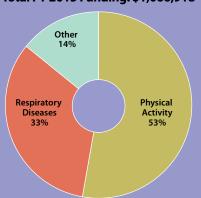
# Preventive Health and Health Services Block Grant

## **District of Columbia**

How the District of Columbia Invested PHHS Block Grant Funding

Total FY 2015 Funding: \$1,066,918





Hip-hop dance classes for teenagers are among the many activities supported through the Enriching Lives—Building Health Program in Washington, DC.

### **Fighting Obesity Across the Generations**

In 2014, Rockson Community Development Corporation in Washington, DC, received a mini-grant from the District of Columbia Department of Health to help people in Ward 7 be healthier through the Enriching Lives—Building Health Program (ELBHP). Preventive Health and Health Services (PHHS) Block Grant funds were used to pay for ELBHP staff salaries and membership fees to use plant beds in a community garden.

The ELBHP staff know that people participate in healthy activities for different reasons, depending on their age. Children and adolescents might sign up to learn how to make better health choices, battle peer pressure, please their parents, or find something healthy to do during the weekends, after school, or in the summer. Parents and other adults in midlife might try to eat healthier foods, manage their weight, or quit smoking. Grandparents and other older adults might want to manage their weight or a chronic health condition and get more exercise.

ELBHP sponsored many community activities to meet the different needs of children, youth, midlife adults, and older adults. They offered a Jazzercise class, a coffee-and-conversation club for older adults to talk about living with chronic diseases, a hip-hop dance class for teenagers, and a weekly fitness class that let teens use the sports equipment at a local community center.

Program activities were also designed to benefit the whole family so that people of all ages could share their talents, spend time together, and build relationships. Some of these activities included a walking club, a community garden, healthy recipe cooking classes, and health information booths at community events.

As a result of the ELBHP activities in Ward 7 in 2014, almost 300 people in the community had opportunities to exercise regularly, learn how to cook healthier food, and understand how the food they eat can affect their weight and health. Every day, the PHHS Block Grant is making a difference in the lives of people of all ages in this community.



# **Preventive Health and Health Services Block Grant**

#### What is the PHHS Block Grant?

The Preventive Health and Health Services (PHHS) Block Grant provides flexible federal funding to 61 states, tribes, and US territories. These grantees use the funding to meet vital public health needs within their jurisdictions that align with national priorities—the Healthy People (HP) 2020 objectives.

#### **Block Grant Investment Across the Nation**

In fiscal year 2015, the 61 grantees received about \$126 million from the PHHS Block Grant to support critical programs and services. Most funds (85%) supported HP 2020 objectives in 10 key areas: 1) Public Health Infrastructure, 2) Education and Community-Based Programs, 3) Injury and Violence Prevention, 4) Nutrition and Weight Status, 5) Heart Disease and Stroke Prevention, 6) Environmental Health, 7) Immunization and Infectious Diseases, 8) Emergency Medical Services, 9) Oral Health, and 10) Physical Activity.

Public Health Infrastructure was the most funded area (26% of total funding); 43 grantees directed funds toward public health systems assessment, health improvement planning, accreditation, quality improvement, laboratory services, and other infrastructure activities. Education and Community-Based Programs was the second-most funded area (21% of total funding); 29 grantees directed funds toward community-based primary prevention services, worksite health promotion programs, and culturally appropriate community health programs.

Grantees also directed funds toward supporting local organizations working to improve community health (27% of total funding) and reduce health disparities (23% of total funding).

### 2015 Top-Funded Health Areas Physical Activity

3%
Oral Health
3%
Emergency Medical Services

3%
Immunization & Infectious Diseases
3%

Environmental Health 3%

Heart Disease & Stroke Prevention 5%

Nutrition & Weight Status 8%

Injury & Violence Prevention 8%

Other 15%

Education & Community-Based Programs

Public Health Infrastructure 26%

Excludes all non-discretionary funding: administrative costs (up to 10%), direct assistance, and funds set aside for sexual violence (rape prevention).