Health District Community Health Action Response Team (C.H.A.R.T.) coalition will develop a toolkit aimed at assisting planning and zoning commissions with understanding how planning can impact long-term public health. The toolkit will also gather resources that can be used by local planning and zoning commission members to evaluate planning options and make decisions informed by their potential health impact. An

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*Preventing Illness & Promoting Wellness for Communities In Eastern Connecticut*  
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important component of the funded project includes strategies aimed at increasing civic engagement and citizen influence over local planning and zoning decisions.

Coalition partners include, among others: Eastern Highlands Health District, Connecticut Chapter of the American Planning Association, Connecticut Public Health Association, Coventry STEPS, Town of Mansfield Department of Parks and Recreation, Town of Mansfield Department of Planning and Development, Town of Mansfield Department of Human Services, Town of Coventry Department of Planning and Development, Town of Coventry Department of Parks and Recreation, Town of Tolland Department of Planning and Development, Town of Ashford Department of Parks and Recreation, Tolland Family Resource Center, Visiting Nurses & Health Services of Connecticut, Hartford Healthcare at Home, Tolland Board of Education School Nurses, Hartford Healthcare at Home, and local residents.

In addition to the *Eastern Highlands Health District Community Health Action Response Team* being selected, the following 17 coalitions also received funding:

1. *Healthy Savannah, Inc.*; Chatham County, Georgia
2. *Health Transformers*; Vista Neighborhood, Boise, Idaho
3. *B-Well Bensenville Plan4Health Coalition*; Bensenville, Illinois
4. *Kane County Planning Cooperative*; Kane County, Illinois
5. *Reach Healthy Communities*; Columbus, Indiana
6. *Health by Design*; Indianapolis/Marion County, Indiana
7. *Planning Healthy Iowa Communities*; Linn County, Iowa
8. *Kenton County Plan4Health Coalition*; Kenton County, Kentucky
9. *Inner Core Community Health Improvement Coalition*; Metro Boston, Massachusetts
10. *Healthy Eating, Active Living Partnership – Active Living Workgroup*; St. Louis, Missouri
11. *Plan4Health – Nashua, an initiative of the Greater Nashua Public Health Network*; Nashua, New Hampshire
12. *Trenton Healthy Communities Initiative*; Trenton, New Jersey
13. *Live Well Kingston*; Kingston, New York
14. *Columbus Public Health – Chronic Disease Prevention Advisory Board*; Columbus, Ohio
15. *Plan 4 Health Summit County*; Summit County, Ohio
16. *Austin-Vámonos Rundberg Coalition*; Rundberg Neighborhood, Austin, Texas
17. *Capital Region Healthy Communities*, Dane County, Wisconsin

For more information about the Plan4Health program, visit [www.plan4health.us](http://www.plan4health.us) or follow the hashtag #Plan4Health on Twitter.

*The American Planning Association is an independent, not-for-profit educational organization that provides leadership in the development of vital communities. APA and its professional institute, the American Institute of Certified Planners, are dedicated to advancing the art, science and profession of good planning -- physical, economic and social -- so as to create communities that offer better choices for where and how people work and live. Members of APA help create communities of lasting value and*



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~~encourage civic leaders, business interests and citizens to play a meaningful role in creating communities that enrich people's~~  
lives. APA has offices in Washington, D.C., and Chicago. For more information, visit [www.planning.org](http://www.planning.org).

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