APPENDIX C
LETTERS OF SUPPORT

1. Connecticut Department of Public Health

Elected Officials

a. M. Jodi Rell, Governor, State of Connecticut

State Agencies and Commissions

a. George Coleman, Deputy Commissioner, State Department of Education
b. Barbara C. Berger, Director, Connecticut Office of Rural Health
c. Elaine Zimmerman, Executive Director, Commission on Children
d. Richard Macsuga, Lead Agriculture Marketing Representative, State Department of Agriculture
e. Sharon Okoye, Safe Routes to School Coordinator, State Department of Transportation

Nonprofit and Community Organizations

a. Lorene Highbridge, Director of State Health Alliances, American Heart Association
b. Dawn Mays-Hardy, MS, Director, Health Promotion and Public Policy, American Lung Association of New England
c. Robert Smith, Executive Director, American Diabetes Association
d. Tracey Scraba, JD, MPH, President-Elect, Connecticut Public Health Association
e. Lucinda Hogarty, MPH, Director, Connecticut Cancer Partnership

2. Northeast District Department of Health

Elected Officials

a. Congressman Joe Courtney, 2nd District
b. Senator Donald E. Williams, Jr. President Pro Tempore, 29th District
c. Senator Tony Guglielmo, 35th District
d. Senator Andrew M. Maynard, 18th District
e. Representative Mike Alberts, 50th District
f. Representative Christopher D. Coutu, 47th District
g. Representative Mae Flexer, 44th District
h. Representative Shawn T. Johnston, 51st District
i. Representative Steven T. Mikutel, 45th District

Northeastern Connecticut Council of Governments Representing Town Leadership

a. John Filchak, Executive Director, Northeastern Connecticut Council of Governments

School Systems

b. Brian Mignault, Sr. Ph.D., Principal, Harvard H. Ellis Technical High School
c. William M. Silver, Ed.D., Superintendent, Killingly Public Schools
d. Mary P. Conway, Ed.D., Superintendent, Plainfield Public Schools
e. William J. Hull, Superintendent, Putnam Public Schools
f. Michael W. Jolin, Ph.D., Superintendent, Thompson Public Schools
g. Kim M. Caron, Superintendent/ Headmaster, Woodstock Academy

HealthQuest Northeast Connecticut Coalition Partners

a. HealthQuest Leadership Team
b. John P. Miller, Chairman, Board of Directors, Day Kimball Healthcare
c. Robert E. Smanik, FACHE, President & CEO, Day Kimball Healthcare
d. Elizabeth Kuszaj, Executive Director, Northeastern Connecticut Chamber of Commerce
e. Delpha M. Very, Director, Town of Putnam Economic and Community Development
f. Steven Townsend, MBA, CMA, Former Chair, United Natural Foods, Inc.
g. Karen Osbrey, Owner, WINY Radio

HealthQuest Community Partners

a. Donna Grant, Executive Director, Thompson Ecumenical Empowerment Group
b. Robert Pellegrino, Marketing Director, State of Connecticut Department of Agriculture
c. R. Mark Fenton, Public Health, Planning & Transportation Consultant
d. Robert Sweetgall, President, Creative Walking
e. Marydale DeBor, Vice President, External Affairs, New Milford Hospital and Director of Plow to Plate ® Initiative
f. John Turenne, President, Sustainable Food Systems

3. <u>The City of New Haven</u>

City of New Haven

a. John Destefano, Jr. Mayor, City of New Haven
b. Chisara N. Asomugha, MD, FAAP, Community Services Administrator
c. Rob Smuts, Chief Administrative Officer
d. William Quinn, MPH, Director of Health
e. Michael Piscitelli, Director, Department of Transportation, Traffic and Parking
f. Richard Miller, City Engineering and Chairperson, Complete Streets Steering Committee
g. Karyn Gilvarg, Director, City Plan Department
h. Robert Levine, Director, Department of Parks, Recreation, and Trees
i. James Welbourne, City Librarian, New Haven Free Public Library

New Haven Public Schools

a. Dr. Reginald Mayo, Superintendent, New Haven Public Schools
b. Susan M. Peters, Co-chair, NHPS District Wellness Committee
c. Kimberly Johnsky, Principal, Fair Haven School (K-8)

Health Care

a. James Rawlings, Vice President for Community Medicine, Yale New Haven Hospital
b. Jamesina Henderson, President, Cornell Scott Hill Health Center
c. Katrina Clark, Executive Director, Fair Haven Community Health Clinic

Philanthropy

a. William W. Ginsberg, President, Community Foundation for Greater New Haven
b. Jack Healy, President, United Way of Greater New Haven
c. John Padilla, Connecticut Program Director, Annie E. Casey Foundation

Higher Education

a. Paul Cleary, Dean, Yale School of Public Health
b. Jeannette Ickovics, Professor, Yale School of Public Health
c. David Katz, MD, MPH, Director, Yale-Griffin PRC
d. Michael Morand, Assistant Director, Office of New Haven and State Affairs, Yale University
e. William Faraclas, Chair, Department of Public Health, Southern Connecticut State University
f. Georgina Lucas, Deputy Director, RWJF Clinical Scholars Program Yale School of Medicine

Elected Officials

a. Carl Goldfield, President, New Haven Board of Aldermen
b. Representative Toni Walker, New Haven
c. Representative Juan Candelaria, New Haven
d. Representative Bob Megna, New Haven
e. Representative Cam Staples, New Haven

Nonprofit and Community Organizations

a. Erin Eisenberg, Executive Director, CitySeed
b. Roberta Friedman, Chair, New Haven Food Policy Council
c. Jennifer Heath, Co-chair, New Haven Early Childhood Council
d. Mark Abraham, Project Director, DataHaven
e. Jean Stimolo, Executive Director, Rideworks Commuter Transportation Svcs.
f. Chet Brodnicki, Interim Executive Director, Community Mediation
g. Amos Smith, President, Community Action Agency of GNH
h. William Kurtz, Board of Directors, Elm City Cycling
i. Eight Co-Coordinators, New Haven Safe Streets Coalition
j. Doug Hausladen, Vice Chair, Downtown-Wooster Square Community Management Team
k. Gabriela Campos, Executive Director, Grand Avenue Village Association
l. Ben Berkowitz, Upper State Street Association
m. Chris Heitmann, Executive Director, Westville Village Renaissance Assoc.
n. Rena Leddy, Executive Director, Town Green Special Services District
o. Bonita Grubbs, Executive Director, Christian Community Action
p. Sarah Trevino, Executive Director, Junta for Progressive Action
q. Anstress Farwell, President, New Haven Urban Design League

Media

a. Juan Castillo, WYBC Radio
b. Paul Bass, Publisher, New Haven Independent
c. John Stoehr, Editor, New Haven Advocate
d. Norma Rodriguez-Reyes, President, La Voz Hispana de Connecticut
e. Mary Lee Weber, Director of Marketing, WTNH-TV

Businesses

a. Tony Rescigno, Greater New Haven Chamber of Commerce
b. Al Lauro, General Manager, Ferraro's
c. Nancy McDermott, President, NuVal LLC
d. Rick Weiss, President, Viocare Inc.

M. Jodi Rell
GOVERNOR
STATE OF CONNECTICUT

November 25, 2009

Janet Collins, Ph.D
Director, National Center for Chronic Disease Prevention and Health Promotion
Centers for Disease Control and Prevention
4770 Buford Hwy, NE, MS K-40
Atlanta, GA 30341-3717

Dear Dr. Collins,

I write today in support the Connecticut Department of Public Health's application to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention for the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009 (ARRA) funding opportunity entitled, *Communities Putting Prevention to Work: State Coordinated Small City and Rural Community Application.*

The Connecticut Department of Public Health (DPH) is the lead agency to request funds promoting sustainable chronic disease interventions that will optimize the health and well being of our residents. Through the State Coordinated Small City and Rural Community application, the Department has partnered with the City of Hartford's Department of Health and Human Services, New Haven's Health Department, and the Northeast District Department of Health. In partnership, these communities will address obesity, physical inactivity, poor nutrition and tobacco use/exposure to reduce risk factors, prevent and/or delay chronic disease, and promote wellness based on multiple intervention strategies that include environment and policy change in Media, Access, Pricing, Point of decision information and Social support (MAPPS).

Connecticut's application proposes the following activities in the three communities:

- The City of Hartford will work in all five MAPPS areas, conducting an anti-tobacco campaign that utilizes several ongoing partnerships and includes activities in the following areas: work with merchant associations including a survey of all tobacco outlets within Hartford to encourage appropriate promotions and restrictions; suggest enforcement and other actions in areas including 100% smoke free campuses, sales restrictions and branding; provide education including prevention and cessation programming; and conduct a social marketing campaign that includes countermarketing, public service announcements and poster contest components.

  DPH will collaborate with the Connecticut Food Policy Council (CFPC) to convene representatives from the City of New Haven and the Northeast Health District to address accessibility and availability of fresh and locally grown foods.

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GOVERNOR.RELL@CT.GOV

- The City of New Haven will also work in all five MAPPS areas to support the critical high-impact community and school-based policy and environmental changes necessary to promote overall community health. The City will endorse healthier eating through increased access to fresh, nutritious, and local foods in schools and provide financial incentives for more nutritional purchases in community supermarkets. The City will institute citywide environmental design changes that facilitate increased physical activity by providing safe routes to community spaces, including schools, parks and neighborhood retail centers. Additionally, the New Haven Public Schools will continue to implement the wellness policies contained in their District Wellness Plan and expand the network of school-based Physical Activity and Wellness (PAW) Committees that will empower teachers and staff to bring specific, evidence-based interventions to all students, staff and parents within 27 schools. These efforts will be enhanced by a collaborative and comprehensive media campaign designed to engage all of New Haven in this effort. Led by the City administration, the Health Equity and Wellness Commission and Food Policy Council will establish accountability measures for all partners, while advocating changes to systems and best practices through meaningful policy.

- The Northeast District Department of Health will work in all five MAPPS areas that will focus on policy, environmental, and systems changes to reduce obesity through increased physical activity and affording options for better nutrition. The District will institute a district-wide assessment of existing space to facilitate increased physical activity, and develop safe activity trails throughout the 12 towns served. In addition, the District will promote and expand the successful school-wide walking program into other school systems. Included in the proposal is the endorsement of healthier eating through increased access to fresh, nutritious, and local foods in schools and worksites, and to improve food procurement strategies through the creation of a regional food co-op. The District will enhance financial incentives so that the community can purchase fresh fruits and vegetables at local farmers markets, as well, as implement a hospital-supported breastfeeding initiative.

Connecticut is committed to combating chronic disease through continual development, support and implementation of community-based health promotion and disease prevention. This grant will enable Connecticut to coordinate evidence-based activities that will ultimately lead to sustainable policy, system and environmental changes. I support the Connecticut Department of Public Health's commitment to working to improve the health and well being of Connecticut's residents. I look forward to using this opportunity to promote and sustain healthy lifestyles for our Connecticut residents.

Very truly yours,

M. Jodi Rell
Governor

STATE OF CONNECTICUT

DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

November 20, 2009

Janet Collins, Ph.D., Director
National Center for Chronic Disease Prevention and Health Promotion
Centers for Disease Control and Prevention
4770 Buford Hwy, NE, MS K-40
Atlanta, GA 30341-3717

Dear Dr. Collins:

The Connecticut State Department of Education (CSDE) is pleased to support the Connecticut Department of Public Health's (DPH) application to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention's (CDC) American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (ARRA) funding for *Communities Putting Prevention to Work – Community Initiative*. This application supports evidence-based community approaches to chronic disease prevention and control in Hartford, New Haven and a cluster of rural towns in the Northeast corner of Connecticut.

The CSDE has a long and successful history of collaborating with DPH on initiatives to improve the health and education of children and adolescents. For the past several years, the CSDE has had a Memorandum of Interagency Agreement (MOA) with the DPH to administer the Connecticut School Health Survey (CSHS) to Connecticut middle and high school students. The CSHS is comprised of the Youth Tobacco component and the Youth Risk Behavioral component. This survey enables the gathering of representative data on health risk behaviors that contribute to the leading causes of death, disability and social problems among youth. Last year, the CSDE partnered with DPH to provide technical assistance and professional development to school communities supporting the use of data driven and research-based policies and programs to promote the delivery of comprehensive sexuality education. This interagency collaboration has recently been strengthened through the successful award of the CDC Cooperative Agreement 801: *Improving Health and Education Outcomes for Young People* to promote coordinated school health. These collaborations greatly enhance our efforts to reduce health and educational disparities in our State.

The CSDE is committed to continuing this very productive working relationship with DPH to promote lifelong healthy behaviors and academic achievement in children and adolescents in these communities and strongly supports the *Communities Putting Prevention to Work – Community Initiative* grant application.

Sincerely,

George A. Coleman
Deputy Commissioner of Education

GAC:kbs

NCCC Northwestern Connecticut Community College • Park Place East • Winsted, Connecticut 06098-1710

Phone: (860) 738-6300 www.nwcc.commnet.edu

November 23, 2009

J. Robert Galvin, MD, MPH, MBA
Commissioner
Connecticut Department of Public Health
410 Capitol Avenue, MS #13 COM
Hartford, CT 06134

Dear Dr. Galvin:

The Connecticut Office of Rural Health is pleased to join our partners across the state in support of the Connecticut Department of Public Health's (DPH) proposal for the CDC's funding opportunity entitled, "Communities Putting Prevention to Work." These resources will be put to work quickly to help our communities build their capacity and policy infrastructure to address key risk factors -- poor diet and lack of exercise -- that are tied to obesity and other chronic diseases. We stand ready to support especially the rural community partner in this application, the Northeast Health District, which serves twelve rural towns.

The Connecticut Office of Rural Health (CT-ORH) is funded by a federal grant from the Department of Health and Human Services, Health Resources & Services Administration through the Office of Rural Health Policy. We serve as a clearinghouse to assist in the coordination of resources and activities that promote rural health on a regional or statewide basis

- To provide technical assistance to rural health providers and organizations
- To enhance recruitment and retention efforts for rural healthcare providers
- To promote state, local, regional and federal partnerships

CT-ORH offers competitive grants each year to assist CT rural community agencies/organizations, rural hospitals, rural-serving clinics, and rural health care provider groups or organizations with specific initiatives that will positively impact access to quality health care for rural residents of CT. In recent years we have funded a number of projects aimed at improving the quality of life and promoting lifestyle changes in rural areas. The current 2009-10 state office grant awards are being used to develop, enhance, implement, or evaluate current or new rural health care initiatives. Each of this year's grant recipients must show a collaborative or coordination of community, regional or state rural healthcare efforts.

The two year infusion of ARRA resources and the resources it will leverage will be used to support critical, sustainable policy and environmental changes as well as infrastructure and organizational development that will have a lasting impact on all of the participating communities, including the rural communities in this grant program initiative. The CT Office of Rural Health will work closely with the applicants and with CDC to implement their community action plan to address the risk factors of poor nutrition and lack of physical activity.

We will join with our partners at the CT Department of Public Health to support the success of these communities in addressing policy, systems, and environmental changes by deploying our core staff capacity to provide technical assistance and make connections with other communities and models that we are engaged with.

We look forward to joining in this effort upon the grant award..

Sincerely,

Barbara C. Berger
Director

State of Connecticut
GENERAL ASSEMBLY
Commission on Children

November 25, 2009

J. Robert Galvin, MD, MPH, MBA
Commissioner
Connecticut Department of Public Health
410 Capitol Avenue, MS #13 COM
Hartford, CT 06134

Dear Dr. Galvin:

As the Executive Director of the Connecticut Commission on Children, I am writing in support of the Connecticut Department of Public Health's (DPH) proposal for the CDC's funding opportunity, *Communities Putting Prevention to Work*.

The Connecticut Commission on Children is a state agency mandated to develop policy strategies and make recommendations that improve the health, education and safety of all Connecticut children. We are particularly concerned about childhood obesity. One quarter (25.7 percent) of Connecticut children are overweight. The Commission has taken a leadership role in state efforts to prevent childhood obesity, through policy forums, training of municipal leaders, media messaging and legislative work. This year, we partnered with bicycle advocates and state legislators to work successfully for passage of a Complete Streets law, one of many state laws promoting children's health that the Commission helped enact.

The Department of Public Health's grant application represents a strategically important focus on obesity and tobacco prevention, two areas that are vitally important for the health of children and families. The Commission on Children would welcome the opportunity to partner with DPH in achieving the goals for each of the three communities in the grant and to participate in the State-Community Management Team.

The Commission on Children looks forward to the successful implementation of the *Communities Putting Prevention to Work* grant in Connecticut. We believe that this approach can help reduce the unacceptable rates of obesity and tobacco use among our state's young people and adults. Please contact me with any questions at 860-240-0290.

Sincerely,

Elaine Zimmerman
Executive Director

18-20 Trinity St. Hartford, CT 06106 Phone: (860) 240-0290 Fax: (860) 240-0248 Website: cga.ct.gov/coc

S T A T E O F C O N N E C T I C U T
DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

Marketing Bureau

November 30, 2009

J. Robert Galvin, MD, MPH, MBA
Commissioner
Connecticut Department of Public Health
410 Capitol Avenue, MS #13 COM
Hartford, CT 06134

Dear Dr. Galvin,

As Lead Agricultural Marketing Representative, and as an appointed board member of the Connecticut Food Policy Council, the Department of Agriculture is in full support of the Connecticut Department of Public Health's (DPH) proposal for the CDC's funding opportunity entitled, "Communities Putting Prevention to Work."

The Department of Agriculture is responsible for the promotion of the CT Grown Program, assisting producers with direct marketing programs, farmland preservation efforts, disseminating general information on agriculture and releasing agricultural press releases. This is accomplished by administering and coordinating the Farmers' Market Program and Senior/Women, Infants and Children (WIC) Coupon Program; CT Agricultural Directional Signage Program, Farm-to-School Program, Farm-to-Chef Program, FarmLink Program, a variety of producer and municipal grant programs, the CT Weekly Agricultural Report, agricultural commodity promotions, and the Farmland Preservation Program.

The Connecticut Food Policy Council was created by Legislative mandate in 1997, and is housed in the Connecticut Department of Agriculture. The council works to promote the development of a food policy for the State of Connecticut and the coordination of state agencies that affect food security. Food Policy refers to government actions that influence the availability, affordability, quality and safety of our food supply. Food Policy addresses such concerns as: farmland preservation, urban agriculture, emergency food supply, transportation, markets for locally-grown food, food education, child nutrition and inner-city supermarkets.

The Department of Agriculture commends DPH for taking initiative on this grant and will gladly participate in the State-Community Management Team. This grant opportunity will further enhance our joint mission with DPH to address Food Policy statewide that focuses on: farmland preservation, urban agriculture, emergency food supply, transportation, markets for locally-grown food, food education, child nutrition and inner-city supermarkets.

I am confident that the DPH approach to advancing appropriate population-based approach is necessary to achieve behavior change in youth and sustain healthy behavior into adulthood throughout our community and throughout the entire state. Please feel free to contact me with any questions.

Sincerely,

Richard Macsuga
Lead Agriculture Marketing Representative
Connecticut Department of Agriculture – Marketing Bureau

165 Capitol Avenue, Hartford, CT 06106
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STATE OF CONNECTICUT
DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

2800 BERLIN TURNPIKE, P.O. BOX 317546
NEWINGTON, CONNECTICUT 06131-7546
Phone(860) 594-2367

November 23, 2009

J. Robert Galvin, MD, MPH, MBA
Commissioner
Connecticut Department of Public Health
410 Capitol Avenue, MS #13 COM
Hartford, CT 06134

Dear Dr. Galvin,

As the State's Safe Routes to School Coordinator, I am writing in support of the Connecticut Department of Public Health's (DPH) proposal for the CDC's funding opportunity entitled, "Communities Putting Prevention to Work."

The Safe Routes to School (SRTS) program is a Federal-aid program administered by the Connecticut Department of Transportation to improve the ability of elementary and middle school students to walk and bicycle to school safely.

Specifically, the SRTS program aims to:

- Enable and encourage children in kindergarten through eighth grade, including those with disabilities, to walk and bicycle to school.
- Make walking and bicycling to school a safe and appealing transportation alternative, encouraging a healthy and active lifestyle from an early age.
- Facilitate the planning, development, and implementation of projects and activities that will improve safety and reduce traffic, fuel consumption, and air pollution in the vicinity of schools.

Levels of physical activity in children (as well as adults) have declined in the past several decades as a result of advances in technology. Childhood obesity is a growing concern. Walking or biking to school could play a valuable part in keeping children physically active. The SRTS program was designed to empower schools and communities to make walking and bicycling to school a safe and routine activity.

The SRTS program is comprised of both non-infrastructure activities and infrastructure activities. Non-infrastructure activities are those that fall under Education, Encouragement, Enforcement, and/or Evaluation activities. Infrastructure activities

generally are Engineering improvements. These five types of activities or improvements, called the five "E"'s, make up the comprehensive SRTS program and are thus included in all formal SRTS plans and programs adopted by schools and/or districts.

Connecticut has set goals to institutionalize the SRTS program at the state level by building partnerships with state-level agencies, municipalities, and advocacy organizations; developing and implementing policy changes to support walking and bicycling to school and improvements to the built environment. Representatives of the DPH have been partnering with SRTS efforts as well as serving on the Statewide SRTS Advisory Committee. In keeping with the partnership, I am willing to participate on the State-Community Management Team to assist in achieving the goals of the grant.

I am confident that the DPH methodology to institute behavior change in youth and sustain healthy behavior into adulthood throughout the entire state. Please feel free to contact me with any questions at (860)594-2367 or Sharon.okoye@ct.gov.

Sincerely,

Sharon P. Okoye

Sharon P. Okoye
Safe Routes to School Coordinator
Connecticut Department of Transportation
Office of Transportation Safety

American Heart Association®
Learn and Live℠

November 20, 2009

J. Robert Galvin, MD, MPH, MBA
Commissioner
Connecticut Department of Public Health
410 Capitol Avenue, MS #13 COM
Hartford, CT 06134

Dear Commissioner Robert J. Galvin,

As the Director of State Health Alliances for the American Heart Association, I am writing in support of the Connecticut Department of Public Health's (DPH) proposal for the CDC's funding opportunity entitled, "Communities Putting Prevention to Work."

Heart Attack, Stroke and other Cardiovascular Diseases claim the lives of nearly 870,000 people each year. Heart Disease and Stroke remains the No. 1 and No. 3 killers in the United States.

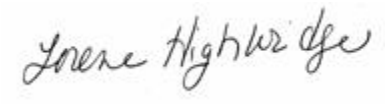
The American Heart Association is dedicated to building healthier lives, free of Cardiovascular Disease. The American Heart Association conducts research, advocates for policy change, engages in educational campaigns including START focusing on employee wellness, Go Red for Women, the Power to End Stroke, and the Alliance for a Healthier Generation, Go Healthy Challenge for children. Additionally, we participate in community based programs such as Search Your Heart, our faith based Heart Disease and Stroke Education and Prevention Program. The American Heart Association supports community-based initiatives that engage schools, businesses, health care providers, local agencies and other community sectors to work together to promote risk factor prevention and education for Cardiovascular Diseases for Connecticut residents.

This grant provides an opportunity to improve the lives of Connecticut residents through sustainable evidence-based practices. This will allow the state to create ways for our residents to adopt healthy lifestyles contributing directly to the prevention, delay or reduction of the effects of physical inactivity, poor nutrition, and tobacco use, as well as, further reducing the burden of Cardiovascular Disease, Obesity and Diabetes.

The American Heart Association is pleased to provide support for the goals and objectives of this initiative and offer our support to the Connecticut Department of Public Health. I would be pleased to serve on the State- Community Management Team and provide guidance, oversight, and support community programs that promote policy, systems and organizational change that will enhance and strengthen chronic disease prevention.

I am confident that the DPH approach to advancing appropriate population-based targets is necessary to achieve behavior change in youth and sustain healthy behavior into adulthood throughout our community and throughout the entire state. Please feel free to contact me with any questions.

Sincerely,



Lorene Highbridge
Director of State Health Alliances
American Heart Association
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203-294-3521 / 203-294-3577
lorene.highbridge@heart.org

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New Hampshire
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Fax: 603-369-3978

Rhode Island
Tel: 401-421-6487
Fax: 401-331-5266

Vermont
Tel: 802-876-6500
Fax: 802-876-6505

November 24, 2009

J. Robert Galvin, MD, MPH, MBA
Commissioner
Connecticut Department of Public Health
410 Capitol Avenue, MS #13 COM
Hartford, CT 06134

Dear Dr. Galvin,

As the Connecticut Director of Health Promotion and Public Policy from the American Lung Association of New England (ALANE), we are pleased to extend our strong and enthusiastic support of the Connecticut Department of Public Health's (DPH) proposal for the CDC's funding opportunity entitled, "Communities Putting Prevention to Work."

The American Lung Association is a statewide voluntary health organization dedicated to fighting lung disease through research, education and advocacy. Our efforts focus largely on tobacco prevention and control, assuring healthy indoor and outdoor air quality and advocating for quality affordable health care for all.

Over many years the American Lung Association has worked collaboratively with DPH in promoting services for the people of Connecticut. Specifically, if you receive this grant, ALANE in Connecticut could:

- serve in an advisory role to help identify resources, needs, and capacity regarding tobacco prevention and cessation programming that exists throughout the state,
- act as a participant in the strategic planning sessions for school-based interventions,
- and participate in coalitions or the State Community Management Team.

We value your deep commitment to advancing appropriate population-based approaches and we look forward to continuing our collaboration on behalf of children, youth and their families. Please feel free to contact me at 860.838.4376 or dmays-hardy@lungne.org with any questions.

Sincerely,

Dawn Mays-Hardy

Dawn Mays-Hardy, MS
Director, Health Promotion and Public Policy
American Lung Association of New England

Community Health Charities New England
WORKING FOR A HEALTHY AMERICA

STOP DIABETES

November 27, 2009

J. Robert Galvin, MD, MPH, MBA
Commissioner
Connecticut Department of Public Health
410 Capitol Avenue, MS #13 COM
Hartford, CT 06134

Dear Dr. Galvin,

As the Executive Director of the American Diabetes Association in Connecticut, I am writing in support of the Connecticut Department of Public Health's (DPH) proposal for the CDC's funding opportunity entitled, "Communities Putting Prevention to Work."

The American Diabetes Association is the **only** non-profit health agency in Connecticut that is dedicated to finding a cause, cure and preventative for **all types of diabetes**. We do this by reaching our nearly 230,000 Connecticut neighbors and friends who are living with diabetes, and providing the latest information and techniques designed to prevent and cure diabetes, and improve the lives of all people affected by diabetes.

As a partner and supporter of the State of Connecticut's Diabetes Prevention and Control Plan, I strongly believe that this grant will help to meet several measureable outcomes in preventing diabetes, and its devastating complications. In addition, we would be very excited to play a role in the State-Community Management Team, when the opportunity becomes available.

I am confident that the DPH approach to advancing appropriate population-based approach is necessary to achieve behavior change in youth and sustain healthy behavior into adulthood throughout our community and throughout the entire state. Please feel free to contact me with any questions.

Kindest regards,
Robert Smith

Robert M. Smith
Executive Director
Connecticut and Western Massachusetts

Connecticut Office
306 Industrial Park Rd, Suite 105
Middletown, CT 06457
Tel: 203.639.0385
Fax: 860.632.5098

Diabetes Information
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online www.diabetes.org
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November 30, 2009

J. Robert Galvin, MD, MPH, MBA
Commissioner
Connecticut Department of Public Health
410 Capitol Avenue, MS #13 COM
Hartford, CT 06134

Joan Segal
President

Tracey Scraba
President-elect

Sam Crowley
Treasurer

Philip Greiner
Secretary

Charles Huntington
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Kimberly Pelletier
Baker Salsbury
Cyndi Billian Stern
Kristin Sullivan
Maria Thomas
Kathi Traugh
Tracy Van Oss

CPHA Staff
Eileen Kehl
Greg Wark

CPHA is an affiliate of the American Public Health Association

Dear Dr. Galvin,

As the incoming President of The Connecticut Public Health Association, Inc. (CPHA), I am writing in support of the Connecticut Department of Public Health's (DPH) proposal for the CDC's funding opportunity entitled, "Communities Putting Prevention to Work."

For over 90 years, CPHA has been committed to improving the quality of the public health profession and advocating for policies and programs that promote health and prevent disease. Our members, representing a wide variety of disciplines, are united in the goal of protecting and promoting the public's health.

CPHA fully supports the importance of the grant opportunity at hand and can play a key role in the activities being proposed. Through its investment in advocacy and education resources, CPHA has been dedicated to improving overall community health. For example, CPHA was a key stakeholder in supporting and passing the Connecticut smoking ban and reducing childhood obesity by supporting healthy options in schools.

CPHA currently participates in several community coalitions and is continually growing to meet the state's public health priorities as they change and evolve over time. CPHA would be happy to have a representative participate in the ***State-Community Management Team***.

I am confident that the DPH approach to advancing appropriate population-based approach is necessary to achieve behavior change in youth and sustain healthy behavior into adulthood throughout our community and throughout the entire state. Please feel free to contact me with any questions.

Sincerely,

Tracey E. Scraba, JD, MPH
President-Elect
The Connecticut Public Health Association, Inc.
(860) 966-9018 (phone)
Tracey.scraba@cpha.info

Connecticut CANCER Partnership
The Power of Unity

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Rocky Hill. CT 06067
203-379-4860
203-379-5060 fax
ctcancerpartnership.org

November 23, 2009

J. Robert Galvin, MD, MPH, MBA
Commissioner
Connecticut Department of Public Health
410 Capitol Avenue, MS #13 COM
Hartford, CT 06134

Dear Dr. Galvin,

As the Director of the Connecticut Cancer Partnership, I am writing in support of the Connecticut Department of Public Health's (DPH) proposal for the CDC's funding opportunity entitled, "Communities Putting Prevention to Work."

Over the past 15 months, a broad coalition including members from 150 organizations across the state worked diligently to create a plan, delineating their common mission of reducing the burden of cancer in Connecticut. This plan has identified as one of its goals "to reduce cancer risk, incidence, and mortality, through the development and adoption of policies and interventions that support healthy lifestyles and risk reduction practice among children and adults." Specific objectives address the increasing the percentage of adults and youth who consume at least five fruits and vegetables per day as well as increasing the percentage of people who engage in regular physical activity. I see the New Haven and Northeast District proposals as ideal opportunities to support an initiative vital to the success of the **Connecticut Cancer Plan, 2009-2013.**

The City of Hartford's anti-tobacco campaign meshes perfectly with another one of the **Cancer Plan** objectives—that of decreasing tobacco use among adults and youth.

I am confident that the DPH approach to advancing appropriate population-based approach is necessary to achieve behavior change in youth and sustain healthy behavior into adulthood throughout our community and throughout the entire state. Please feel free to contact me with any questions.

I know I speak for the Connecticut Cancer Partnership Board and committee chairs in their enthusiastic support of these proposals.

Sincerely,

Lucinda H. Hogarty

Lucinda H. Hogarty, MPH
Director
Connecticut Cancer Partnership

COMMITTEES:

ARMED SERVICES
SUBCOMMITTEES:
READINESS
SEAPOWER AND EXPEDITIONARY FORCES

EDUCATION AND LABOR
SUBCOMMITTEES:
HIGHER EDUCATION
HEALTH, EMPLOYMENT, LABOR, AND PENSION

Joe Courtney
Congress of the United States
2nd District, Connecticut

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F (202) 225-4977

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F (860) 886-2974

77 HAZARD AVENUE, UNIT J
ENFIELD, CT 06082
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F (860) 741-8036

November 9, 2009

J. Robert Galvin, MD, MPH, MBA
Commissioner, Connecticut Department of Public Health
410 Capitol Avenue, MS #13 COM
Hartford, CT 06134

Dear Dr. Galvin:

I am writing in strong support of the Connecticut Department of Public Health's (DPH) proposal for the CDC's funding opportunity entitled, "Communities Putting Prevention to Work (CPPW)." My specific support is for the HealthQuest Northeast Connecticut application through the Northeast District Department of Health (NDDH), which serves 12 towns and approximately 86,000 residents in northeastern Connecticut.

HealthQuest was recently selected as a national ACHIEVE community to reduce the incidence of chronic disease through policy, system and environmental change related to increased physical activity and better nutrition. I support their application to the CPPW initiative and their ability to meet reporting requirements outlined in the funding opportunity announcement.

Community level interventions show some of the most promising approaches to attacking the national crisis of obesity and can lead to job creation through support to coalition members whose work is necessary to make needed change and by the focus of this work.

During these difficult budget times, there is no greater challenge to the nation's economy than the cost of treating chronic disease and obesity – most of which are preventable.
Years of research and funding have amassed a wealth of knowledge and proven strategies to increase physical activity and advance healthy eating, but to date that knowledge has not yet reached our communities. Support of HealthQuest for a CPPW grant will advance this important effort.

The Northeast Connecticut region represents a population of 86,000 citizens. I believe that CPPW will truly help to improve the health of our constituents so that they will not suffer from the human and economic costs of chronic disease.

Please give this grant application full and fair consideration and if you have any questions, please contact my District Director, Jenny Contois, at 860-886-0139

Sincerely,

Joe Courtney

JOE COURTNEY
Member of Congress

PRINTED ON RECYCLED PAPER

Room 3300
Legislative Office Building
Hartford, Connecticut 06106-1591

860-240-8600
Williams@senatedems.ct.gov
www.senatedems.ct.gov

State of Connecticut

SENATOR DONALD E. WILLIAMS, JR.
Twenty-ninth District
President Pro Tempore

November 10, 2009

J. Robert Galvin, MD, MPH, MBA
Commissioner, Connecticut Department of Public Health
410 Capitol Avenue, MS #13 COM
Hartford, CT 06134

Dear Commissioner Galvin,

As a State Senator serving Northeast Connecticut, I am writing in support of the Connecticut Department of Public Health's (DPH) proposal for the CDC's funding opportunity entitled, "Communities Putting Prevention to Work (CPPW)." My specific support is for the HealthQuest Northeast Connecticut application through the Northeast District Department of Health (NDDH), which serves 12 towns and approximately 86,000 residents in northeastern Connecticut.

HealthQuest was recently selected as a national ACHIEVE community to reduce the incidence of chronic disease through policy, system and environmental change related to increased physical activity and better nutrition. I support their application to the CPPW initiative and their ability to meet reporting requirements outlined in the funding opportunity announcement.

Community level interventions show some of the most promising approaches to attacking the national crisis of obesity and can lead to job creation through support to coalition members whose work is necessary to make needed change and by the focus of this work.

During these difficult budget times, there is no greater challenge to the nation's economy than the cost of treating chronic disease and obesity – most of which are preventable.
Years of research and funding have amassed a wealth of knowledge and proven strategies to increase physical activity and advance healthy eating, but to date that knowledge has not yet reached our communities. Support of HealthQuest for a CPPW grant will advance this important effort.

The 29th Senatorial District is comprised of Brooklyn, Canterbury, Killingly, Mansfield, Putnam, Scotland, Thompson & Windham and represents a population of roughly 88,500 citizens. I believe that CPPW will truly help to improve the health of my constituents and ensure that our generation of American children outlive their parents and do not suffer from the human and economic costs of chronic disease.

Very truly yours,

Donald E. Williams, Jr.
President Pro Tempore
Connecticut State Senate

State of Connecticut
SENATE
STATE CAPITOL
HARTFORD, CONNECTICUT 06106-1591

SENATOR TONY GUGLIELMO
THIRTY-FIFTH DISTRICT

100 STAFFORD STREET
STAFFORD SPRINGS, CONNECTICUT 06076

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CHIEF DEPUTY MINORITY LEADER

RANKING MEMBER
LABOR AND PUBLIC EMPLOYEES COMMITTEE
PUBLIC SAFETY AND SECURITY COMMITTEE

MEMBER
FINANCE, REVENUE AND BONDING COMMITTEE
PROGRAM REVIEW AND INVESTIGATIONS COMMITTEE

November 12, 2009

Commissioner J. Robert Galvin, MD MPH, MBA
Connecticut Department of Public Health
410 Capitol Avenue – MS13 COM
Hartford, CT 06134

Dear Dr. Galvin:

I am writing in support of the Connecticut Department of Public Health's proposal for the CDC's funding opportunity entitled, "Communities Putting Prevention to Work (CPPW)." I am supporting the HealthQuest Northeast Connecticut Application which is being presented to you through the Northeast District Department of Public Health. As you know, this health district serves 12 communities and almost 90,000 people and is located in the northeast corner of our State. HealthQuest was recently selected as a National ACHIEVE Community to help reduce the incidence of chronic disease. This would be achieved through policy, system, and environmental change which is related to increased physical activity and better nutrition. I support CPPW's initiative because I believe they have the ability to meet the reporting requirements that are outlined in the funding opportunity announcement.

Community level interventions show some of the most promising approaches to attacking the national crisis of obesity can lead to job creation through support to coalition members whose work is necessary to make needed change and by the focus of this work. During these difficult economic times there is no greater challenge to the nation's economic health than to control the cost of treating chronic disease and obesity. Most of these issues are preventable. There have been years of research and a wealth of knowledge and proven strategies initiated to increase physical activity and advance healthy eating, but to date, that knowledge has not reached our local communities. Support of HealthQuest for a CPWW Grant will advance this important effort.

As you know I represent the 35th Senate District which comprises most of the towns in Tolland County and some in Windham County and the District has 90,000 voters. It is my belief that the CPPW can help improve the health of my constituents and ensure that a generation of Americans are healthier than their parents. It would also reduce the human suffering and economic costs caused by chronic disease.

Sincerely,

Tony

Tony Guglielmo
State Senator

TG/tlw

SENATOR ANDREW M. MAYNARD

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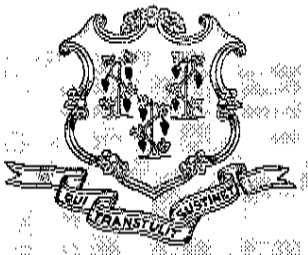

State of Connecticut

SENATE
Eighteenth District

Assistant Majority Whip
Chair
Veterans' Affairs
Member
Environment
General Law
Program Review & Investigations

November 11, 2009

J. Robert Galvin, MD, MPH, MBA
Commissioner, Connecticut Department of Public Health
410 Capitol Avenue, MS #13 COM
Hartford, CT 06134

Dear Dr. Galvin,

As the State Senator representing the 18th District, I am writing in support of the Connecticut Department of Public Health's proposal for the CDC's funding opportunity entitled, "Communities Putting Prevention to Work (CPPW)." My support is for the HealthQuest Northeast Connecticut application through the Northeast District Department of Health, which serves approximately 86,000 residents in northeastern Connecticut many of whom are my constituents.

Over the past two years the HealthQuest coalition has worked together to reduce obesity by improving physical activity and promoting healthy eating in our schools, businesses and communities. In May of this year the coalition launched a school-wide walking initiative in the Plainfield School System that earned national attention which has resulted in the decision of the school system to implement a 10-minute walk to start each school day.

The HealthQuest coalition has also received an $85,000 grant this past year from the National Association of Chronic Disease Directors and was selected as a national ACHIEVE community, charged with the mission of reducing obesity by implementing policy, environmental and system changes.

During these difficult times, we as a state and nation are facing numerous and unprecedented challenges regarding rising healthcare costs and unemployment. Support of HealthQuest for a CPPW grant will serve to address both of these issues in Northeastern Connecticut by enabling the coalition to increase its efforts in treating chronic disease and obesity – most of which are preventable. This grant will also fund existing salaries and create new jobs in this region as people will be needed to effectively manage the program.

As a legislator representing this area of the state I ask that you give this request all due consideration. If you have any questions regarding this matter please feel free to contact me directly.

Best regards,

Andrew M. Maynard

State of Connecticut

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

STATE CAPITOL
HARTFORD, CONNECTICUT 06106-1591

REPRESENTATIVE MIKE ALBERTS
FIFTIETH DISTRICT

35 CORNFIELD POINT
WOODSTOCK, CONNECTICUT 06281
TELEPHONE
HOME: (860) 974-3663
CAPITOL: 1-800-842-1423
(860) 240-8700
EMAIL: Mike.Alberts@housegop.ct.gov

RANKING MEMBER
COMMERCE COMMITTEE

MEMBER
INSURANCE COMMITTEE
HIGHER EDUCATION COMMITTEE
SELECT COMMITTEE ON CHILDREN

November 12, 2009

Honorable J. Robert Galvin, M.D., Commissioner
Department of Public Health
410 Capitol Avenue
Hartford, CT 06106

Dear Commissioner Galvin,

I am writing in support of the Department of Public Health's (DPH) proposal for the Centers for Disease Control's grant opportunity entitled, "Communities Putting Prevention to Work (CPPW)." As the Department prepares its narratives for the CDC, I would greatly appreciate HealthQuest Northeast be on the top of the list. The Northeast District Department of Health and coalition members are excited to have this opportunity to be eligible for this funding.

HealthQuest was recently selected as a national ACHIEVE community to reduce the incidence of chronic disease through policy, system, and environmental change related to increased physical activity and better nutrition.

Coalition members of HealthQuest believe their methods show some of the most promising approaches to attacking the crisis of obesity at the grassroots level. Years of research and clinical data are available and with this type of financial backing these best practices can be implemented.

I believe that CPPW will help to improve the health of my constituents and area residents who would be assisted by HealthQuest Northeast. I appreciate your time and attention to their application.

Sincerely,

Mike Alberts
State Representative

SERVING BROOKLYN, EASTFORD, HAMPTON, POMFRET, WOODSTOCK

State of Connecticut

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

STATE CAPITOL
HARTFORD, CONNECTICUT 06106-1591

REPRESENTATIVE CHRISTOPHER D. COUTU
FORTY SEVENTH ASSEMBLY DISTRICT

LEGISLATIVE OFFICE BUILDING, ROOM 4200
HARTFORD, CT 06106-1591

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MEMBER
FINANCE, REVENUE AND BONDING COMMITTEE
JUDICIARY COMMITTEE
HUMAN SERVICES COMMITTEE
SELECT COMMITTEE ON VETERANS' AFFAIRS

November 10, 2009

Honorable J. Robert Galvin, M.D., Commissioner
Department of Public Health
410 Capitol Avenue
Hartford, CT 06106

Dear Commissioner Galvin,

I am writing in overall support of the Department's proposal for the Centers for Disease Control's (CDC) funding opportunity, "Communities Putting Prevention to Work (CPPW)." As the Department develops its priority list for the CDC, I would respectfully ask that *HealthQuest Northeast* application through the Northeast District Department of Health (NDDH), which serves 12 towns and approximately 86,000 residents in northeastern Connecticut be made a priority.

HealthQuest was recently selected as a national ACHIEVE community to reduce the incidence of chronic disease through policy, system and environmental change related to increased physical activity and better nutrition. Community level interventions show some of the most promising approaches to attacking the national crisis of obesity

The cost of treating chronic disease and obesity is one of the greatest challenges both our state and nation are facing. The causes of obesity are well documented and the potential consequences over the long term have been studied. Support of *HealthQuest's* advocacy and efforts on behalf of the residents will advance this important quality of life issue in Connecticut.

I appreciate the Department's efforts in making our residents healthier and improving their quality of life.

Sincerely,

Christopher D. Coutu

Please visit my website at
http://repcoutu.com/

State of Connecticut
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
STATE CAPITOL
HARTFORD, CONNECTICUT 06106-1591

REPRESENTATIVE MAE FLEXER
FORTY-FOURTH ASSEMBLY DISTRICT

LEGISLATIVE OFFICE BUILDING
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E-MAIL: Mae.Flexer@cga.ct.gov

MEMBER
HIGHER EDUCATION AND EMPLOYMENT ADVANCEMENT COMMITTEE
HUMAN SERVICES COMMITTEE
PLANNING AND DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE
INTERNSHIP COMMITTEE

November 9, 2009

J. Robert Galvin, MD, MPH, MBA
Commissioner, Connecticut Department of Public Health
410 Capitol Avenue, MS #13 COM
Hartford, CT 06134

Dear Dr. Galvin,

I am writing in support of the Connecticut Department of Public Health's (DPH) proposal for the CDC's funding opportunity entitled, "Communities Putting Prevention to Work (CPPW)." My specific support is for the HealthQuest Northeast Connecticut application through the Northeast District Department of Health (NDDH), which serves 12 towns and approximately 86,000 residents in northeastern Connecticut.

HealthQuest Northeast CT was recently selected as a national ACHIEVE community to reduce the incidence of chronic disease through environmental, system and policy changes, related to increased physical activity and better nutrition. I support their CPPW application and their ability to meet reporting requirements outlined in the funding opportunity announcement.

One of the greatest challenges facing our health care system and our economy is the cost of treating chronic disease and obesity – most of which are preventable. Years of research and funding have amassed a wealth of knowledge and proven strategies to increase physical activity and advance healthy eating, but to date that knowledge has not yet fully reached our communities. Support of HealthQuest for a CPPW grant will advance this important effort in northeastern Connecticut.

If you should need more information, please feel free to contact me. Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Mae Flexer

Mae Flexer

In the district: 98 Reynolds Street - Danielson, CT 06239

SERVING KILLINGLY, PLAINFIELD & STERLING

State of Connecticut

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

STATE CAPITOL
HARTFORD, CONNECTICUT 06106-1591

REPRESENTATIVE SHAWN T. JOHNSTON
FIFTY-FIRST ASSEMBLY DISTRICT

222 RAVENELLE ROAD
NORTH GROSVENORDALE, CT 06255
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MEMBER
COMMERCE COMMITTEE
HUMAN SERVICES COMMITTEE
EXECUTIVE AND LEGISLATIVE NOMINATIONS COMMITTEE

November 13, 2009

J. Robert Galvin, MD, MPH, MBA
Commissioner, Connecticut Department of Public Health
410 Capitol Avenue, MS #13 COM
Hartford, CT 06134

Dear Dr. Galvin:

As the state representative of Connecticut's 51st Assembly District, representing the towns of Putnam, Thompson and Killingly, I am writing in support of the Connecticut Department of Public Health's (DPH) proposal for the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) funding opportunity entitled, "Communities Putting Prevention to Work (CPPW)." My specific support is for the HealthQuest Northeast Connecticut application, through the Northeast District Department of Health (NDDH), which serves 12 towns and approximately 86,000 residents in northeastern Connecticut.

Since HealthQuest was recently selected as a national ACHIEVE community, they are well positioned to successfully carryout the requirements of the CPPW initiative. I have no doubt of their ability to meet program goals and objectives and all associated reporting requirements.

In northeastern Connecticut we take pride in our ability to prudently use the financial resources available to us. Moreover, since we have this funding opportunity and based on our long, positive and proven track record of performance, I am certain we will use these new resources effectively and fully.

Sincerely,

Shawn

Shawn T. Johnston
State Representative

Serving:
Putnam, Thompson and Killingly

State of Connecticut
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
STATE CAPITOL
HARTFORD, CONNECTICUT 06106-1591

REPRESENTATIVE STEVEN T. MIKUTEL
45TH ASSEMBLY DISTRICT

LEGISLATIVE OFFICE BUILDING
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VICE CHAIRMAN
TRANSPORTATION COMMITTEE

MEMBER
EDUCATION COMMITTEE
PUBLIC SAFETY AND SECURITY COMMITTEE

November 9, 2009

J. Robert Galvin, MD, MPH, MBA
Commissioner, Connecticut Department of Public Health
410 Capitol Avenue, MS #13 COM
Hartford, CT 06134

Dear Dr. Galvin,

As the State Representative for the 45th General Assembly District, I am writing in support of the Connecticut Department of Public Health's (DPH) proposal for the CDC's funding opportunity entitled, "Communities Putting Prevention to Work (CPPW)." My specific support is for the HealthQuest Northeast Connecticut application through the Northeast District Department of Health (NDDH), which serves 12 towns and approximately 86,000 residents in northeastern Connecticut.

HealthQuest was recently selected as a national ACHIEVE community to reduce the incidence of chronic disease through policy, system and environmental change related to increased physical activity and better nutrition. I support their application to the CPPW initiative and their ability to meet reporting requirements outlined in the funding opportunity announcement.

Community level interventions show some of the most promising approaches to attacking the national crisis of obesity and can lead to job creation through support to coalition members whose work is necessary to make needed change and by the focus of this work.

During these difficult budget times, there is no greater challenge to the nation's economy than the cost of treating chronic disease and obesity – most of which are preventable. Years of research and funding have amassed a wealth of knowledge and proven strategies to increase physical activity and advance healthy eating, but to date that knowledge has not yet reached our communities. Support of HealthQuest for a CPPW grant will advance this important effort.

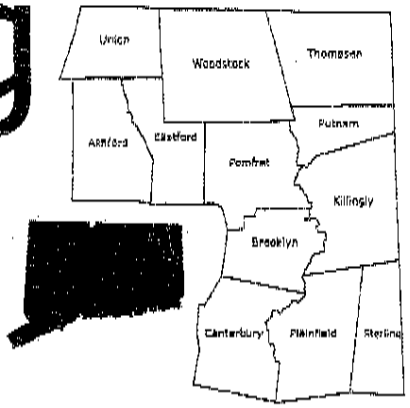
We believe that CPPW will truly help to improve the health of our constituents and ensure that our generation of American children outlive their parents and do not suffer from the human and economic costs of chronic disease.

Sincerely,

Steven Mikutel
State Representative

neccog

northeastern connecticut council of governments



November 10, 2009

The Honorable J. Robert Galvin, MD
Commissioner, Connecticut Department of Public Health
410 Capitol Avenue, MS #13 COM
Hartford, CT 06134

Dear Dr. Galvin:

On behalf of the twelve member towns of the Northeastern Connecticut Council of Governments (NECCOG), I am writing to express our strong support for the HealthQuest Northeast Connecticut application through the Northeast District Department of Health (NDDH) under the Center for Disease Control "Communities Putting Prevention to Work (CPPW)" Program. Our 12 member towns, which are each represented by their respective chief-elected official, include 11 of the NDDH towns: Brooklyn, Canterbury, Eastford, Killingly, Plainfield, Pomfret, Putnam, Sterling, Thompson, Union, and Woodstock. The CPPW Program is a unique opportunity to improve the health of our region's children. The Northeast District Department of Health has put together a strong proposal that ensures that the intent of that program is realized.

HealthQuest, with the stewardship of NDDH, has made impressive and needed contributions to our region. With the leadership of HealthQuest we have seen an increase healthy eating habits, better awareness of proper nutrition, and increasing physical activity. This proactive approach to health is one that benefits our individual residents and our community at large. The proposal put forth by NDDH under the CPPW Program will further foster the work they have begun under HealthQuest resulting in improved health through the reduction of chronic disease.

Thank you for your consideration of our position. Please do not hesitate to contact me should you need any additional information.

Sincerely,

John Filchak
Executive Director

125 Putnam Pike (PO Box 759), Dayville, CT 06241 - 860-774-1253 - fax: 860-779-2056 - neccogoffices@neccog.com

Harvard H. Ellis Technical High School

Administrative Office

November 9, 2009

J. Robert Galvin, MD, MPH, MBA
Commissioner
Connecticut Department of Public Health
410 Capitol Avenue, MS #13 COM
Hartford, CT 06134

Dear Dr. Galvin,

As the principal of H.H. Ellis Technical High School, I am writing in support of the Connecticut Department of Public Health's (DPH) proposal for the CDC's funding opportunity entitled, "Communities Putting Prevention to Work (CPPW)." My specific support is for the HealthQuest Northeast Connecticut application through the Northeast District Department of Health (NDDH), which serves 12 towns and approximately 86,000 residents in northeastern Connecticut.

HealthQuest was recently selected as a national ACHIEVE community to reduce the incidence of chronic disease through policy, system and environmental change related to increased physical activity and better nutrition. Our school district also enjoys a collaborative partnership with NDDH on obesity grants, oral health, Tools for Schools, asthma management, and other prevention initiatives.

H. H. Ellis THS serves approximately 576 children from 17 surrounding towns. Current lack of opportunities for physical activity before, during and after school, and limited access to healthy foods both at school and at home make this grant particularly important to our population.

H.H. Ellis THS commits to participating in a special administration of the Youth Risk Behavioral Surveillance System (YRBSS) survey using a reduced set of questions specific to physical activity, nutrition and tobacco use. This protocol will be used for baseline during the fall semester of the 2010/11 school year and follow-up at the end of the project period.

I am confident that the DPH approach to advancing appropriate population-based strategies is necessary to achieve behavior change in youth and sustain healthy behavior into adulthood.

Sincerely,

Brian K. Mignault, Sr., Ph.D.
Principal

NORTHEAST DISTRICT
DEPT OF HEALTH
2009 NOV 16 A 11:09

613 Upper Maple Street · Danielson CT 06239 · Tel. (860) 774-8511 ext. 1411
FAX (860) 779-1563 · e-mail: Brian.Mignault@ct.gov

William M. Silver, Ed.D.
Superintendent of Schools
bsilver@killinglyschools.org

KILLINGLY PUBLIC SCHOOLS

Great Things Happen Here!

Bradford W. Thompson
Assistant Superintendent of Schools
bthompson@killinglyschools.org

November 9, 2009

J. Robert Galvin, MD, MPH, MBA
Commissioner
Connecticut Department of Public Health
410 Capitol Avenue, MS #13 COM
Hartford, CT 06134

Dear Dr. Galvin,

As the Superintendent of the Killingly Public Schools, I am writing in support of the Connecticut Department of Public Health's (DPH) proposal for the CDC's funding opportunity entitled, "Communities Putting Prevention to Work (CPPW)." My specific support is for the HealthQuest Northeast Connecticut application through the Northeast District Department of Health (NDDH), which serves 12 towns and approximately 86,000 residents in northeastern Connecticut.

HealthQuest was recently selected as a national ACHIEVE community to reduce the incidence of chronic disease through policy, system and environmental change related to increased physical activity and better nutrition. Our school district also enjoys a collaborative partnership with NDDH on obesity grants, oral health, Tools for Schools, asthma management, and other prevention initiatives.

The Killingly Public School System serves approximately 2700 children from an overall population of 17,000 citizens in the town of Killingly. Current lack of opportunities for physical activity before, during and after school, and limited access to healthy foods both at school and at home make this grant particularly important to our population.

The Killingly Public School System commits to participating in a special administration of the Youth Risk Behavioral Surveillance System (YRBSS) survey using a reduced set of questions specific to physical activity, nutrition and tobacco use. This protocol will be used for baseline during the fall semester of the 2010/11 school year and follow-up at the end of the project period.

I am confident that the DPH approach to advancing appropriate population-based strategies is necessary to achieve behavior change in youth and sustain healthy behavior into adulthood.

Sincerely,

William M. Silver
Superintendent of Schools

PLAINFIELD PUBLIC SCHOOLS

651 NORWICH ROAD
PLAINFIELD, CT 06374
(860) 564-6403
(860) 564-6412 (FAX)

Shirley Farrell, Chair
Board of Education

Angeline Kwasny, Vice Chair
Board of Education

Mary P. Conway, Ed.D.
Superintendent of Schools

Ronald Lussier
Business Manager

November 9, 2009

J. Robert Galvin, MD, MPH, MBA
Commissioner
Connecticut Department of Public Health
410 Capitol Avenue, MS #13 COM
Hartford, CT 06134

Dear Dr. Galvin,

As the Superintendent of the Plainfield Public Schools, I am writing in support of the Connecticut Department of Public Health's (DPH) proposal for the CDC's funding opportunity entitled, "Communities Putting Prevention to Work" (CPPW). My specific support is for the HealthQuest Northeast Connecticut application through the Northeast District Department of Health (NDDH), which serves 12 towns and approximately 86,000 residents in northeastern Connecticut.

HealthQuest was recently selected as a national ACHIEVE community to reduce the incidence of chronic disease through policy, system and environmental change related to increased physical activity and better nutrition. Our school district also enjoys a collaborative partnership with NDDH on obesity grants, oral health, Tools for Schools, asthma management, and other prevention initiatives.

The Plainfield Public School system serves approximately 2800 children from an overall population of 14,500 citizens in the town of Plainfield. Current lack of opportunities for physical activity before, during and after school, and limited access to healthy foods both at school and at home make this grant particularly important to our population.

The Plainfield Public School system commits to participating in a special administration of the Youth Risk Behavioral Surveillance System (YRBSS) survey using a reduced set of questions specific to physical activity, nutrition, and tobacco use. This protocol will be used for baseline during the fall semester of the 2010/11 school year and follow-up at the end of the project period.

I am confident that the DPH approach to advancing appropriate population-based strategies is necessary to achieve behavior change in youth and sustain healthy behavior into adulthood.

Sincerely,

Mary P. Conway

Mary P. Conway, Ed.D.
Superintendent of Schools

PUTNAM PUBLIC SCHOOLS

126 Church Street
Putnam, CT 06260-1890
Phone: 860-963-6900 • Fax: 860-963-6903
www.putnam.k12.ct.us

William J. Hull
Superintendent of Schools

Nancy T. Cole
Business Administrator

Jill S. Keith
Director of Special Education

Monica M. Giglio
Curriculum Director

November 9, 2009

J. Robert Galvin, MD, MPH, MBA
Commissioner of Connecticut Department of Public Health
410 Capitol Avenue, MS #13 COM
Hartford, CT 06134

Dear Dr. Galvin,

As the Superintendent of Putnam Public Schools, I am writing in support of the Connecticut Department of Public Health's (DPH) proposal for the CDC's funding opportunity entitled, "Communities Putting Prevention to Work (CPPW)." My specific support is for the HealthQuest Northeast Connecticut application through the Northeast District Department of Health (NDDH), which serves 12 towns and approximately 86,000 residents in northeastern Connecticut.

HealthQuest was recently selected as a national ACHIEVE community to reduce the incidence of chronic disease through policy, system and environmental change related to increased physical activity and better nutrition. Our school district also enjoys a collaborative partnership with NDDH on obesity grants, oral health, Tools for Schools, asthma management, and other prevention initiatives.

The Putnam Public School System serves approximately 1230 children from an overall population of 9000 citizens in the town of Putnam. Current lack of opportunities for physical activity before, during and after school, and limited access to healthy foods both at school and at home make this grant particularly important to our population.

The Putnam Public Schools commits to participating in a special administration of the Youth Risk Behavioral Surveillance System (YRBSS) survey using a reduced set of questions specific to physical activity, nutrition and tobacco use. This protocol will be used for baseline during the fall semester of the 2010/11 school year and follow-up at the end of the project period.

I am confident that the DPH approach to advancing appropriate population-based strategies is necessary to achieve behavior change in youth and sustain healthy behavior into adulthood.

Sincerely,

William J. Hull
Superintendent of Schools

2009 NOV 12 P 2: 10
NORTHEAST DISTRICT
DEPT OF HEALTH

THOMPSON PUBLIC SCHOOLS
785 Riverside Drive
North Grosvenordale, Connecticut 06255
Web site: www.thompsonpublicschools.org
Phone #: 860-923-9581 Fax #: 860-923-9638

Michael W. Jolin, Ph.D.
Superintendent of Schools
Marna E. Hasz
Coordinator of Special Services
Beverly J. Caparco
Business Manager

mjolin@thompsonpublicschools.org
mhasz@ thompsonpublicschools.org
bcaparco@ thompsonpublicschools.org

November 10, 2009

J. Robert Galvin, MD, MPH, MBA
Commissioner
Connecticut Department of Public Health
410 Capitol Avenue, M #13 COM
Hartford, CT 06134

Dear Dr. Galvin:

On behalf of the Thompson Board of Education and the entire Thompson education community, I am pleased to offer my strongest endorsement of the Connecticut Department of Public Health's (DPH) proposal for the CDC's funding opportunity entitled "Communities Putting Prevention to Work (CPPW)." My specific support is for the HealthQuest Northeast Connecticut application through the Northeast District Department of Health (NDDH), which serves 12 towns and approximately 86,000 residents in northeastern Connecticut.

Health Quest was recently selected as a national ACHIEVE community to reduce the incidence of chronic disease through policy, system and environmental change related to increased physical activity and better nutrition. Our school district also enjoys a collaborative partnership with NDDH on obesity grants, oral health, Tools for Schools, asthma management, and other prevention initiatives.

Our public school system services approximately 1,400 children from all an overall population of 7,500 citizens in the town of Thompson. Current lack of opportunities for physical activity before, during and after school, and limited access to healthy foods both at school and at home make this grant particularly important to our population.

The Thompson Public Schools System commits to participating in a special administration of the Youth Risk Behavioral Surveillance System (YRBSS) survey using a reduced set of questions specific to physical activity, nutrition and tobacco use. This protocol will be used for baseline during the fall semester of the 2010/2011 school year and follow-up at the end of the project period

I am confident that the DPH approach to advancing appropriate population-based strategies is necessary to achieve behavior change in youth and sustain healthy behavior into adulthood.

Sincerely,

Michael W. Jolin, PhD.
Superintendent of Schools
Thompson Public Schools
860-923-9581 Office
860-923-9638 Fax
mjolin@thompson.ctschool.net

MWJ/bg

MISSION STATEMENT

The Thompson Public Schools are committed to excellence throughout the school community. In a positive and caring environment, students will master life long learning skills to achieve individual maximum potential. Students will participate in a challenging curriculum that encourages creative and critical thinking. In partnership with community and family, we will foster the values of integrity and respect in a diverse and changing society.

WOODSTOCK ACADEMY

FOUNDED
1801

November 9, 2009

J. Robert Galvin, MD, MPH, MBA
Commissioner
Connecticut Department of Public Health
410 Capitol Avenue, MS #13 COM
Hartford, CT 06134

Dear Dr. Galvin,

As the Superintendent/Headmaster of Woodstock Academy, I am writing in support of the Connecticut Department of Public Health's (DPH) proposal for the CDC's funding opportunity entitled, "Communities Putting Prevention to Work (CPPW)." My specific support is for the HealthQuest Northeast Connecticut application through the Northeast District Department of Health (NDDH), which serves 12 towns and approximately 86,000 residents in northeastern Connecticut.

HealthQuest was recently selected as a national ACHIEVE community to reduce the incidence of chronic disease through policy, system and environmental change related to increased physical activity and better nutrition. Our school district also enjoys a collaborative partnership with NDDH on obesity grants, oral health, Tools for Schools, asthma management, and other prevention initiatives.

Woodstock Academy serves approximately 1150 children from Northeastern Connecticut. Current lack of opportunities for physical activity before, during and after school, and limited access to healthy foods both at school and at home make this grant particularly important to our population.

Woodstock Academy commits to participating in a special administration of the Youth Risk Behavioral Surveillance System (YRBSS) survey using a reduced set of questions specific to physical activity, nutrition and tobacco use. This protocol will be used for baseline during the fall semester of the 2010/11 school year and follow-up at the end of the project period.

I am confident that the DPH approach to advancing appropriate population-based strategies is necessary to achieve behavior change in youth and sustain healthy behavior into adulthood.

Sincerely,

Kim M. Caron
Superintendent/Headmaster
Woodstock Academy

57 ACADEMY ROAD • WOODSTOCK, CONNECTICUT 06281 (860) 928-6575 FAX (860) 963-7222
WWW.WOODSTOCKACADEMY.ORG

ACHIEVE ACTION COMMUNITIES FOR HEALTH, INNOVATION & ENVIRONMENTAL CHANGE

HEALTHQUEST NORTHEAST CONNECTICUT

Achieving Healthier Communities Together!

November 12, 2009

J. Robert Galvin, MD, MPH, MBA
Commissioner
Connecticut Department of Public Health
410 Capitol Avenue, MS #13 COM
Hartford, CT 06134

Dear Dr. Galvin,

As collective members of the HEALTHQUEST Northeast Connecticut Coalition, we are writing in support of the Connecticut Department of Public Health's (DPH) proposal for the CDC's funding opportunity entitled, "Communities Putting Prevention to Work (CPPW)." Our specific support is for the **HealthQuest Northeast Connecticut application** through the Northeast District Department of Health (NDDH), which serves 12 towns and approximately 86,000 residents in northeastern Connecticut.

Our region suffers from "urban problems in a rural area" and as community leaders we are actively engaged in the process of building healthier communities. Our HealthQuest coalition was delighted and privileged to be selected as a national ACHIEVE community by the National Association of Chronic Disease Directors. This initiative is helping us to reduce the incidence of chronic disease through policy, system and environmental change related to increased physical activity and better nutrition. Our current efforts will support and further the broad-based policy changes that we have selected from the CDC-proposed list of evidence-based MAPPS strategies.

Individually and collectively we offer our support to the Connecticut Department of Public Health's proposal for the CPPW funding initiative as this will assist us in fulfilling our vision of establishing environments and opportunities that afford access to healthy eating options and increased physical activity so that all residents of northeast Connecticut may experience the joys of healthy living.

Sincerely,

Linda J. Colangelo & Brittany Otto N.E. Dist. Dept. of Health	Cherie Poirier Daniel's Pharmacy	Robert Smanik, CEO Day Kimball Healthcare	Dr. Mary Conway Plainfield Schools
Delpha Very Putnam Economic & Comm. Development	Elizabeth Kuszaj NE CT Chamber of Commerce	Karen Osbrey WINY Radio Station	Dr. Marc Cerrone Day Kimball Hospital Pediatrician

HealthQuest is a national ACHIEVE community and a collaborative community health partnership of:
The Northeast District Department of Health, Day Kimball Healthcare,
Daniel's HealthMart Pharmacy, Plainfield Public Schools, The Northeastern Connecticut Chamber of Commerce,
Quinebaug Valley Community College, Town of Putnam Community Development and WINY Radio

HealthQuest Northeast Connecticut
c/o Northeast District Department of Health
69 South Main Street, Unit 4, Brooklyn, CT 06234 / 860-774-7350 / 860-774-1308 (fax)

DAY KIMBALL HOSPITAL

320 Pomfret Street Putnam, Connecticut 06260 860-928-6541 / 860-774-3366 www.daykimball.org

November 11, 2009

NORTHEAST DISTRICT
DEPT OF HEALTH
2009 NOV 16 A 9:12

J. Robert Galvin, MD, MPH, MBA
Commissioner
Connecticut Department of Public Health
410 Capitol Avenue, MS#13 COM
Hartford, CT 06134

Dear Dr. Galvin,

As the Chairman of the Board of Directors at Day Kimball Healthcare, I am writing in support of the Connecticut Department of Public Health's (DPH) proposal for the CDC's funding opportunity entitled, "Communities Putting Prevention to Work."

Day Kimball Healthcare consists of: A 104-bed community acute care hospital, a region wide homecare and hospice program, the system employs 100% of the practicing pediatricians and over 50% of the practicing adult primary care physicians located throughout the Northeast corner of CT. The healthcare system's primary service area comprises the 13 towns which make up the Northeast corner and as the area's sole hospital has enjoyed a focused and productive relationship with these communities.

The grant application submitted by HealthQuest under the leadership of the NDDH reflects the existing collaborative relationship among key organizations in Northeast CT including the Hospital. The focus of this grant aligns directly with DKH's goal of promoting a Patient Centered Primary Care structure to our work. As the regions sole provider of community pediatric care, the chronic disease implication of childhood obesity and the importance of breast feeding to child development are high areas of priority for our organization. The community and organization cooperation featured in this grant application enhance all efforts to achieve lasting impact.

I am confident that the DPH approach to advancing appropriate population-based approach is necessary to achieve behavior change in youth and sustain healthy behavior into adulthood throughout our community and throughout the entire state. Please feel free to contact me with any questions.

Sincerely,

John P. Miller
Chairman, Board of Directors

RES/alf
G:\Administration\WPDOCS\Smunik\DPH Support Ltr Communiues Putting Prevention to Work 111109.doc Miller.doc

Robert E. Smanik, FACHE
President and CEO

DAY KIMBALL HOSPITAL

320 Pomfret Street Putnam, Connecticut 06260 860-928-6541 www.daykimball.org

November 11, 2009

J. Robert Galvin, MD, MPH, MBA
Commissioner
Connecticut Department of Public Health
410 Capitol Avenue, MS#13 COM
Hartford, CT 06134

Dear Dr. Galvin,

As the President & Chief Executive Officer of Day Kimball Healthcare, I am writing in support of the Connecticut Department of Public Health's (DPH) proposal for the CDC's funding opportunity entitled, "Communities Putting Prevention to Work."

Day Kimball Healthcare consists of: A 104-bed community acute care hospital, a region wide homecare and hospice program, the system employs 100% of the practicing pediatricians and over 50% of the practicing adult primary care physicians located throughout the Northeast corner of CT. The healthcare system's primary service area comprises the 13 towns which make up the Northeast corner and as the area's sole hospital has enjoyed a focused and productive relationship with these communities.

The grant application submitted by HealthQuest under the leadership of the NDDH reflects the existing collaborative relationship among key organizations in Northeast CT including the Hospital. The focus of this grant aligns directly with DKH's goal of promoting a Patient Centered Primary Care structure to our work. As the regions sole provider of community pediatric care, the chronic disease implication of childhood obesity and the importance of breast feeding to child development are high areas of priority for our organization. The community and organization cooperation featured in this grant application enhance all efforts to achieve lasting impact.

I am confident that the DPH approach to advancing appropriate population-based approach is necessary to achieve behavior change in youth and sustain healthy behavior into adulthood throughout our community and throughout the entire state. Please feel free to contact me with any questions.

Sincerely,

Robert E. Smanik, FACHE
President & Chief Executive Officer

RES/alf
G:\Administration\WPDOCS\Smanik\DPH Support Ltr Communities Putting Prevention to Work 111109.doc

Northeastern Connecticut Chamber of Commerce
3 Central Street, Danielson, CT 06239-2853 (860) 774-8001 FAX (860) 774-4299
www.nectchamber.com

November 9, 2009

J. Robert Galvin, MD, MPH, MBA
Commissioner, Connecticut Department of Public Health
410 Capitol Avenue, MS #13 COM
Hartford, CT 06134

Dear Dr. Galvin,

As the Executive Director of the Northeastern Connecticut Chamber of Commerce, a regional Chamber serving nearly 500 businesses in the ten town region, I am writing in support of the Connecticut Department of Public Health's (DPH) proposal for the CDC's funding opportunity entitled, "Communities Putting Prevention to Work (CPPW)." My specific support is for the HealthQuest Northeast Connecticut application through the Northeast District Department of Health (NDDH), which serves 12 towns and approximately 86,000 residents in northeastern Connecticut.

HealthQuest was recently selected as a national ACHIEVE community to reduce the incidence of chronic disease through policy, system and environmental change related to increased physical activity and better nutrition. I support their application to the CPPW initiative and their ability to meet reporting requirements outlined in the funding opportunity announcement.

The Northeastern CT Chamber of Commerce has created a Worksite Wellness Committee to address a comprehensive wellness initiative within the business community. Such a program raises health awareness among employees that focuses on reducing health care costs by encouraging employees of businesses to adopt healthier behaviors. Community level interventions show some of the most promising approaches to attacking the national crisis of obesity.

During these difficult budget times, there is no greater challenge to the nation's economy than the cost of treating chronic disease and obesity – most of which are preventable. Years of research and funding have amassed a wealth of knowledge and proven strategies to increase physical activity and advance healthy eating, but to date that knowledge has not yet reached our communities. Support of HealthQuest for a CPPW grant will advance this important effort.

The Northeast Connecticut region represents a population of 86,000 citizens. We believe that CPPW will truly help to improve the health of our constituents and ensure that our generation of American children outlive their parents and do not suffer from the human and economic costs of chronic disease.

Sincerely,

Elizabeth M. Kuszaj
Executive Director

PUTNAM, CT

ECONOMIC AND COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT

NORTHEAST DISTRICT
DEPT OF HEALTH
2009 NOV 16 A 11:08

November 9, 2009

J. Robert Galvin, MD, MPH, MBA
Commissioner, Connecticut Department of Public Health
410 Capitol Avenue, MS #13 COM
Hartford, CT 06134

Dear Dr. Galvin,

As the Director of the Economic & Community Development of the Town of Putnam, I am writing in support of the Connecticut Department of Public Health's (DPH) proposal for the CDC's funding opportunity entitled, "Communities Putting Prevention to Work (CPPW)." My specific support is for the HealthQuest Northeast Connecticut application through the Northeast District Department of Health (NDDH), which serves 12 towns and approximately 86,000 residents in northeastern Connecticut.

HealthQuest was recently selected as a national ACHIEVE community to reduce the incidence of chronic disease through policy, system and environmental change related to increased physical activity and better nutrition. I support their application to the CPPW initiative and their ability to meet reporting requirements outlined in the funding opportunity announcement.

Community Development is about advocacy and strategic planning through opportunity, challenge and solutions to support policy development. As a Health Quest partner, the Putnam Community has captured opportunities in health prevention by building extensive public, walking/biking trails and a home base for our regional Farmers Market. Many residents of distressed communities in Northeastern CT have benefitted from these initiatives because of its access and walkability.

During these difficult budget times, there is no greater challenge to the nation's economy than the cost of treating chronic disease and obesity – most of which are preventable. The Putnam Economic & Community Development Commission and Redevelopment Agency believes that CPPW will truly help to improve the health of our constituents and ensure that our generation of American children outlive their parents and do not suffer from the human and economic costs of chronic disease.

Sincerely,

Delpha M. Very, Director
Putnam Economic & Community Development
107 Providence Street
Putnam, CT 06260
Phone: 860-963-6834, Fax: 860-963-6640
Email: dvery@putnamct.us

STEVEN TOWNSEND, MBA CMA
169 Barrett Hill Road
Brooklyn, CT 06234
November 9, 2009

Mr. J. Robert Galvin, MD, MPH, MBA
Commissioner, Connecticut Dept of Public Health
410 Capitol Ave, MS#13 COM
Hartford, CT 06134

Dear Dr. Galvin;

As the former Chair/CEO for United Natural Foods, Inc. a Publically Traded Company whose mission is to provide quality natural, health, and organic foods, I am writing in support of the Connecticut Dept of Public Health's proposal for the CDC funding opportunity entitled—"Communities Putting Prevention to Work (CPPW)." My specific support is for HealthQuest Northeast Connecticut Application through the Northeast District Dept of Health which serves 12 Towns and approximately 86,000 residents in Northeast Connecticut.

HealthQuest was recently selected as a national ACHIEVE community to reduce the incidence of chronic disease through policy, system and environmental change related to increased physical activity and better nutrition and nutrition awareness. I support their application for this CPPW Initiative and their ability to meet reporting requirements outlined in the funding opportunity announcement. Community level interventions show the most promising approach to attacking the national crisis we have with obesity. In addition, it can lead to job creation from the coalition members whose task it is to make these needed changes.

In light of the difficult economic times we are in, we know the high health costs associated with obesity and we know that most of these costs are Preventable! There is ample research and knowledge which has been developed over the years along with proven strategies to increase physical activity and better eating habits. Unfortunately, this knowledge has not yet reached our communities! Support for the HealthQuest Application for the CPPW Grant will help to advance this effort.

I would ask that you lend your support to the Northeast District Dept of Health's and HealthQuest's Application for the CPPW Grant as this will improve the health of our constituents and ensure that our children will live a quality life and not suffer from the human and economic costs of chronic disease.

Sincerely yours,

Steven Townsend, MBA CMA
169 Barrett Hill Road
Brooklyn, CT 06234
860-774-5359
Stownsend53@yahoo.com.

winy 1350am
5000 WATTS ON STEREO
OSBREY BROADCASTING COMPANY • P.O. BOX 231, PUTNAM, CT 06260 • (860) 928-1350

November 9, 2009

J. Robert Galvin, MD, MPH, MBA
Commissioner, Connecticut Department of Public Health
410 Capitol Avenue, MS #13 COM
Hartford, CT 06134

Dear Dr. Galvin,

As a business owner and life-long resident of northeast Connecticut, I am writing in support of the Connecticut Department of Public Health's (DPH) proposal for the CDC's funding opportunity entitled, "Communities Putting Prevention to Work (CPPW)." As a member of the HealthQuest Leadership Team, my specific support is for the HealthQuest Northeast Connecticut application through the Northeast District Department of Health (NDDH), which serves 12 towns and approximately 86,000 residents in northeastern Connecticut.

HealthQuest was recently selected as a national ACHIEVE community to reduce the incidence of chronic disease through policy, system and environmental change related to increased physical activity and better nutrition. I support their application to the CPPW initiative and their ability to meet reporting requirements outlined in the funding opportunity announcement.

Community level interventions show some of the most promising approaches to attacking the national crisis of obesity and can lead to job creation through support to coalition members whose work is necessary to make needed change and by the focus of this work.

During these difficult budget times, there is no greater challenge to the nation's economy than the cost of treating chronic disease and obesity – most of which are preventable.
Years of research and funding have amassed a wealth of knowledge and proven strategies to increase physical activity and advance healthy eating, but to date that knowledge has not yet reached our communities. Support of HealthQuest for a CPPW grant will advance this important effort.

I believe that CPPW will truly help to improve the health of our residents and ensure that our generation of American children outlive their parents and do not suffer from the human and economic costs of chronic disease.

Sincerely,

Karen Osbrey

Karen Osbrey
Owner
WINY Radio

2009 NOV 12 P 12:10
NORTHEAST DISTRICT
DEPT OF HEALTH

THOMPSON ECUMENICAL EMPOWERMENT GROUP

P.O. BOX 664, 65 MAIN ST. NORTH GROSVENORDALE, CT 06255
(860) 923-3458 Fax 860-923-5770 e mail – contact@teegonline.org

J. Robert Galvin, MD, MPH,MBA
Commissioner, CT Dept. of Public Health
410 Capitol Avenue, MS#13 COM
Hartford, CT 06134

November 12, 2009

Dear Commissioner Galvin,

Networking is the critical component to problem solving, particularly in small, rural corners of our state. When opportunities arise for communities to strengthen existing partnerships and form new ones to improve the health status northeastern Connecticut, our agency stands wholeheartedly behind them. By engaging an interdisciplinary team of partners we can build the community's capacity to better understand the interconnectedness of the health issues that face our region, and what each of us can contribute to improve them.

TEEG is committed to the HealthQuest collaborative effort and we pledge to do all within our means to promote an effective partnership with each of the confirmed partners. TEEG's mission is to empower families to achieve their highest level of independent living. We serve low income seniors, families and children with a variety of services. One specific area that we would like to explore is improving the availability of quality nutrition through our community food pantries. HealthQuest could be the effective vehicle to discuss food policy, while providing the networking opportunities between community partners to elucidate efficient changes in regional food programs.

Northeast Connecticut is dependent on several community non profit food pantries to help meet the need area seniors and families living in poverty, in addition to the nutritional resources available through our regional Community Action Program (Access Agency). Health Quest could be a vehicle to define common goals for identifying avenues to access to high quality nutritional resources, rather then the high fat, high carbohydrate foods that are so readily available to our in-need population. Systems changes to access fresh produce, meat and perishable dairy products would be an outcome this process that could have a significant health impact on our Medicaid and Medicare food pantry consumers.

TEEG has been a committed partner in building community coalitions, and will continue that commitment to this process. TEEG staff will be made available to participate in partnership meetings, as well as any ongoing research that may be necessary to pursue potential solutions to identified problems.

With the Northeast District Department of Health facilitating this endeavor, we are confident that a common plan for community health will be created. NDDH has had a strong influence on public health issues and health policy in our region. Their leadership and the commitment of invested community partners will insure successful outcomes from our Health Quest imitative.

Cordially yours,

Donna Grant

Donna Grant
Executive Director

STATE OF CONNECTICUT
DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
MARKETING

CONNECTICUT GROWN

November 13, 2009

J. Robert Galvin, MD, MPH, MBA
Commissioner, Connecticut Department of Public Health
410 Capitol Avenue, MS #13 COM
Hartford, CT 06134

Dear Dr. Galvin,

Please accept this letter as evidence of The Connecticut Department of Agriculture (DoAG)'s support for the Connecticut Department of Public Health's (DPH) proposal for the CDC's funding opportunity entitled, "Communities Putting Prevention to Work (CPPW)."

In particular, DoAG supports HealthQuest Northeast Connecticut's application through the Northeast District Department of Health (NDDH), which serves 12 towns and approximately 86,000 residents in northeastern Connecticut.

HealthQuest recently was selected as a national ACHIEVE community to reduce the incidence of chronic disease through policy, system and environmental change related to increased physical activity and better nutrition. DoAG applauds HealthQuest's efforts to improve nutrition among Northeastern Connecticut's citizens through increased consumption of fresh CT Grown foods.

Community-level interventions show some of the most promising approaches to attacking the national crisis of obesity and can lead to job creation through support to coalition members whose work is necessary to make needed change and by the focus of this work. DoAG has witnessed successful outreach efforts of this type in other areas of the state and is confident that HealthQuest can and will make a difference in Northeastern Connecticut if awarded this grant.

There is no greater challenge to the nation's economy right now than the cost of treating chronic disease and obesity – most of which are preventable. Years of research and funding have amassed a wealth of knowledge and proven strategies to increase physical activity and advance healthy eating, but that knowledge still needs to reach our communities. HealthQuest will use a CPPW grant to advance this important effort, while at the same time supporting local agriculture within our state.

Sincerely,

Robert Pellegrino
Marketing Director

R. Mark Fenton
25 Crescent Ave.
Scituate, MA 02066

781-545-5004 (tel); 5075 (fax)
mark.fenton@verizon.net

Nov. 5, 2009

J. Robert Galvin, MD, MPH, MBA
Commissioner
Connecticut Department of Public Health
410 Capitol Avenue, MS #13 COM
Hartford, CT 06134

Dear Dr. Galvin,

As a public health, planning, and transportation consultant who has worked the Connecticut Department of Public Health (DPH workshops in Hartford) as well as with communities in northeastern Connecticut through the ACHIEVE program, I am writing in support of the DPH proposal for the CDC's funding opportunity entitled, "Communities Putting Prevention to Work."

My work focuses on the nexus between public health promotion, community development and planning, and transportation. As you are aware, the CDC's Guide to Community Preventive Services (and indeed this FOA) specifically focus on evidence-based approaches to creating environments and policies that support routine increases in physical activity and healthy eating. Your application specifically recognizes that unlike traditional programmatic tactics (e.g. exercise programs or specific diets), this strategy will require outreach to new partners in planning, transportation and public works, architecture and design, and education as well as elected and appointed officials at the local and state level. For example, my background in engineering has helped me understand the power of working with transportation planners to develop design guidelines, development requirements, and transit policies to create settings that support increased walking, bicycling, and transit use. Similarly, zoning ordinances have shown a tremendous impact on both routine physical activity, but also healthy eating through preservation of proximal farmlands, community gardens, and public space for farmer's markets. And all of these can be done with an eye toward reaching underserved neighborhoods or populations.

I am confident that the DPH's population-focused approach will achieve positive behavior change in youth that will be sustained into adulthood, and should it be funded I'll be honored to serve in any capacity to advance this critically important work. Please contact me with any questions.

Sincerely,

R. Mark Fenton
Public health, planning and transportation consultant

CREATIVE
WALKING
INCORPORATED

November 9, 2009

J. Robert Galvin, MD, MPH, MBA
Commissioner
Connecticut Department of Public Health
410 Capitol Avenue, MS #13 COM
Hartford, CT 06134

Dear Dr. Galvin,

As President of Creative Walking, Inc., I am writing in support of the Connecticut Department of Public Health's (DPH) proposal for the CDC's funding opportunity entitled, "Communities Putting Prevention to Work."

Having worked with the entire staff of HealthQuest in northeastern Connecticut last year, I am familiar with many of the health issues facing approximately 85,000 residents living in the towns of Brooklyn, Canterbury, Eastford, Hampton, Killingly, Pomfret, Putnam, Sterling, Woodstock, Thompson and Union. I am also familiar with both the dedicated efforts and commitment of the people who serve on the health prevention task forces in this region including the administrators in the Northeast District Dept of Health, the NE CT Chamber of Commerce, Day Kimball Healthcare, The Town of Plainfield School District, Daniel's Pharmacy and others. The efforts of these leaders and their supporting community infrastructure have and continue to make a difference in so many lives.

However, so much more needs to be done in the way of "putting prevention to work." Specifically, when we examine the rates of diabetes, obesity and sedentary lifestyles in the NE CT corridor, we see a disturbing trend that is only getting much worse, especially in the area of physical activity. From a cost efficiency and practical standpoint, attacking the problem where we have a captive audience -- mainly in our school systems -- seems to let us reach out to a maximum audience with maximum effectiveness. We have already seen this from some of the initial pilot programs implemented in the Town of Plainfield Schools.

In conclusion, it is so interesting that today in our current society there are so many screams for "healthcare reform." But in reality what this nation and what NE CT most needs is "lifestyle reform." Knowing the people involved in the NE CT HealthQuest project who have shown a continuing commitment to community service and community health, I am most confident that if awarded the CPPW grant for 2010 and 2011, these leaders will rise to the occasion in an extraordinary way to transform both NE CT and CT as a whole into an exemplary model of health promotion for all of America and the world to see. Let us all hope we get this opportunity.

If you should have any questions or wish to discuss any aspects of this health promotion project, feel free to call me directly @ 1-208-634-1491 or e-mail me at rob@creativewalking.com.

In health,

Robert Sweetgall
President, Creative Walking, Inc.
www.creativewalking.com

New Milford Hospital
Member
NewYork-Presbyterian Healthcare System
Affiliate: Columbia University College of Physicians & Surgeons

21 Elm Street
New Milford, Connecticut 06776-2915
Telephone: (860) 355-2611
www.newmilfordhospital.org

October 28, 2009

J. Robert Galvin, MD, MPH, MBA
Commissioner
Connecticut Department of Public Health
410 Capitol Avenue, MS #13 COM
Hartford, CT 06134

Dear Dr. Galvin,

As the Vice President for External Affairs of New Milford Hospital, and the founder and director of the Plow to Plate® initiative (www.plowtoplate.org) in Northwest Connecticut, I am writing in support of the Connecticut Department of Public Health's (DPH) proposal for the CDC's funding opportunity entitled, "Communities Putting Prevention to Work."

New Milford Hospital is a community hospital serving a region remarkably similar to Northeast Connecticut, and Plow to Plate® is our multi-faceted community based initiative designed to reverse and prevent, for future generations, the chronic disease epidemic that now plagues our country. The focus is on the basic source of wellness: the food we eat. We have created a model that engages key institutions (the local hospital, schools, senior centers, libraries, restaurants and youth agencies) in programs designed specifically for the populations they serve to promote knowledge and sustainable behavior change at the individual and institutional level. Plow to Plate® offers a unifying approach to achieve all the objectives of the MAPPS strategy via full community engagement and integration of the inter-related programs of our model into the long term operations of the participating community institutions.

This grant will make an enormous difference to a community that is well poised to utilize the resources being made available by CDC, and by implementing the Plow to Plate® model. We commit to bringing our expertise, experience and implementation materials to our "mirror community"... in Connecticut.

I am confident that the DPH approach to advancing appropriate population-based approach is necessary to achieve behavior change in youth and sustain healthy behavior into adulthood throughout our community and throughout the entire state. Please feel free to contact me with any questions.

Sincerely,

Marydale DeBor, Vice President, External Affairs
New Milford Hospital
Director, Plow to Plate® Initiative
860-248-9854
deborm@nmhct.org

Sustainable
FOOD SYSTEMS

Local solutions.
Planet healthy.

November 9, 2009

J. Robert Galvin, MD, MPH, MBA
Commissioner
Connecticut Department of Public Health
410 Capitol Avenue, MS #13 COM
Hartford, CT 06134

Dear Dr. Galvin,

I am writing in support of the Connecticut Department of Public Health's (DPH) proposal for the CDC's funding opportunity entitled, "Communities Putting Prevention to Work." As President and Founder of Sustainable Food Systems, LLC, and one of the founders of the Yale Sustainable Food Project, I am fully committed to the ongoing development of successful initiatives that increase the availability of truly healthy and sustainable food to communities.

I would like to express our commitment as a company to support a partnership with Healthquest Northeast Connecticut/Northeast District Department of Health. We are leaders in the food service management industry for the development and implementation of sustainable food programs, and have a proven track record that documents successfully implemented examples of these programs within schools, universities and hospitals including New Milford Hospital, part of the Plow to Plate initiative.

The practices we focus on encompass nutritional, social, environmental and economic well-being. Advancing the ability of communities to support local farms and producers to benefit the local economy is part of the development of new procurement policy and practice guidelines that we recommend in our reporting for all projects.

With over twenty five years of experience in the food service management industry, we bring professional expertise in the management of change necessary for the implementation and ongoing success of such programs to meet and exceed the MAPPS strategy and to achieve our common goal of promoting health, educating consumers about nutrition and preventing disease and obesity.

Bringing communities together in a sustainable approach to addressing a much wider issue is absolutely necessary. Please feel free to contact me with any questions.

Sincerely,

John Turenne,
President

Sustainable Food Systems LLC P 203-294-9683 F 203-284-1234 E SFS@SustainableFoodSystems.com
W SustainableFoodSystems.com O 88 South Main Street, Wallingford, CT 06492

November 27, 2009

J. Robert Galvin, MD, MPH, MBA
Commissioner, Connecticut Department of Public Health
410 Capitol Avenue, MS #13 COM
Hartford, CT 06134

Dear Dr. Galvin,

As the owner of MAD Communications, I am writing in support of the Connecticut Department of Public Health's (DPH) proposal for the CDC's funding opportunity entitled, "Communities Putting Prevention to Work (CPPW)." My specific support is for the HealthQuest Northeast Connecticut application through the Northeast District Department of Health (NDDH), which serves 12 towns and approximately 86,000 residents in northeastern Connecticut.

The program as proposed offers tremendous potential to make a real difference in the lives and health of people living in the region known locally as the "Quiet Corner". This is an area of the state that often doesn't receive the attention or resources given to other Connecticut communities. For this reason, when programs are made available and supported at the local level they have even greater impact and success.

The goals of CPPW to address obesity prevention, encourage physical activity and promote better nutrition are critically important. The strategies to provide community level interventions are both innovative and practical. What's more, they are sustainable.

MAD Communications has long supported community initiatives to strengthen the fabric of the northeast Connecticut community. We believe that change begins at the local level, and by changing behaviors we can promote health, social development and our environment. CPPW has the ability to be the catalyst for lasting change.

Sincerely,

Mary Ann Dostaler
MAD Communications

860.267.0816 56 William Drive • East Hampton, CT • 06424

OFFICE OF THE MAYOR

165 CHURCH STREET • NEW HAVEN • CONNECTICUT 06510

JOHN DESTEFANO, JR.
Mayor

*The vision of New Haven's children is our city's greatest resource**

November 23, 2009

J. Robert Galvin, MD, MPH, MBA
Commissioner
Connecticut Department of Public Health
410 Capitol Avenue, MS #13 COM
Hartford, CT 06134

Dear Dr. Galvin:

It is with great pleasure that I write in support of the Connecticut Department of Public Health's (DPH) proposal for the CDC's funding opportunity entitled, "Communities Putting Prevention to Work (CPPW)." This infusion of ARRA resources will strengthen our community's capacity and policy infrastructure to address key factors directly linked to obesity and other chronic illnesses in New Haven – namely, poor nutrition and lack of exercise. This CDC funding opportunity and the resources it will leverage will lead to major system and policy changes that will have a lasting and positive impact on our most at-risk populations.

New Haven has a strong commitment to instituting innovative policies and programs to benefit the well-being of all of its residents. New Haven employed the first legal Needle Exchange Program – reducing the spread of HIV dramatically and becoming a model for cities around the nation and the world. We have the nation's first Citywide Farmers' Markets to accept Food Stamps and WIC coupons – improving access to fresh vegetables for all City residents and winning national recognition from the US Department of Agriculture. Finally, New Haven implemented the first ever Municipal Identification Card in the nation – designed to address the pressing needs of our residents by easing access to city services and resources. It is on this foundation for innovation that we build our lasting commitment to community health.

In combination with the CDC's resources, our efforts create the potential for synergy between the activities mentioned above and other major efforts already underway, including the Health Equity Alliance (HEA), a cross-cutting community engagement and policy change initiative that addresses the social determinants of health in our community that grew out of a highly-engaged Health Department, Yale School of Public Health and community working group began in 2007. In addition, New Haven is the first U.S. city to take part in Community Interventions for Health, a global health collaborative dedicated to preventing chronic disease through innovative citywide policies and programs that address risk factors similar to those in CPPW.

More directly, New Haven has a groundbreaking Complete Streets Steering Committee, created by unanimous legislation in October 2008; an active Wellness Council in the New Haven Public Schools, and a Food Policy council committed to implementing the kinds of changes that have been strongly recommended by the CDC – such as improving nutrition in schools, banning soda vending machines and encouraging more active, safer transportation options among the majority of New Haven residents who do

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* *This creative impression is the work of Frank Greene, a student at Katherine Brennan School*

not drive a car to work every day. These efforts and many more are part of our broader strategy to invest in prevention and sustainability.

The activities in the DPH-New Haven proposal to engage and involve the community will complement our School Change Campaign, which seeks dramatic increase in student achievement in the short term. Recognizing the link between health and learning, the City and the New Haven Public Schools have worked in tandem to implement ambitious health promoting policies and interventions to promote positive youth development.

Therefore, I am committed to innovation with regard to community health and to taking part in this project's Leadership Team. New Haven will continue to establish novel and sustainable programs and policies guided by our new multi-sector Health Equity and Wellness Commission that will be appointed before the funds are awarded. Resources from this grant will facilitate the mobilization of our trusted partners. I support the work proposed by the Connecticut Department of Public Health and City of New Haven. We will work closely with the applicants and with CDC to implement our community action plan for policy, systems, and environmental changes to address nutrition and physical activity risk factors.

This grant will enable our city to focus resources and embark on a course towards several essential policy objectives. Working with partners at Yale-Griffin hospital, we will develop a point of purchase labeling system for all school food and community food outlets representing 25% of sales. We will also increase citywide Farmer Market sales and school sourcing of local foods by 20% and promote School Wellness initiatives within our schools to reduce obesity. Our Department of Transportation will triple citywide bicycling routes by adding 20 miles to our bicycling network, and as a result of this and other Complete Streets improvements we will increase citywide biking and walking trips by residents and school children by 20%. Although these targets are aggressive, they are extremely important to the health of our city. We intend to reach all of them by February 2012.

I firmly believe that we must revitalize our neighborhoods to promote physical activity, nurture students so they are healthy and have the best opportunities to learn, and promote endeavors that support healthy behaviors. I have no doubt that this approach can be replicated in other communities throughout the nation and that the work of DPH and New Haven will successfully place the residents of New Haven on a trajectory towards improved health outcomes.

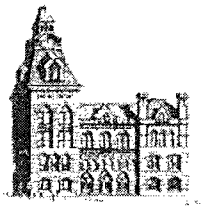
Please feel free to contact me with any questions.

Very truly yours,

John DeStefano, Jr.
Mayor

CA/JDS

COMMUNITY SERVICES ADMINISTRATION
City of New Haven
165 Church Street
New Haven, CT 06510



John DeStefano, Jr.
Mayor

Chisara N. Asomugha, MD, MSPH, FAAP
Administrator

November 22, 2009

J. Robert Galvin, MD, MPH, MBA
Commissioner
Connecticut Department of Public Health
410 Capitol Avenue, MS #13 COM
Hartford, CT 06134

Dear Dr. Galvin:

As the Community Services Administrator (CSA) for the City of New Haven, I write this letter in full support of the Connecticut Department of Public Health's (DPH) proposal for the CDC's funding opportunity entitled, "Communities Putting Prevention to Work." I have no doubt that the efforts of the State will result in sustainable and replicable policies and initiatives that will benefit diverse communities.

As CSA, I oversee the City's Health, Youth and Elderly Services Departments, as well as (but not limited to) initiatives addressing teen pregnancy prevention, early childhood development, homelessness, prisoner reentry and State-Administered General Assistance (SAGA) support. CSA's history of forward-thinking led to the nation's first municipal identification card –the Elm City Resident Card. Support from the CDC grant will facilitate the expansion of this card to provide incentives that promote healthy nutrition and activity. Through the 12,000 city residents cardholders, targeted programming and media campaigns we will have broad impact across New Haven's diverse population.

I also bring clinical, public health and research-oriented expertise to my position as CSA, both as a board-certified pediatrician and health services researcher trained through the prestigious Robert Wood Johnson (RWJ) Foundation Clinical Scholars Program at Yale University. Through my tenure as Fellow, receiving training in health services research and health policy, I worked closely with New Haven organizations and the previous CSA on community-based participatory research projects focused on youth violence prevention as well as with members of the Yale Medical Community on mental health outcomes in traumatized youth. I was an active member of the RWJ Community Steering Committee comprised of community and civic leaders invested in the health and wellbeing of New Haven citizens. Under my leadership, CSA will remain responsive to the needs of community and proactive in collaborating with community members, ensuring that our efforts align with the goals of the CDC and Connecticut DPH.

The City has a strong commitment to implementing the policy that advances our vision for a vibrant and healthy New Haven community and will work diligently with our partners to ensure the success of this initiative. I will

COMMUNITY SERVICES ADMINISTRATION
City of New Haven
165 Church Street
New Haven, CT 06510

John DeStefano, Jr.
Mayor

Chisara N. Asomugha, MD, MSPH, FAAP
Administrator

serve as Chair of the project's Leadership Team and facilitate communications through our coalitions that our dedicated to improving community health, including the Health Equity Alliance, New Haven Safe Streets Coalition, the Early Childhood Education Council and the Citywide Youth Coalition. The efforts and guidance of the Leadership Team and the Health Equity and Wellness Commission will propel all partners to the forefront of innovation in community health.

Once again, our city offers full support to the CT Department of Public Health in this effort and we look forward to working with you in the future.

Sincerely,

Chisara N. Asomugha, MD, MSPH, FAAP
Community Services Administrator
City of New Haven

CITY OF NEW HAVEN
JOHN DESTEFANO, JR.
MAYOR

CITY HALL

CHIEF ADMINISTRATOR'S OFFICE

ROBERT SMUTS
CHIEF ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICER

165 CHURCH ST.
NEW HAVEN, CT 06510
(203) 946-7900
FAX (203) 946-7911

November 23, 2009

J. Robert Galvin, MD, MPH, MBA
Commissioner
Connecticut Department of Public Health
410 Capitol Avenue, MS #13 COM
Hartford, CT 06134

Dear Dr. Galvin:

As Chief Administrative Officer for the City of New Haven, I have been overseeing various activities related to the purposes of this grant. The City's Complete Streets Steering Committee has met since May of 2009, and we have created new protocols to increase access to our streets for New Haven's many pedestrians, cyclists and transit users. In New Haven, a large number of residents are not able or cannot afford to drive a private motor vehicle.

The New Haven CPPW proposal would significantly further the goals of Complete Streets and allow New Haven to continue to serve as a role model both statewide and nationally in this field of policy development.

In addition, we have recently formed a New Haven Office of Sustainability. The Board of Aldermen expressed its strong support for this effort, which will involve a significant Food Policy component around local sourcing. Within this grant, you will find a job description for our new Director of Sustainability. We have received over one hundred resumes for the position, and as soon as we can sort through this embarrassment of riches, we look forward to having a person begin within the coming weeks.

Over the next two years, I will continue to commit my office and the city's resources and time to furthering the goals of the CDC grant:

- We will continue to work on Food Policy development. The new Director of Sustainability will devote 1-2 days per week towards Food Policy, and other time towards related initiatives such as energy savings and environmental design.
- Under the guidance of the City Engineer and Complete Streets Steering Committee, we will continue to advance the development of Complete Streets guidelines that will improve access to streets for residents of all ages, abilities, and income levels. We will

continue to bond funding for traffic calming improvements across the city that could be used as a match for some of the CPPW initiative's objectives.

- Under my guidance, the resources of the Public Works, Parks, Police and Fire Departments will be brought to bear where needed to support this grant. For example, our Police Department will help ensure that planned street closings, designed to ensure physical activity, will be safe and successful.
- Our Police Department will also continue to work to identify and address crime problems along newly-designated neighborhood walking or cycling routes.

I forward to working closely with the Director of Transportation, Traffic and Parking, Food Policy Council and the Health Department to complete and implement the plans for interventions and policy changes included in the proposal.

Sincerely,

Robert Smuts
Chief Administrative Officer

CITY OF NEW HAVEN
COMMUNITY SERVICES ADMINISTRATION
DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH

54 Meadow Street, 9TH Floor • New Haven • Connecticut 06519
Phone 203-946-6999 • Fax 203-946-7234

John DeStefano, Jr.
Mayor

New Haven
All-America City
2003

William P. Quinn, M.P.H.
Director of Health

November 24, 2009

J. Robert Galvin, MD, MPH, MBA
Commissioner
Connecticut Department of Public Health
410 Capitol Avenue, MS #13 COM
Hartford, CT 06134

Dear Dr. Galvin:

I am writing in strong support of the Connecticut Department of Public Health's (DPH) proposal for the CDC's funding opportunity entitled, "Communities Putting Prevention to Work." If awarded, the CDC funding opportunity will help the City of New Haven build our community's capacity and policy infrastructure to address two key risk factors - poor diet and lack of exercise - that are closely tied to obesity and other chronic diseases within New Haven. The two year infusion of ARRA funding and the resources it will leverage will support critical, sustainable policy and environmental changes as well as infrastructure and organizational development that will have a lasting effect on our capacity to reach and impact a large proportion of our population most at risk for poor health outcomes.

Like all major cities, New Haven has its share of health disparities: marked differences in the health status of residents that generally align with race, ethnicity, and/or socio-economic standing. Those in poverty and people of color bear a disproportionate burden of disease and disability. To address these health inequities, the New Haven Health Department has encouraged the establishment of strategies that address systems of care that emphasize coordination of services and timely access to care for our most vulnerable residents.

We are particularly excited about the potential for synergy between this activity and two major, connected efforts already underway. The Health Equity Alliance (HEA), is a cross-cutting community engagement and policy change initiative led by the Connecticut Association of Departments of Health. The Health Equity Alliance will examine the root causes of poor health outcomes that contribute to health inequity. This Alliance is funded by the Kellogg Foundation in the amount of $300,000 for two (2) years. The second program is the first U.S. implementation of Community Interventions for Health. Both initiatives promote evidence-based strategies to understand and address the same risk factors as CPPW. These efforts seek to eliminate health inequities and reduce disparities by refocusing the city's extensive existing health and community investments towards prevention and long-term policy and structural change.

As you know, the New Haven Health Department (NHHD) is the public health authority for the City of New Haven. The mission of the Health Department is to create a healthy environment for its citizenry and to be an advocate in promoting essential public health services for its constituents.

The New Haven Health Department (NHHD) currently has 96 full-time employees and 12 distinct divisions. The NHHD has a long history of concern for health inequities and an understanding of their social determinants. This is derived from the day-to-day work of the Department's leadership and staff in the New Haven community. The Health Department receives annual contract awards from the Department of Public Health for Health Education; Asthma Education and Management, STD and TB Prevention and Control; a AIDS Needle Exchange Program; Disease Surveillance and Tracking; Community Preparedness Planning and the Connecticut Immunization and Registry System. The NHHD/MCH Division has received continuous funding from the CT Department of Social Services to provide Healthy Start services for the past 16 years, and is the lead contractor in the south-central region. In addition, the Department employs several full-time data managers who are responsible for program reporting, management and quality control.

The New Haven Health Department has extensive experience leading and participating in many local, state and federal initiatives. We are contracting partners with DSS, DPH, DMHAS, HUD and HRSA to improve the health of the New Haven community by providing a broad range of direct and indirect services, all of which include some degree of community assessment and engagement, through the dissemination of information.

The NHHD has a $15 million annual budget with approximately 75% of its budget coming from contracted awards from Federal, State Government and private foundations to provide contracted public health services. The City of New Haven's Department of Management and Budget provides the fiduciary support for these contracted awards, including financial management and yearly audit services. The City's Corporation Counsel provides contractual management and legal oversight in coordination with the executive branch of government. The Health Department provides the direct financial management for all of its contracted awards and is responsible for the financial reporting, (as designated by each grant award), for all contracted services.

The New Haven Health Department is committed to supporting the work proposed by the Connecticut Department of Public Health. We will work closely with the Connecticut Department of Public Health and with the CDC to implement our community action plan for policy, systems, and environmental changes to address nutrition and physical activity risk factors. We believe that New Haven is uniquely positioned to be a partner with the State of Connecticut given our collaborative work and data-driven approach to date. This proposal to CDC is critically important for funding sustainable program infrastructure to strengthen and expand programs and policies to improve health and reduce disparities.

We are confident that the DPH approach to advancing an appropriate population-based approach is necessary to achieve behavior change beginning with our youth and sustaining healthy behavior into adulthood. Our hope is that this will serve as a model throughout the entire state. Thank you for giving us the opportunity to partner with the State of Connecticut on this exciting funding opportunity.

Sincerely,

William R. Quinn, MPH
Director of Health
City of New Haven
New Haven Department of Health

Transportation, Traffic and Parking Department

City of New Haven

200 Orange Street G3
New Haven, CT 06510

John DeStefano, Jr.
Mayor

Michael Piscitelli, AICP
Director

November 23, 2009

J. Robert Galvin, MD, MPH, MBA
Commissioner
Connecticut Department of Public Health
410 Capitol Avenue, MS #13 COM
Hartford, CT 06134

Dear Dr. Galvin:

I am writing to you in strong support of the Connecticut Department of Public Health's (DPH) proposal for the CDC's funding opportunity entitled, "Communities Putting Prevention to Work." The City of New Haven is making a concerted effort to create a sustainable transportation system and a framework of future development that enhances our economic position, quality of life and environmental performance. As part of this application, and as part our everyday practice, we are committed to safe routes to school, traffic safety and bike / pedestrian modal enhancements.

The department and the entire CPPW team has developed a focused strategy to increase the level of physical activity and, in turn, dramatically reduce the obesity rate in the City by increasing the rate of walk- and bike-to-school students; developing systems to increase walk and bike activity outside of the school setting; and encouraging safe walk and bike practices on busy streets. Our department is honored to participate. We will help broaden the reach of the Street Smarts traffic safety campaign and leverage that work with over 20 miles of new bike / pedestrian route enhancements; new zoning and design program; and a citywide roll-out of the Complete Streets improvements. These strategies are comprehensive and contribute to the health and well being of our residents for many years to come.

Thank you for consideration. All of us at the Transportation, Traffic and Parking Department look forward to working with you on this project.

Sincerely,

MPL.

Michael Piscitelli, AICP
Director

cc. Dr. Chisara N. Asomugha
file

203-946-8078 • mpiscite@newhavenct.net • fax: 203-946-8074

ENGINEERING DEPARTMENT

City of New Haven
200 Orange Street, Rm 503
New Haven, CT 06510
www.cityofnewhaven.com

John DeStefano, Jr.
Mayor

Richard H. Miller, P.E., L.S.
City Engineer

November 21, 2009

J. Robert Galvin, MD, MPH, MBA
Commissioner
Connecticut Department of Public Health
410 Capitol Avenue, MS #13 COM
Hartford, CT 06134

Dear Dr. Galvin:

As the City Engineer and a chairperson of the city's Complete Streets Steering Committee, I am writing in support of the Connecticut Department of Public Health's (DPH) proposal for the CDC's funding opportunity entitled, "Communities Putting Prevention to Work." If awarded, the CDC funding opportunity will help us build our community's capacity and policy infrastructure to address to key risk factors -- poor diet and lack of exercise -- that are tied to obesity and other chronic diseases within New Haven.

There is an awareness that infrastructure needs comprehend the diversity of travel throughout the city to accommodate safe movements for pedestrians, bicycles as well as vehicle traffic. Encouraging designs that people feel safe in whatever mode of travel they select is a basic premise of our completes street view of New Haven. Of particular importance to this program is encouraging pedestrian and bicycle movements in a safe way.

The Engineering Department is committed to supporting the work proposed by the Connecticut Department of Public Health and City of New Haven to achieve those goals outline in the proposal. Any designs that are initiated by the city or reviewed by my Department will insure that it meets the intent of encouraging safe and sustainable streets for pedestrians, bicyclists, as well as transit and vehicle movements.

I look forward to our work together for a healthier New Haven. Please feel free to contact me with any questions.

Sincerely,

Richard Miller P.E., L.S.
City Engineer

CC: Robert Smuts
Michael Piscitelli
Karyn Gilvarg

NEW HAVEN CITY PLAN DEPARTMENT
165 CHURCH STREET, NEW HAVEN, CT 06510
TEL (203) 946-6378 FAX (203) 946-7815

November 21, 2009

J. Robert Galvin, MD, MPH, MBA
Commissioner
Connecticut Department of Public Health
410 Capitol Avenue, MS #13 COM
Hartford, CT 06134

Dear Dr. Galvin:

The City Plan Department has worked to make New Haven an even more pedestrian and bicycle friendly city, and to encourage residents and visitors to make use of our streets and our ample park system to live healthier lives. In 1998 we documented informal pedestrian and bicycle paths linking various destinations city wide. The following year (1999) we completed the Master Plan for the New Haven section of the Farmington Canal Greenway, a multi-purpose trail utilizing an abandoned railroad right of way that cuts through the heart of the City. The New Haven portion of the Green way recently linked to the Hamden portion, and there are now 18 unbroken miles of trail from central New Haven to Cheshire; with more to come. In 2004 the trail inventory became the Plan for Bikeways and Greenways, focusing on several major trails that traverse the City and which will eventually connect with region wide trails such as the Farmington Canal Line, the Harborside Trail and the Shoreline Greenway.

In 2003 we received funding from the Milbank Memorial Fund to advise the Board of Education on opportunities for outdoor and physical activity in the School Construction Program. The City's Engineering and Transportation Departments have collaborated with our Board of Education on Safe Routes to Schools grants for two New Haven public schools. The City Plan Department worked with a broad coalition of City organizations and government agencies to encourage New Haveners to walk as part of an effort to reduce diabetes and heart disease in some of our lowest income neighborhoods. This initiative distributed pedometers and helped create walking groups through social and religious organizations such as churches. Know as We Walk In New Haven (WIN) the initiative was funded by the CDC, the Connecticut Health Foundation and others.

The Mayor's Share the Streets Initiative of 2004 has led to more attention to City policy and physical design standards for New Haven's streets. I have served on the City's Complete Streets Steering Committee since May of 2009, and have worked with my colleagues to advance specific design and policy initiatives that will be incorporated in New Haven's Complete Streets program, due to be submitted to our Board of Aldermen in early 2010. Our goal is to balance the interests of drivers, pedestrians, and bicyclists to increase the ease and safety; and thus the degree of walking and bicycling, in all areas of our city.

We have worked closely with other City departments to assess opportunities for creating more bicycle lanes, bicycle amenities and to improve safe walking corridors across the City. We are pleased with the plan to create 20 additional miles of Safe Routes to Neighborhood Destinations in New Haven's CPPW proposal and fund technical work on zoning changes and design standards in support of a more bicycle and pedestrian friendly environment. The grant will help us to work closely with the Director of TT&P and the Health Department to implement plans for interventions and policy changes included in the proposal. This linking of Transportation, Land Use and Public Health policies and decisions will ultimately help our citizens lead healthier lives.

Sincerely,

Karyn Gilvarg, A.I.A
Executive Director

City of New Haven
Department of Parks, Recreation & Trees
720 Edgewood Avenue, New Haven, CT 06515, Phone 946-8027, Fax 946-8024

John DeStefano, Jr., Mayor Robert D. Levine, Director

DAVID R. BELOWSKY, PRESIDENT, BOARD OF PARK COMMISSIONERS

New Haven All-America City 2008

November 21, 2009

J. Robert Galvin, MD, MPH, MBA
Commissioner
Connecticut Department of Public Health
410 Capitol Avenue, MS #13 COM
Hartford, CT 06134

Dear Dr. Galvin:

As the Director of the New Haven Department of Parks, Recreation and Trees, I am writing in support of the Connecticut Department of Public Health's (DPH) proposal for the CDC's funding opportunity entitled, "Communities Putting Prevention to Work." If awarded, the CDC funding opportunity will help us build our community's capacity and policy infrastructure to address to key risk factors -- poor diet and lack of exercise -- that are tied to obesity and other chronic diseases within New Haven.

As a City Department, we are particularly aware of the need to pursue policy changes to address persistent health issues and inequities in New Haven. We serve tens of thousands of city residents every year through a variety of programs designed to improve recreation and understanding of nature.

Over the course of the two-year project period, we will plan to:

- Work with the Health Department and the Health Equity and Wellness Commission as is possible to identify and advance specific policy initiatives to increase physical activity and improve nutrition among New Haven residents.
- Work with Physical Activity and Wellness committees in the New Haven Public Schools to plan activities related to increasing physical activity, recreation and connection to nature (e.g., urban gardens), among students.
- Participate in Committees or work groups as able to help implement planned interventions and policy changes. We will also look into policies that encourage more residents to travel to our parks via walking, cycling and public transit.
- We will support the Transportation Department's proposal to create a citywide system of wayfinding and signage directing residents to neighborhood locations and parks.
- Incorporate health and wellness messaging into our regular communications to city residents. For example, we could encourage people to get to the city parks via walking or cycling, rather than driving.

Please feel free to contact me with any questions.

Sincerely,

Robert Levine

Robert D. Levine, Director
Department of Parks, Recreation and Trees

NEW HAVEN FREE PUBLIC LIBRARY

133 ELM STREET • NEW HAVEN, CONNECTICUT 06510
203-946-8141 • FAX 203-946-8140

John DeStefano, Jr., Mayor
Elsie Chapman, Chair, Board of Directors
James C. Welbourne, City Librarian

NEW HAVEN
IT ALL HAPPENS HERE
www.infonewhaven.com

November 20, 2009

J. Robert Galvin, MD, MPH, MBA
Commissioner
Connecticut Department of Public Health
410 Capitol Avenue, MS #13 COM
Hartford, CT 06134

Dear Dr. Galvin,

New Haven Free Public Library adds it support of the Connecticut Department of Public Health's proposal for the CDC's funding opportunity entitled "Communities Putting Prevention to Work". CDC funding will help our community address key risk factors such as poor diet and lack of exercise that are tied to obesity and other chronic diseases. The two year infusion of ARRA resources will assist New Haven in its quest to build a healthier community through sustainable policy and environmental changes that will provide a lasting impact on our population most at risk for poor health outcomes.

With a Main Branch downtown and four neighborhood branches throughout the city, the New Haven Free Public Library is a vital information resource for the New Haven community. In each location, the library has created a Consumer Health Information Network that is both a repository and disseminator of current health information and programs. We've featured health programs for all ages-from children to Seniors- and our programs have attracted the very diverse and multilingual populations that New Haven contains.

The library has also hosted community conversations and dialogues featuring social issues, providing resource and background information for all the participants. Each branch has a Community Meeting Room and has the ability to offer groups computer access for training, learning, and demonstrating purposes including the health related databases that the Consumer Health Information Network supports.

New Haven Free Public Library is committed to supporting the work proposed by Connecticut Department of Public Health and City of New Haven. We are also committed to continuing the work we do every day: building the informational capacity of our community while supporting the people who call New Haven home.

Sincerely,

Jim Welbourne

Jim Welbourne
City Librarian

New Haven Public Schools

Reginald Mayo, Ph.D
Superintendent

Administrative Offices
Gateway Center
54 Meadow St.
New Haven, CT 06519
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November 23, 2009

J. Robert Galvin, MD, MPH, MBA
Commissioner
Connecticut Department of Public Health
410 Capitol Avenue, MS #13 COM
Hartford, CT 06134

Dear Dr. Galvin:

As the Superintendent of New Haven Public Schools (NHPS), I write in support of the Connecticut Department of Public Health's (DPH) proposal for the CDC's funding opportunity, "Communities Putting Prevention to Work (CPPW)," And express my commitment to serve on the project's Leadership Team. If awarded, the CDC funding opportunity will help us build our community's capacity and policy infrastructure to address key risk factors -- poor diet and lack of exercise -- that are tied to obesity and other chronic diseases within New Haven. The two year infusion of ARRA resources and the resources it will leverage will support critical, sustainable policy and environmental changes as well as infrastructure and organizational development that will have a lasting impact on our capacity to reach and improve poor health outcomes for a large proportion of our most at risk residents.

We are particularly excited about the potential for synergy between this activity and two major, connected efforts already underway: the Health Equity Alliance (HEA), a community engagement and policy change initiative; and Community Interventions for Health (CIH), which promotes evidence-based strategies to understand and address the same risk factors as offered by the CPPW grant. These efforts to refocus the city's extensive existing health and community investments towards prevention and long-term policy and structural change complement what we have been doing in the New Haven Public Schools.

Our Wellness Committee, which developed our District Wellness Plan, ranked #1 in the state by the Rudd Center on Food Policy and Obesity at Yale using objective criteria, has worked with the New Haven Health Department for years on our initiatives, which include removing junk food from our vending machines and our schools, creating the Physical Activity and Wellness (PAW) program at various schools and forming School Wellness Teams in 18 schools, partnering with the CitySeed Farmers' Markets in New Haven and the City's Food Policy Council, teaming up for a Working Group on School Food, putting playgrounds, fields and gymnasiums in each of our newly renovated or constructed

schools (we have opened 31 since 1998 and each have bike racks), and placing interactive physical fitness equipment in some schools. The Health Department provides us with 35 School Nurses and we support with state and private assistance School Based Health Clinics in 13 schools that will be deployed to reinforce the programs, policies and messages proposed in this grant.

Recently we returned to a self-operated food service system that takes advantage of the Central Kitchen facility we opened in 2003. Since self-operation took effect in July 2008, New Haven has moved to a whole grain model for breads, pizza dough, pancakes, etc. In the 2008-2009 school year over 300 (36,000) cases of apples, 300 cases of pears, 75 cases of peaches, 100 cases of green beans, 100 cases of potatoes, and more than 6500 pounds of butternut squash, 400 pounds of tomatoes, 135 bags of corn, and quite a few cases of miscellaneous items such as cukes, eggplant, green and yellow squash, peppers, kale, and cabbage were procured from local farms in CT and MA. This school year more produce is being obtained and our Food Service operation is proposing a sustainable farm to school program. Complementing this, we have enhanced and are developing additional school gardens.

With a population of over 20,000 students, many from poor families who are unemployed or working several jobs just to make ends meet and others who are homeless, we know that our NHPS students are hungry – and hungry students are not healthy. Our efforts to provide healthy meals link with our efforts to develop healthy bodies, and to work with the students' families on types of healthy foods and activities – whether through Nutrition Detectives, food tastings, a community cookbook, safe routes to schools, PAW, healthy snacks, school and community gardens, after school activities, nutrition and physical activity puppet shows for youngsters, or linking with the many community initiatives and partners here in New Haven. Since over 25% of our students are from Spanish speaking homes, and others are from all over the world, our efforts in the schools and in the community are diverse and multi-cultural.

The NHPS is committed to supporting the work proposed by the Connecticut Department of Public Health and City of New Haven. We will work closely with the applicants and with CDC to implement our community action plan for policy, systems, and environmental changes to address nutrition and physical activity risk factors. Over the course of the two-year project period, we will:

- Continue to expand our healthy food offerings and obtain more fresh local produce and grow more through our school and community gardens through the proposed Farm-to-School initiative;
- Encourage students to eat healthy foods through instituting revised menu labeling, incorporating the NuVal nutrition guidance scoring system, in all cafeterias and

- through continuing to reformulate our menus with the help of a Registered Dietitian;
- Maintain the PAW program in the existing 18 K-8 schools and expand it to nine additional schools with the help of the PAW Coordinator and sustain the PAW pool providing mini-grants for school-initiated, evidence-based interventions;
- Maintain the ABCs for Fitness across PAW schools and the Nutrition Detectives program in 5th grade;
- Maintain the physical fitness equipment in a dozen schools and expand to eight more with grant and other resources;
- Link food choices, physical activities and healthy choices through activities in the school and community and through varied school programs
- Continue to participate in the safe routes to schools program and work with others on complete streets initiatives that encourage walking and biking to school to achieve our goals for increases in the number of students walking to school; and
- Contribute to the proposed community media campaign by having our director of communications help publicize these activities and all those proposed through the grant .

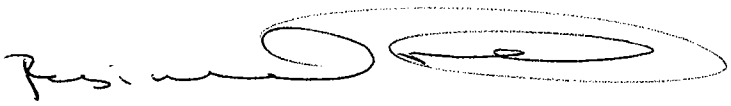
Our District is also committed to being an active participant in the project evaluation. Understanding the importance of thorough and accurate data on our students' health, we have partnered with the Yale-sponsored Community Interventions for Health to conduct detailed baseline surveys of a sample of 1,100 students in Fall 2009. We have also been a partner with the State in their administration of theYouth Risk Behavior Survey for many years. We pledge our support to follow Centers for Disease Control survey protocols and administer the Youth Risk Behavior Survey (YRBS) in the fall of 2010 in a sample of high school classes as required by this grant. We recognize that our school(s) may be selected to participate in the state or national YRBS in the spring of 2011 and we agree to participate in the spring state or national YRBS if selected.

Our work to date in school food services, in wellness promotion, and in our school construction program has been considered groundbreaking. Our commitment of our resources, many of them in-kind, for these programs is the equivalent of $1 million a year, factoring in staff time in these areas, for a two-year period. Our commitment to the media and marketing efforts that link these involves our communications office and the many forms of communication now available to our schools, staff and students. Our efforts here link with our school change efforts, which are school based and tied to parent and community engagement and interventions. We need our efforts here to succeed so that our children are healthy and thus able to be better learners, now and for their entire lives. We fully expect to work with our partners in order to sustain the initiatives within this grant well beyond the initial year grant period.

I am confident that the DPH and the City of New Haven's approach to advancing appropriate population-based strategies will effect behavior change in youth and sustain healthy behavior into adulthood throughout our community. What we are doing in New Haven can and should be replicated throughout the entire state – especially if we are a recipient of the CPPW grant, which would enable us to expand our efforts.

Please do not hesitate to contact me with any questions. Thank you.

Sincerely,



Reginald Mayo, Ph.D
Superintendent of Schools

New Haven Public Schools
District Wellness Committee

November 23, 2009

J. Robert Galvin, MD, MPH, MBA
Commissioner
Connecticut Department of Public Health
410 Capitol Avenue, MS #13 COM
Hartford, CT 06134

Dear Dr. Galvin:

As the Co-Chair of the New Haven Public Schools (NHPS) District Wellness Committee, I write in full support of the Connecticut Department of Public Health's (DPH) proposal for the CDC's funding opportunity, "Communities Putting Prevention to Work (CPPW)." If awarded, the CDC funding opportunity will provide NHPS with the resources to move ahead our ambitious prevention agenda at the District and school level, building infrastructure through training and policy changes that will be sustained for years after the CDC funds are gone.

Our Wellness Committee developed our District Wellness Plan which was ranked #1 in the state by the Rudd Center on Food Policy and Obesity at Yale using objective criteria. One of our first acts was removing junk food from our vending machines and our schools as a matter of policy. In other policies, the Committee facilitates the installation of bike racks in all new schools (31) and has worked closely with the Work Group on School Food to support changes in our Food Services.

We have developed our own Physical Activity and Wellness (PAW) model that is an on-the-ground practical implementation of the CDC eight point Coordinated School Health Model. PAW Coordinators at 18 schools have established and sustained School Wellness Teams that plan and launch discrete, time-limited health campaigns based on a careful assessment of school needs. With the resources available under this grant, we will be able to expand PAW to the remaining nine K-8 schools, reaching all K-8 students in our system. Since over 25% of our students are from Spanish speaking homes and others are from all over the world, our efforts in the schools and in the community are diverse and multi-cultural. Increasing physical activity and addressing nutrition have been high priorities for our teams and they remain ready to help implement the interventions in this grant.

We have partnered with Yale-Griffin Prevention Research Center to bring ABC for Fitness and Nutrition Detectives into our K-8 Schools and look forward to working with them to implement the NuVal nutritional scoring system in our cafeterias under this proposal.

Over the course of the two-year project period, we will support the efforts of the Superintendent and the Leadership Team to implement all the commitments contained in his letter and the grant proposal. Our Committee will also be an active participant in the project evaluation, including facilitation of the Centers for Disease Control survey protocols and administer the Youth Risk Behavior Survey (YRBS) in the fall of 2010 in a sample of high school classes as required by this grant.

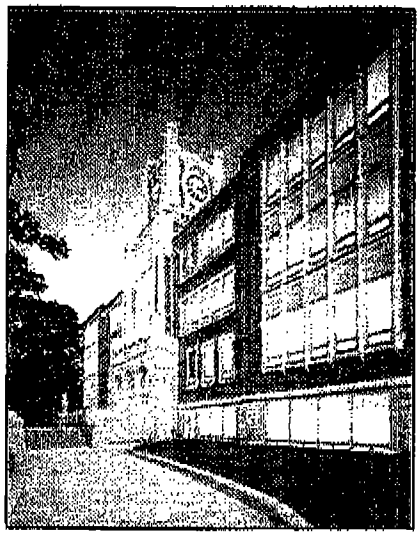
I am confident that the DPH and the City of New Haven's approach to advancing appropriate population-based strategies will effect significant improvement in the health status of our students. Please do not hesitate to contact me with any questions. Thank you.

Sincerely,

Susan M. Peters, APRN
Co-Chair

FAIR HAVEN SCHOOL

164 Grand Avenue
New Haven, CT 06513
203-691-2600



November 10, 2009

J. Robert Galvin, MD, MPH, MBA
Commissioner
Connecticut Department of Public Health
410 Capitol Avenue, MS #13 COM
Hartford, CT 06134

Dear Dr. Galvin:

A the Principal at Fair Haven School, I am writing in support of the Connecticut Department of Public Health's (DPH) proposal for the CDC's funding opportunity entitled, "Communities Putting Prevention to Work." If awarded, the CDC funding opportunity will help us build our community's capacity and policy infrastructure to address to key risk factors -- poor diet and lack of exercise -- that are tied to obesity and other chronic diseases within New Haven. If funded, Fair Haven and 8 other remaining K-8 schools: will have the opportunity to become PAW-*Physical Activity & Wellness* schools, which will enable us to better address health issues and to improve health behaviors, particularly physical activity and healthy eating among all our students and to make our schools more health promoting environments that support learning. PAW has been shown to significantly improve student behavior, improve class climate, and increase health behaviors among students and impact school culture.

Fair Haven School is Fair Haven is a K- 8 School that services approximately 640 students. Fair Haven is primarily a neighborhood school with 70% of our Latino students living within several miles of our school with the remainder of our students living throughout the city. Our mission is to support the development of responsible, lifelong learners by providing a comprehensive educational community dedicated to nurturing individual strengths, differentiating instruction, integrating technology, honoring diversity and encouraging citizenship. Our school is a vibrant community whose members work together and proudly share in the success for all!

The two year infusion of ARRA resources and the resources it will leverage will support critical, sustainable policy and environmental changes as well as infrastructure and organizational development that will have a lasting impact on our capacity to reach and impact a large proportion of our population most at risk for poor health outcomes. .

We are particularly excited about the potential for synergy between this activity and two major, connected efforts already underway. The Health Equity Alliance (HEA) a cross-cutting community engagement and policy change initiative. The second, the first U.S. implementation of Community Interventions for Health, promotes evidence-based strategies to understand and address the same risk factors as CPPW. This effort seeks to eliminate health inequities and reduce disparities by refocusing the city's extensive existing health and community investments towards prevention and long-term policy and structural change.

Fair Haven School is committed to supporting the work proposed by the Connecticut Department of Public Health and City of New Haven. We will work closely with the applicants and with CDC to implement our community action plan for policy, systems, and environmental changes to address nutrition and physical activity risk factors. Over the course of the two-year project period, we will continue to focus on health and wellness of our students and their family members. We will continue to move forward and encourage our students to walk to school on a regular basis and continue our partnership with the city of New Haven in our Safe Routes to School program. We are currently participants in a program that provides fresh fruit for our students each afternoon. We are fortunate to have been given a grant which provided a fitness arcade in our gym which is used both before and after school in addition to throughout the school day. Our focus has been and will continue to focus on the whole child and their health and well being.

On behalf of Fair Haven and the following eight schools: *Conte West Hills, Clemente Leadership, Hooker, King/Robinson, Lincoln-Bassett, Ross/Woodward, Truman and Wexler/Grant,* I extend my full support for the grant initiatives described and am certain these school and city wide efforts will have a significant impact on the health of our students and in reversing the obesity epidemic in New Haven.
We also look forward to working with our partners in order to sustain the initiatives within this grant well beyond the initial year grant period.

Please feel free to contact me with any questions.

Sincerely,

Kim Grant

YALE-NEW HAVEN HOSPITAL

November 20, 2009

J. Robert Galvin, MD, MPH, MBA
Commissioner
Connecticut Department of Public Health
410 Capitol Avenue, MS #13 COM
Hartford, CT 06134

Dear Dr. Galvin:

As the Executive Director of Community Health at Yale-New Haven Hospital, I am writing in support of the Connecticut Department of Public Health's (DPH) proposal for the CDC's funding opportunity entitled, "Communities Putting Prevention to Work." If awarded, the CDC funding opportunity will help us build our community's capacity and policy infrastructure to address two key risk factors -- poor diet and lack of exercise -- that are tied to obesity and other chronic diseases within New Haven. The two year infusion of ARRA resources and the resources it will leverage will support critical, sustainable policy and environmental changes as well as infrastructure and organizational development that will have a lasting impact on our capacity to reach and impact a large proportion of our population most at risk for poor health outcomes.

We are particularly excited about the potential for synergy between this activity and two major, connected efforts already underway. The Health Equity Alliance (HEA) a cross-cutting community engagement and policy change initiative. The second, the first U.S. implementation of Community Interventions for Health, promotes evidence-based strategies to understand and address the same risk factors as CPPW. This effort seeks to eliminate health inequities and reduce disparities by refocusing the city's extensive existing health and community investments towards prevention and long-term policy and structural change. We have worked over the past 20 years with the City of New Haven Health Department in addressing primary and acute health services for the region. We have collaborated on various grants, initiatives and programs to improve the overall health of the communities we serve.

Yale-New Haven Hospital is the largest provider of acute and primary care services in Southern Connecticut. We are committed to support the work proposed by the Connecticut Department of Public Health and City of New Haven to enhance the quality of life for its citizens. We highly support the collective efforts of DPH and the New Haven Health Department to put in place programs that will have a positive change on our capacity to reach and impact a large proportion of our population most at risk for poor health outcomes within our community and throughout the entire state.

Sincerely,

James E. Rawlings, MPH
Executive Director
Department of Community Health
(203) 688-5645

Cornell Scott
Hill Health
Corporation

November 23, 2009

J. Robert Galvin, MD, MPH, MBA
Commissioner
Connecticut Department of Public Health
410 Capitol Avenue, MS #13 COM
Hartford, CT 06134

Dear Dr. Galvin,

On behalf of Cornell Scott-Hill Health Corporation (CS-HHC), I am writing to support the Connecticut Department of Public Health's proposal for the CDC's funding opportunity entitled "Communities Putting Prevention to Work." The CDC funding would help us build our community's capacity to address key risk factors that are tied to obesity and other chronic diseases within New Haven.

We have worked over the past 40 years with the New Haven Health Department and the State of Connecticut to provide health promotion, health education, primary care, case management, services for children at risk of or experiencing developmental delay and a continuum of HIV/AIDS services for New Haven's residents.

CS-HHC is the City's largest provider of comprehensive primary care. The Health Center was accredited by TJC in 1998 in medical, dental, behavioral health, and laboratory services; the Center maintains this accreditation. The CS-HHC mission is to provide accessible, comprehensive and quality primary and behavioral (mental health and substance abuse treatment) health care to low income and underserved residents in the greater New Haven area. During FY2009, HHC staff served 29,672 patients who had 174,629 encounters. Their race/ethnicities were 31% African-American, 31% Latino, 21% White, and 17% multi-racial/other. The patients' insurance status was 42% Medicaid, 21% uninsured/sliding-fee-scale, 15% State Administered General Assistance, 15% private insurance, and 7% Medicare.

CS-HHC and I are committed to supporting the work proposed by the Connecticut Department of Public Health and City of New Haven. I look forward to serving on the Project's Leadership Team. The Health Center will work closely with the applicants and with the CDC to implement our community action plan for policy, systems, and environmental changes to address nutrition and physical activity risk factors. We look forward to working with our partners in order to sustain the initiatives within this grant well beyond the initial year grant period.

I am confident that the DPH and city of New Haven's goal to advancing each appropriate population-based approach is necessary to achieve behavior change in our youth and sustain healthy behavior into adulthood throughout our community and throughout the entire state.

Sincerely,

Jamesina E. Henderson
Chief Executive Officer

400 Columbus Avenue
New Haven, CT 06519 P: 203.503.3250 F: 203.503.3254 www.hillhealthcenter.com

November 17, 2009

J. Robert Galvin, MD, MPH, MBA, Commissioner
Connecticut Department of Public Health
410 Capitol Avenue, MS #13 COM
Hartford, CT 06134

Dear Dr. Galvin:

It gives me great please to write in support of the Connecticut Department of Public Health's (DPH) proposal for the CDC's funding opportunity entitled, "Communities Putting Prevention to Work (CPPW)." As the Executive Director of the Fair Haven Community Health Center, I am very familiar with the City of New Haven's activities and innovations in this area through our multiple city-wide collaborations over the years. If awarded, the CDC funding opportunity will help us build our community's capacity and policy infrastructure to address key risk factors of poor diet and lack of exercise that are tied to obesity and other chronic diseases within New Haven. The two-year infusion of ARRA resources and the resources it will leverage will support critical, sustainable policy and environmental changes as well as infrastructure and organizational development that will have a lasting impact on our capacity to reach and improve poor health outcomes for a large proportion of our most at-risk residents.

We are particularly excited about the potential for complementary activities between this activity and two major, connected efforts already underway: 1) The Health Equity Alliance (HEA) a cross-cutting community engagement and policy change initiative and 2) the Community Interventions for Health, the first U.S. implementation that promotes evidence-based strategies which addresses the same risk factors as CPPW.

The Fair Haven Community Health Center serves over 15,000 New Haven residents for their primary care. Through state and private funding, we are able to provide a model diabetes prevention project with exercise and nutrition interventions, tobacco cessation counseling, the WIC program to 1,800 participants and disease management for diabetes and hypertension to over 2,000 patients. Our target population is 70% Latino and 16% African American. The Fair Haven Community Health Center will work closely with the applicants and with CDC to implement our community action plan for policy, systems, and environmental changes to address nutrition and physical activity risk factors. Over the course of the two-year project period, we specifically would be able to help with coordinated school health with our 5 school based health clinics, as well as the active city activities. We also look forward to working with our partners in order to sustain the initiatives of this grant well beyond the initial grant period.

I am confident that the CT DPH and the city of New Haven's approach to advancing appropriate population-based strategies are necessary to achieve behavior change in youth and sustain healthy behavior into adulthood throughout our community and can be replicated throughout the entire state. Please feel free to contact me with any questions.

Sincerely,

Katrina H. Clark, MPH
Executive Director

THE FAIR HAVEN COMMUNITY HEALTH CENTER
374 GRAND AVENUE • NEW HAVEN, CONNECTICUT 06513 • (203) 777-7411 • FAX (203) 777-8506

The Community Foundation
for Greater New Haven

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President & CE

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November 23, 2009

J. Robert Galvin, MD, MPH, MBA
Commissioner
Connecticut Department of Public Health
410 Capitol Avenue, MS #13 COM
Hartford, CT 06134

Dear Dr. Galvin:

I am writing in support of the CT Department of Public Health's (DPH) proposal for the CDC's funding opportunity entitled "Communities Putting Prevention to Work".

The Community Foundation for Greater New Haven has worked in close partnership with the City of New Haven on many projects over the years. We have been highly engaged in health initiatives in greater New Haven through grants from both our donor advised and unrestricted funds. We also support the multiple collaborative, evidence-based interventions by local health providers in areas of primary care, behavioral health, health access, and maternal and child health. In addition, The Community Foundation for Greater New Haven operates the federally funded New Haven Healthy Start Program which brings together all prenatal care providers in the Perinatal Partnership and consumers through the 200+ member Healthy Start Consortium to work on system issues and to improve birth outcomes.

We have collaborated with the Health Department and the Community Alliance for Research and Engagement at Yale (CARE) to bring several new overarching initiatives to New Haven that have created a new framework for engagement and action: (1) the Health Equity Alliance which is educating the community on the social determinants of health inequities and what can be done through policy change and system building to reduce them, and (2) Community Interventions for Health, in which New Haven is the first U.S. site in an international collaboration to mobilize whole communities to address the risk factors of poor diet, lack of exercise and tobacco use. These are the same factors of concern in the *Communities Putting Prevention to Work* initiative. In addition, we have worked closely with CARE and through our existing partnerships with neighborhood leaders, engaged neighborhood residents to link the CIH interventions and baseline data collection to community driven efforts to improve neighborhood quality of life. We are also committed to supporting the City's School Change initiative of which the school-based interventions in the proposal are a critical element – children who are not healthy face greater difficulty succeeding academically.

We continue to support the community indicators web site, Data Haven, which is being transformed into a full Community Knowledge Center using new online tools and mapping. This center will document these multi-pronged and complex initiatives and link them to the best community indicator data available. I am pleased that this project will be tapped to support the work of the New Haven *Communities Putting Prevention to Work* initiatives.

The Community Foundation for Greater New Haven will continue its strong and deep commitment to efforts that improve our community's health. We look forward to working with the CT Department of Health as well as the New Haven partnership to support and ensure the full and effective implementation of the planned policy changes and interventions.

Sincerely,

William W. Ginsberg,
President & CEO

NATIONAL STANDARDS
Confirmed in Compliance with
National Standards for U.S.
Community Foundations

70 Audubon Street (203) 777-2386 phone
New Haven (203) 787-6584 fax
Connecticut 06510 www.cfgnh.org

United Way

November 18, 2009

J. Robert Galvin, MD, MPH, MBA
Commissioner
Connecticut Department of Public Health
410 Capitol Avenue, MS #13 COM
Hartford, CT 06134

Dear Dr. Galvin:

I am writing in support of the Connecticut Department of Public Health's (DPH) proposal for the CDC's funding opportunity entitled, "Communities Putting Prevention to Work" (CPPW). This funding will help us build our community's capacity and policy infrastructure to address to key risk factors -- poor diet and lack of exercise -- that are tied to obesity and other chronic diseases within New Haven.

We are particularly excited about the potential for synergy between this activity and two connected efforts already underway and with which United Way is involved: the Health Equity Alliance (HEA), a cross-cutting community engagement and policy change initiative, and Community Interventions for Health, which promotes evidence-based strategies to understand and address the same risk factors as CPPW.

United Way of Greater New Haven (UWGNH) works to improve lives by focusing on the building blocks for a good life: Education, Income, and Health. We have a strong commitment to reducing the disparities that exist in our region and encourage people to give, advocate, and volunteer in order to address those disparities and improve conditions in our community.

UWGNH is committed to supporting the work proposed by the Connecticut Department of Public Health and City of New Haven. We will work closely with the applicants and with CDC to help implement the community action plan for policy, systems, and environmental changes to address nutrition and physical activity risk factors. Over the course of the two-year project period, we will:

- Continue to participate as a partner in these efforts, assigning high-level staff to this effort to ensure good alignment between the health-related work of United Way and other community efforts.
- Highlight the work of the HEA and CPPW in our communications and outreach to the nonprofit community and donor community.
- Seek, where possible, to align United Way investments with the work of CPPW.

We project that the total value of the above commitments, including in-kind contributions, at **$2,000** per year for a two-year total of **$4,000**. We also look forward to working with our partners in order to sustain the initiatives within this grant well beyond the initial year grant period.

I am confident that the DPH and the city of New Haven's approach to advancing appropriate population-based strategies are necessary to achieve behavior change in youth and sustain healthy behavior into adulthood throughout our community and can be replicated throughout the entire state. Please feel free to contact me with any questions.

Sincerely,

Jack Healy
President and CEO

United Way of Greater New Haven
71 Orange Street
New Haven, Connecticut 06510
(203) 772-2010 fax: (203) 789-8167
www.uwgnh.org

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[illegible]
[illegible]

The Annie E. Casey Foundation

November 10, 2009

J. Robert Galvin, MD, MPH, MBA
Commissioner
Connecticut Department of Public Health
410 Capitol Avenue, MS #13 COM
Hartford, CT 06134

Dear Dr. Galvin:

I am writing in support of the Connecticut Department of Public Health's (DPH) proposal for the CDC's funding opportunity entitled, "Communities Putting Prevention to Work." This funding would help the New Haven Community to build social cohesion through extensive outreach and begin to address its serious health inequities with some significant investments in policy changes and capacity building.

The Annie E. Casey Foundation categorizes New Haven as a "Civic Site," a place where the Casey has a significant stake by virtue of it being the home of Casey Family Services. We invest approximately $350,000 (fix) in grants to community agencies for programming to support family economic independence. We have supported a range of collaborative and individual providers

We are vitally interested in the economic health of poor working families in New Haven and Connecticut, and we see their physical health as a precondition to full financial stability. For this reason we are ready to join with our partners in New Haven to support implementation of the specific policy interventions proposed.

We will assist in connecting our front line staff and that of our grantees to the opportunities created through the grant for better nutrition and increased access to physical activity both for themselves and for the constituents they work with. We can also be helpful in the execution of the proposed media campaign and wellness portal development. We are pleased that the grant will be tapping the DataHaven Community Knowledge Center as a resource for connecting and informing all partners and stakeholders and grounding the work in hard data for accountability and progress tracking. Our Foundation has supported the development of this vital community resource.

We look forward to moving forward on this initiative.

Sincerely,

John E Padilla

John Padilla
Senior Associate

Yale University

Paul D. Cleary, Ph.D.
Dean of Public Health
C-E.A. Winslow Professor and
Chair of Epidemiology and Public Health
School of Medicine
P.O. Box 208034
New Haven, Connecticut 06520-8034

Campus address:
210 LEPH
60 College Street
Telephone: 203 785-2867
Fax: 203 785-6103
Email: paul.cleary@yale.edu

November 23, 2009

J. Robert Galvin, MD, MPH, MBA
Commissioner
Connecticut Department of Public Health
410 Capitol Avenue, MS #13 COM
Hartford, CT 06134

Dear Dr. Galvin:

I am writing with enthusiastic support for the Connecticut Department of Public Health's (DPH) proposal for the CDC's funding opportunity entitled, "Communities Putting Prevention to Work." If awarded, the CDC funding opportunity will help us build our community's capacity and policy infrastructure to address key risk factors - poor diet and lack of exercise - that are tied to obesity and other chronic diseases within New Haven. The ARRA resources will support critical, sustainable policy and environmental changes as well as infrastructure and organizational development that will have a lasting impact on our capacity to improve poor health outcomes for a large proportion of our most at risk residents, which is an integral aspect of the mission of the Yale School of Public Health (YSPH).

YSPH faculty, staff, and students have successfully forged long-standing partnerships with the City of New Haven and the New Haven Health Department, the Greater New Haven region, and the State of Connecticut to address pressing public health challenges. For example, the Yale-Griffin Prevention Research Center, of which I am currently Principal Investigator, has collaborated with local communities for over a decade through outreach, prevention and treatment efforts. The health burdens of obesity, diabetes, and cardiovascular disease are being met head-on through the innovative methods of Yale's Community Alliance for Research and Engagement (CARE), under the leadership of Dr. Jeannette Ickovics. Also, I have been pleased to represent YSPH expertise through membership on the Connecticut Commission on Health Equity, established to identify, evaluate, and eliminate disparities in health access among the citizens of Connecticut.

The Yale School of Public Health is committed to supporting the work proposed by the Connecticut Department of Public Health and the City of New Haven. We look forward to continued collaborations in achieving our shared goals to implement a community action plan for policy, systems, and environmental changes that will address nutrition and physical activity risk factors. This effort stands to eliminate health inequities and reduce disparities by refocusing the City's extensive existing health and community investments towards prevention and long-term policy and structural change, and will certainly provide a strong foundation for a statewide model of public health improvement.

Sincerely,

Paul D. Cleary

Paul D. Cleary

Yale Center for
Clinical Investigation

CARE: Community Alliance for Research and Engagement
A strong New Haven is a healthy New Haven

23 November 2009

J. Robert Galvin, MD, MPH, MBA
Commissioner
Connecticut Department of Public Health
410 Capitol Avenue, MS #13 COM
Hartford CT 06134

Dear Dr. Galvin:

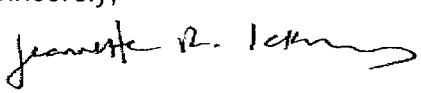
I am pleased to write the strongest possible letter of support for the Connecticut Department of Public Health's (DPH) application for the grant proposal, *Communities Putting Prevention to Work*. If funded, this grant from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention will strengthen and expand our infrastructure to improve health substantially. The multi-sectoral and trans-disciplinary team you have assembled from across the state is very impressive, and the proposal is highly innovative. We look forward to working in collaboration with DPH and the New Haven Health Department to take full advantage of the increased capacity offered by collaboration in *Communities Putting Prevention to Work*.

CARE: Community Alliance for Research and Engagement is a program of the Yale Center for Clinical Investigation and the Yale School of Public Health that collaborates with various partners in the New Haven community to improve health in New Haven. Given our roots in the School of Public Health, we are acutely aware that poor diet and physical inactivity contribute directly to our chronic and expanding obesity epidemic among both children and adults in Connecticut. Consequently, obesity is contributing to our high rates of diabetes, cardiovascular disease, cerebrovascular disease and other adverse health outcomes. Furthermore, we recognize that poverty, unsafe neighborhoods, and other structural determinants adversely impact the health and quality of life of our residents. With leadership from the Connecticut Department of Public Health, we have an opportunity to make a significant impact in New Haven and across the state.

As you know, CARE also has chosen to target these major risk factors for chronic disease: poor diet, lack of physical activity as well as tobacco use. New Haven is the first US City to join a global chronic disease prevention collaborative, *Community Interventions for Health*. This summer, we conducted asset mapping/environmental scans on six high-risk neighborhoods, and this fall we completed more than 2000 surveys among children and adults across New Haven. These data can provide an important foundation to develop and implement the policy initiatives outlined in the proposal, *Communities Putting Prevention to Work*.

CARE is committed to serving as an active collaborator with the Connecticut Department of Public Health to improve diet and physical activity along with the structural and policy environment that sets a most important foundation for community health. My staff and I will contribute substantively to the intervention implementation as well as to the evaluation. I look forward to being a member of the Leadership Group to ensure the success and sustainability of our initiative. As a community, we are ready to move forward to implement *Communities Putting Prevention to Work* and to respond with action. In partnership with many in our community, we are eager to take on this important work under the leadership of the Connecticut Department of Public Health.

Sincerely,



Jeannette Ickovics
Director, CARE

Jeannette R. Ickovics PhD, Professor, Yale School of Public Health; Director, CARE; email: Jeannette.Ickovics@Yale.edu
60 College Street, Room 432, PO Box 208034 New Haven, CT 06520-8034 Tel: 203-785-6213 Fax: 203-785-6279

Yale-Griffin Prevention Research Center

November 10, 2009

J. Robert Galvin, MD, MPH, MBA
Commissioner
Connecticut Department of Public Health
410 Capitol Avenue, MS #13 COM
Hartford, CT 06134

Dear Bob:

I write to lend my enthusiastic support of the Connecticut Department of Public Health's proposal in response to the CDC RFA entitled, "Communities Putting Prevention to Work." The CDC funded Yale-Griffin Prevention Research Center (PRC) has been working with the New Haven Health Department and several other community partners over the past few years to address health inequities while creating a health promoting environment in the city. This funding opportunity will help us build upon existing work underway in our community and will enhance both capacity and infrastructure to address the key risk factors tied to obesity and other chronic diseases. The infusion of ARRA resources at this critical time in our work will help us to leverage critical support and programming to reach and impact a large proportion of our population at greatest need.

As noted, we've been involved with complementary work in New Haven - namely the Community Solutions Health Indicators project which laid the groundwork for the city's selection as a pilot site for the CADH funded Health Equity Alliance (HEA) initiative. Additional work supporting these efforts involves Yale's Community Alliance for Research and Engagement (CARE) CIH initiative which is working to promote evidence-based strategies to understand and address the same risk factors as CPPW. The PRC has enjoyed an extensive history of working both with the state, on prior obesity prevention grants for example, as well as the New Haven Health Department. Those city health department initiatives have focused primarily on lifestyle interventions (physical activity and nutrition) for diabetes prevention.

As the director of the Prevention Research Center I am committed to dedicating our resources to support the work proposed by the CT DPH and the City of New Haven. We are in a unique position to lead the city-wide Nutrition Guidance initiative as detailed in the proposal and will work closely with the entire project team to lend support and direction as needed to the other component of this project to help ensure its success. Specifically, over the two-year project period, in addition to leading the nutrition guidance initiative, the PRC staff will participate on the project advisory committee, and support the overall evaluation activities by assisting the project team with local data collection and management activities. In addition to the funds requested to support our involvement, the PRC will be contributing approximately $124,844 in in-kind support for the 2-year project period. In addition to contributing a matching percent effort for my time on the project, the PRC's Deputy Director, Assistant Director of Research/Evaluation, and Research Associate dedicated to support our school-based initiatives, will all dedicate effort to support the project.

I'm impressed with the City of New Haven Health Department's dedication to improving the health of its residents and the collaborations and partnerships they've developed over the recent past to address the critical health issues related to disparities and inequities, and am pleased to be a part of these efforts. Funding provided by this granting mechanism would bring the much needed resources to advance the work currently underway and to lay the foundation for a healthy New Haven while contributing to the health of Connecticut as a whole.

Sincerely,

David L. Katz, MD, MPH, FACP, FACPM

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Yale OFFICE OF NEW HAVEN AND STATE AFFAIRS

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November 25, 2009

J. Robert Galvin, MD, MPH, MBA
Commissioner, Department of Public Health
410 Capitol Avenue, MS #13 COM
Hartford, CT 06134

Dear Dr. Galvin:

As a lead partner in the City of New Haven's efforts to create a healthier New Haven, Yale University supports the Connecticut Department of Public Health's (DPH) proposal for funding that would come to New Haven under the CDC "Communities Putting Prevention to Work" initiative. You have heard in separate letters from the Dean of our School of Public Health and other partners within the Yale Community. The Office of New Haven and State Affairs has the additional responsibility to facilitate and coordinate a wide range of partnership activities that relate to the interventions and capacity building work proposed in your application to CDC.

Our office has been supportive of the Mayor's School Change initiative. Beyond that, we have a long term partnership with the schools under which Yale Public School Interns in 17 schools facilitate connections with Yale student organizations and departments to address specific school needs. We are thus particularly pleased to see the extensive involvement of the New Haven Public Schools in the effort.

As the largest employer in New Haven, with many of our staff living in the neighborhoods that will be targeted by this proposal, we remain committed to employee health. For example, a major new University Health Services building to support community health needs is nearing completion. We also operate many initiatives related to the CDC's goals of increasing physical activity and nutrition in the City. For example, our Office of Sustainability offers a range of incentives to employees to take mass transit, walk and bicycle, aligning with the CDC's recommendations to promote active transportation. These include bike racks on Yale Shuttles, guaranteed rides home for commuters, transportation to and from local train stations, commuter counseling and free parking passes for carpoolers. Additionally, Yale University's Homebuyer Program promotes employee homeownership in central New Haven neighborhoods, helping to enable a significant proportion of our employees to walk, bike or take transit to work. Over 900 Yale employees have taken advantage of this nationally-significant program, resulting in $130 million in home purchases near the University including a direct commitment of $21 million in University funding. As a corollary benefit, increased home ownership contributes to neighborhood safety and helps increase walking. Our community investment programs also have supported mixed-use developments throughout the city center.

Our office will work with the applicants to support implementation of the City's community action plan for policy, systems, and environmental changes. We also look forward to working with our partners to sustain the initiatives within this grant beyond the initial grant period. Please feel free to contact me with any questions.

Sincerely,

Mike Morand

Michael Morand
Associate Vice-President

Southern Connecticut
State University
501 Crescent Street
New Haven, CT 06515-1355

School of Health & Human Services
Departments of Communication Disorders • Marriage & FamilyTherapy
Nursing • Public Health • Recreation & Leisure Studies • Social Work

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DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC HEALTH

November 23, 2009

J. Robert Galvin, MD, MPH, MBA
Commissioner
Connecticut Department of Public Health
410 Capitol Avenue, MS #13 COM
Hartford, CT 06134

Dear Dr. Galvin:

I am writing to you in my capacity as Chairperson of the Southern Connecticut State University Department of Public Health to express my strong support for the Connecticut Department of Public Health's bid for Centers for Disease Control and Prevention funding for the proposed "Communities Putting Prevention to Work" program. High obesity and chronic disease rates in the City of New Haven underscore the tremendous need for well-conceived programs to address poor diet and sedentary lifestyle. The residents of New Haven would be well served by this initiative, which, if funded, would greatly expand the city's capacity for effective responses to lifestyle problems that promise to have a lasting impact on population health.

The City of New Haven has been aggressively developing responses to enduring health problems that require intensive, focused application of professional skills and ample resources. Two exemplary programs that demonstrate commitment and vision are The Health Equity Alliance and Community Interventions for Health. The former empowers the community by engaging it in the process of establishing policy; the latter promotes scientifically validated best practices to mitigating risk factors for obesity and chronic diseases. Through these and the proposed "Communities Putting Prevention to Work" program, the City of New Haven can make meaningful and sustainable strides in its unyielding work to eliminate health inequities, with primary prevention, including health promotion and specific protection as integral philosophical pillars.

Southern's Department of Public Health, a Council on Education for Public Health accredited program of public health that trains students at the baccalaureate and Master of Public Health levels, has a 35-year history of working successfully with both the New Haven Health Department and Connecticut Department of Public Health. We welcome the opportunity to collaborate with both departments on this project, as it fits perfectly with our academic mission of training future public health professionals that value community-based practice and our dedication to professional service with the local and state communities to improve residents' health. Our participation will include the application of faculty expertise to various stages of program and policy development and the engagement of students through class and special projects. It would be our good fortune to continue to contribute to this important work beyond the two-year time frame of the proposed project.

The health problems to be addressed by the "Communities Putting Prevention to Work" program are compelling: they adversely affect large segments of the New Haven population across social and economic lines, but compromise quality of life disproportionately and most profoundly among the most disadvantaged. Your leadership and that of Director of Health William Quinn in New Haven have been unswerving in your attempts to mitigate factors in the social environment that promote poor health outcomes. This proposal would establish an important part of the foundation for making lasting change in health conditions and experience.

Sincerely,

William G. Faraclas, Dr.P.H.
Professor and Chair

Yale University

Robert Wood Johnson
Clinical Scholars Program
School of Medicine
IE–61 SHM
P.O. Box 208088
New Haven, Connecticut 06520-8088

Campus address:
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333 Cedar Street
Telephone: 203 785-4148
Fax: 203 785-3461

November 20, 2009

J. Robert Galvin, MD, MPH, MBA
Commissioner
Connecticut Department of Public Health
410 Capitol Avenue, MS #13 COM
Hartford, CT 06134

Dear Dr. Galvin:

I am writing in support of the Connecticut Department of Public Health's (DPH) proposal for the CDC's funding opportunity entitled, "Communities Putting Prevention to Work." The Robert Wood Johnson Foundation (RWJF) Clinical Scholars Program at Yale University School of Medicine has been working closely with the New Haven Health Department for over 5 years in efforts designed to improve the health of New Haven residents. We have sought strategies that have reach beyond New Haven.

The RWJF Clinical Scholars Program is a highly competitive research training fellowship, one of several health related fellowships the RWJ Foundation funds to develop health leaders. Specifically, the Clinical Scholars Program is designed to train physicians to lead efforts to improve health and health care in the U.S. through health services research and its translation into effective health care practices. One emphasis of the two year fellowship is engaging Scholars in community-based participatory research to the benefit of the local community. When Yale was selected as a site, it made a commitment to work with the New Haven Health Department and others to improve the health of New Haven.

Since 2005, we have partnered with the New Haven Health Department in evaluating a pilot physical activity intervention in elementary schools, developed and executed a foundational qualitative study of the social determinants of health in New Haven and most recently have also been working with the New Haven County Medical Association and several community based health organizations to increase access to specialty care for New Haven's insured. Bill Quinn, New Haven Health Director serves on the Clinical Scholars Institutional Advisory Committee chaired by the Dean of the Medical School and Maria Damiani, his director of women's health and maternal and child health serves on the Program's Steering Committee on Community Projects. I serve on the Department's Health Equity Alliance Planning Team. This mutual service provides opportunities for continuing collaboration.

CDC funding would provide another important building block in a coordinated strategy to address the factors contributing to chronic disease. The New Haven Health Department has done a tremendous job in bringing together key efforts at identifying community health needs, engaging a broad spectrum of the community in conversations about ways to improve community health through understanding the social determinants of health, education, prevention, interventions and potential policy change. Their recent selection as a Health Equity Alliance site by the Connecticut Association of Health Directors is evidence of the Department's leadership.

The RWJ Foundation Clinical Scholars Program at Yale is committed to continue to collaborate and support the work proposed by the Connecticut Department of Public Health and City of New Haven through our active participation on the Health Equity Alliance Planning Team and engaging Clinical Scholars in specific research and prevention initiatives as appropriate.

Please feel free to contact me with any questions. Best wishes on your application process.

Sincerely,

Georgina P. Lucas
Deputy Director

CITY OF NEW HAVEN
BOARD OF ALDERMEN

Carl Goldfield
Alderman, 29th Ward

President

Member
City Services and Environmental Policy Committee
Finance Committee
Ad Hoc Living Wage Commission

25 Roydon Road
New Haven, CT 06511-2806

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E-mail: Ward29@newhavenct.net

November 21, 2009

J. Robert Galvin, MD, MPH, MBA
Commissioner, Connecticut Department of Public Health
410 Capitol Avenue, MS #13 COM
Hartford, CT 06134

Dear Dr. Galvin:
As President of the New Haven Board of Aldermen, I am writing in support of the Connecticut Department of Public Health's (DPH) proposal for the CDC's funding opportunity entitled, "Communities Putting Prevention to Work." This CDC funding opportunity will tremendously benefit our community's capacity to address key risk factors -- poor diet and lack of exercise -- that are tied to obesity and other chronic diseases within New Haven.

Members of the Board of Aldermen are elected and serve all 30 wards within New Haven, and are deeply involved with health issues throughout the city. We understand that cross-cutting policy, systems and environmental changes are needed to address persistent health inequities in New Haven, particularly when it comes to improving nutrition and increasing physical activity.

Over the course of the two-year project period, we will:

- Review and approve policies and legislation designed to increase the health of New Haven residents, such as the Complete Streets Order, which our Board passed by a unanimous vote of 30-0 in October 2008.
- Work with the Health Department and the Health Equity and Wellness Commission in order to identify and advance specific policy initiatives that can increase physical activity and improve nutrition among New Haven residents.
- Participate in Committees and City Commissions to ensure full implementation of the grant proposal.
- On an individual and collective basis, we will support the Transportation Department's efforts to create a more livable city by implementing a 20 mile system of way-finding, lighting, road markings and signage that directs residents to neighborhood locations, parks and Farmers Markets.
- Supporting creation Safe Routes to Schools programs in and around our city schools. Since our neighborhoods are very densely settled, schools are true community spaces and access to schools means improved transportation and recreational facility access for city residents of all ages. Our Board of Aldermen has recently supported a resolution supporting the national Safe Routes to School program.
- Incorporate health and wellness messaging into our regular communications to city residents. For example, we could encourage residents throughout the city to attend City meetings and festivals, such as the planned street closure events, by walking and cycling if possible.

Again, it is with highest regard that I support this application. I am confident that the City's innovative history coupled with resources from this grant will lead to improved health outcomes for all New Haven residents.

Please feel free to contact me with any questions.

Sincerely,

Carl Goldfield
President, New Haven Board of Aldermen

State of Connecticut
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
STATE CAPITOL
HARTFORD, CONNECTICUT 06106-1591

REPRESENTATIVE TONI E. WALKER
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CO-CHAIR
HUMAN SERVICES COMMITTEE

MEMBER
APPROPRIATIONS COMMITTEE
JUDICIARY COMMITTEE

November 24, 2009

Commissioner Robert Galvin
Connecticut Department of Public Health
410 Capitol Avenue
Hartford, CT 06106

Dear Commissioner Galvin:

As a State Representative serving New Haven, I am in full support of the Connecticut Department of Public Health's and the City of New Haven's proposal for the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) funding opportunity entitled, "Communities Putting Prevention to Work," and I encourage its swift approval.

This funding opportunity will help build our City's policy infrastructure to address to key risk factors that are tied to obesity and other chronic diseases that affect residents of New Haven. The 2012 policy goals to be promoted through this grant may include:

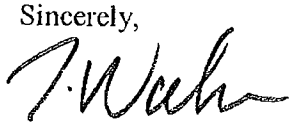
- Healthy Food: Point of purchase labeling in schools and community retail outlets, increased Farmer Market activity, cutting-edge School-to-Farm programs;
- Active City: Creating safe routes to schools and neighborhood sites through targeted interventions that promote citywide access for pedestrians, bicyclists and transit users, including Complete Streets and lighting within areas with personal safety issues, promoting physical activity via citywide events and grants to community organizations;
- Coordinated School Health: Engaging students and staff in school-based campaigns, including School Wellness Teams that promote nutrition and physical activity within their Pre-K-8 schools.

I am confident that the Department of Public Health and the City of New Haven will use the appropriate population-based approach to address obesity and other chronic diseases, which is

necessary to achieve healthy behavior change in our youth and sustain healthy behavior into adulthood throughout our community.

Thank you for your attention to this vital matter. I trust that action will be taken as soon as possible to approve this funding and ensure a lasting impact on our capacity to address the growing proportion of New Haven's population that is at risk for poor health outcomes.

Sincerely,



Representative Toni Walker

State of Connecticut
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
STATE CAPITOL
HARTFORD, CONNECTICUT 06106-1591

REPRESENTATIVE JUAN R. CANDELARIA
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DEPUTY MAJORITY WHIP

VICE CHAIRMAN
HIGHER EDUCATION AND EMPLOYMENT ADVANCEMENT COMMITTEE

MEMBER
APPROPRIATIONS COMMITTEE
REGULATIONS REVIEW COMMITTEE

November 24, 2009

Connecticut Department of Public Health
J. Robert Galvin, MD, MPH, MBA
Commissioner
410 Capitol Avenue, MS #13 COM
Hartford, CT 06134

Dear Dr. Galvin:

As the State Representative of New Haven's 95th Assembly District, I am writing in support of the Connecticut Department of Public Health's (DPH) proposal for the CDC's funding opportunity entitled, "Communities Putting Prevention to Work." If awarded, the CDC funding opportunity will help build our community's capacity and policy infrastructure to address to key risk factors -- poor diet and lack of exercise -- that are tied to obesity and other chronic diseases within New Haven. The two year infusion of ARRA resources will leverage support critical, sustainable policy and environmental changes as well as infrastructure and organizational development that will have a lasting impact on our capacity to reach and improve poor health outcomes for a large proportion of our most at risk residents.

I am particularly excited about the potential for synergy between this activity and two major, connected efforts already underway. The Health Equity Alliance (HEA) a cross-cutting community engagement and policy change initiative. The second, the first U.S. implementation of Community Interventions for Health, promotes evidence-based strategies to understand and address the same risk factors as CPPW. This effort seeks to eliminate health inequities and reduce disparities by refocusing the city's extensive existing health and community investments towards prevention and long-term policy and structural change.

I am committed to supporting the work proposed by the Connecticut Department of Public Health and City of New Haven. I will work closely with the applicants and with CDC to implement the community action plan for policy, systems, and environmental changes to address nutrition and physical activity risk factors.

I am confident that the DPH and the city of New Haven's approach to advancing appropriate population-based strategies are necessary to achieve behavior change in youth and sustain healthy behavior into adulthood throughout our community and can be replicated throughout the entire state. Please feel free to contact me with any questions.

Sincerely,

Juan Candelaria
State Representative

State of Connecticut

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

STATE CAPITOL
HARTFORD, CONNECTICUT 06106-1591

REPRESENTATIVE ROBERT W. MEGNA
NINETY SEVENTH ASSEMBLY DISTRICT

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VICE CHAIRMAN
INSURANCE AND REAL ESTATE COMMITTEE

MEMBER
ENERGY AND TECHNOLOGY COMMITTEE
FINANCE, REVENUE AND BONDING COMMITTEE

November 23, 2009

J. Robert Galvin, MD, MPH, MBA
Commissioner
Connecticut Department of Public Health
410 Capitol Avenue, MS #13 COM
Hartford, CT 06134

Dear Dr. Galvin:

As State Representative of District 97 in New Haven, I am writing in support of the Connecticut Department of Public Health's proposal for the CDC's funding opportunity entitled, "Communities Putting Prevention to Work." If awarded, the CDC funding opportunity will help us build our community's capacity and policy infrastructure to address to key risk factors -- poor diet and lack of exercise -- that are tied to obesity and other chronic diseases within New Haven. The two year infusion of ARRA resources and the resources it will leverage will support critical, sustainable policy and environmental changes as well as infrastructure and organizational development that will have a lasting impact on our capacity to reach and impact a large proportion of our population most at risk for poor health outcomes. .

I am confident that the Department of Public Health and the city of New Haven advancing appropriate population-based approach is necessary to achieve behavior change in youth and sustain healthy behavior into adulthood throughout our community and throughout the entire state. Please feel free to contact me with any questions.

Sincerely,

Robert W. Megna
State Representative
District 97

State of Connecticut
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
STATE CAPITOL
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REPRESENTATIVE CAMERON C. STAPLES
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CO-CHAIRMAN
FINANCE, REVENUE AND BONDING COMMITTEE

November 23, 2009

J. Robert Galvin, MD, MPH, MBA
Commissioner
Connecticut Department of Public Health
410 Capitol Avenue, MS #13 COM
Hartford, CT 06134

Dear Dr. Galvin:

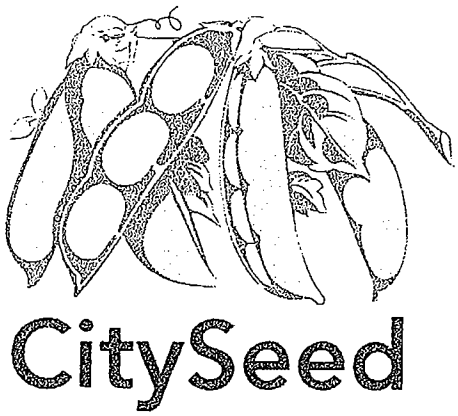
As a State Representative from New Haven and House Chairman of the Finance, Revenue and Bonding Committee, I am writing in support of the Connecticut Department of Public Health's (DPH) proposal for the CDC's funding opportunity entitled, "Communities Putting Prevention to Work." If awarded, the CDC funding opportunity will help us build our community's capacity and policy infrastructure to address two key risk factors -- poor diet and lack of exercise -- that are tied to obesity and other chronic diseases within New Haven. The two year infusion of ARRA resources and the resources it will leverage will support critical, sustainable policy and environmental changes as well as infrastructure and organizational development that will have a lasting impact on our capacity to reach and improve poor health outcomes for a large proportion of our most at risk residents. I am particularly excited about the potential for synergy between this activity and two major, connected efforts already underway. First is the Health Equity Alliance (HEA) a cross-cutting community engagement and policy change initiative. The second, the first U.S. implementation of Community Interventions for Health, promotes evidence-based strategies to understand and address the same risk factors as CPPW. This effort seeks to eliminate health inequities and reduce disparities by refocusing the city's extensive existing health and community investments towards prevention and long-term policy and structural change. I support the work proposed by the Connecticut Department of Public Health and City of New Haven and strongly encourage the applicants and the CDC to implement our community action plan for policy, systems, and environmental changes to address nutrition and physical activity risk factors.

Sincerely,

Cam Staples

Cameron C. Staples
State Representative, 96th District

SERVING HAMDEN & NEW HAVEN



November 10, 2009

J. Robert Galvin, MD, MPH, MBA
Commissioner
Connecticut Department of Public Health
410 Capitol Avenue, MS #13 COM
Hartford, CT 06134

Dear Dr. Galvin:

I am writing to express my enthusiastic support for the Connecticut Department of Public Health's (DPH) proposal for the CDC's funding opportunity entitled, "Communities Putting Prevention to Work (CPPW)." CDC funding will help us build New Haven's capacity and infrastructure to address poor diet and lack of exercise, risk factors that are closely tied to obesity and other chronic diseases. The two year infusion of ARRA resources and the existing resources it will leverage will support critical, sustainable policy and environmental changes that will have a lasting impact on our capacity to reach and impact a large proportion of the most at risk people in our community.

We are particularly excited about the potential for synergy between this activity and two major, connected efforts already underway—the Health Equity Alliance (HEA) a cross-cutting community engagement and policy change initiative, and the first U.S. implementation of Community Interventions for Health, which promotes evidence-based strategies to understand and address the same risk factors as CPPW. This effort seeks to eliminate health inequities and reduce disparities by refocusing the city's extensive existing health and community investments towards prevention and long-term policy and structural change.

Since our founding in 2004, CitySeed has enjoyed a close relationship with both the New Haven Health Department and the Connecticut Department of Public Health (DPH). Most recently, we received funding from DPH for a grant entitled "New Haven Gets Fresh and Gets Moving." This funding built upon the movement already afoot in

New Haven to improve school food in the New Haven Public Schools. DPH funding allowed CitySeed to collaborate to form the Working Group on School Food, bring fresh fruit and vegetable tastings into the school district, and create a bilingual community cookbook.

CitySeed is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization, which seeks to engage the community in growing an equitable, local food system that promotes economic development, community development and sustainable agriculture. We operate a vibrant network of four farmers' markets in New Haven, and engage in a host of mission-related programming to help New Haven residents access fresh, local food in order to support the viability of agriculture in the State of Connecticut.

CitySeed is committed to supporting the work proposed by the Connecticut Department of Public Health and the City of New Haven. We will work closely with the applicants and with CDC to implement our community action plan for policy, systems, and environmental changes to address nutrition risk factors. Over the course of the two-year project period, we will:

- Promote access to CitySeed Farmers' Markets with targeted poster advertising at transit points (all CitySeed Farmers' Markets are on a bus line),
- Support a media campaign to encourage SNAP recipients to access fresh, locally grown food at CitySeed Farmers' Markets,
- Promote healthy food choices and incentivize food purchases at CitySeed Farmers' Markets by:
    - Distributing 5,000 *New Haven Cooks* bilingual community cookbooks, featuring the recipes of nearly 80 New Haven residents using fresh fruits and vegetables within year one,
    - Reaching 2,000 students in 6 public schools through fresh fruit and vegetable tastings within year one, and
    - Redeeming 2,000 $5 coupons at CitySeed Farmers' Markets throughout the two-year grant cycle.
- Collaborate with the Connecticut Children's Museum to run the Growing Healthy Eaters and Readers program, targetting preschoolers and their caretakers with a bilingual, literacy-based curriculum that encourages the consumption of fresh fruits and vegetables.

We will also be continuing our many efforts to improve access to healthy food by all New Haven residents. In addition to the programs mentioned above, next year we will continue our Community Supported Market, where market "shareholders" support a farmers' market in the low-income community of Fair Haven. We will join with our food system colleagues to promote better food for a better city through the New Haven Food Policy Council. Finally, we will again focus our efforts at directly connecting farmers with customers at our network of four neighborhood farmers' markets.

We project that the total value of the above commitments is approximately $70,000 in total grant requests, leveraged by $80,000 in in-kind and matching resources. We also look forward to working with our partners in order to sustain the initiatives within this grant well beyond the initial year grant period.

The approach that New Haven is taking—to create a collaborative environment in which many community-based organizations will work together to realize healthier decisions in our children and their families—is extremely exciting! CitySeed is thrilled to be part of this amazing effort. Should you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Sincerely,

Erin Wirpsa Eisenberg
Executive Director

CitySeed Inc. 817 Grand Avenue, No. 101 New Haven, CT 06511
tel 203.773.3736 fax 203.772.2749 www.cityseed.org

November 23, 2009

J. Robert Galvin, MD, MPH, MBA
Commissioner
Connecticut Department of Public Health
410 Capitol Avenue, MS #13 COM
Hartford, CT 06134

Dear Dr. Galvin:

As the Chair of the New Haven Food Policy Council (NHFPC), I am writing on its behalf in support of the Connecticut Department of Public Health's (DPH) proposal for the CDC's funding opportunity entitled, "Communities Putting Prevention to Work."

The NHFPC is a citizen council appointed by the Mayor, which works to promote food security by increasing access to healthy, local, and affordable food which will provide culturally acceptable and nutritionally adequate diets to all residents. The lack of access to healthy food for many in our community is deeply rooted in health inequities, and poor nutrition is a key risk factor in the prevalence of obesity and other chronic diseases in New Haven.

If awarded, the CDC funding opportunity will help to build our community's capacity and policy infrastructure to address this risk factor along with the lack of exercise. It will help to leverage critical resources to support sustainable policy and environmental changes as well as the necessary infrastructure and organizational development that will create "optimal defaults," i.e., environments which make healthy behavior the easiest behavior. This kind of environmental change will reach everyone, but most importantly a large proportion of our population most at risk for poor health outcomes.

We are excited about the potential for synergy between this activity and two major, connected efforts already underway: the Health Equity Alliance (HEA) a cross-cutting community engagement and policy change initiative, and Community Interventions for Health, which promotes evidence-based strategies to understand and address the same risk factors as CPPW.

The New Haven Food Policy Council is committed to supporting the policy action plan proposed by the Connecticut Department of Public Health and City of New Haven. The proposed population-based approach is necessary to achieve behavior change in youth and to sustain healthy behavior into adulthood throughout our community and throughout the entire state.

I would be happy to answer any questions you may have.

Sincerely yours,

Roberta R. Friedman

Roberta R. Friedman, ScM
Chair, NHFPC
Director of Public Policy, Yale Rudd Center for Food Policy and Obesity
(203) 432-4717; Roberta.friedman@yale.edu

New Haven Early Childhood Council

...Creating Universal Access to Quality, Affordable Early Care and Education

November 16, 2009

J. Robert Galvin, MD, MPH, MBA
Commissioner
Connecticut Department of Public Health
410 Capitol Avenue, MS #13 COM
Hartford, CT 06134

Dear Dr. Galvin:

As the co-chair of the New Haven Early Childhood Council, I am writing in support of the Connecticut Department of Public Health's (DPH) proposal for the CDC's funding opportunity entitled, "Communities Putting Prevention to Work." If awarded, the CDC funding opportunity grant will help us build our community's capacity and policy infrastructure to address key risk factors -- poor diet and lack of exercise -- that are tied to obesity and other chronic diseases within New Haven. The two year infusion of ARRA resources and the resources it will leverage will support critical, sustainable policy and environmental changes as well as infrastructure and organizational development that will have a lasting impact on our capacity to reach and impact a large proportion of our population most at risk for poor health outcomes.

We are particularly excited about the potential for synergy between this activity and two major, connected efforts already underway. The Health Equity Alliance (HEA), a cross-cutting community engagement and policy change initiative. The second, the first U.S. implementation of Community Interventions for Health, promotes evidence-based strategies to understand and address the same risk factors as CPPW. This effort seeks to eliminate health inequities and reduce disparities by refocusing the city's extensive existing health and community investments towards prevention and long-term policy and structural change.

The New Haven Early Childhood Council is appointed by the Mayor and Superintendent and has broad citywide membership. Its mission is to ensure that every child has access to quality, affordable early care and education, a supportive community infrastructure and timely well-child visits and arrives at school healthy, with the skills and knowledge that prepare him or her to succeed. The Council has a strong collaborative partnership with the New Haven Health Department and works closely with them to help children and families arrive to school healthy and ready to be successful life-long learners

In partnership with early childhood community, health and community-based providers, as well as private foundations and consumers, the NHECC has developed a results-based accountability (RBA) *Early Childhood Plan*. The New Haven Early Childhood Plan demonstrates the effects poverty, family literacy, educational attainment and health has on a child's early success in school. We look forward to working in partnership with the New Haven Health Department and anticipate the impact the "Communities Putting Prevention to Work" initiative will have on the New Haven community should we be awarded funding.

If funded the New Haven Early Childhood Council will:

1. Create a formal link between the work developed by Health Department and the early care community;
2. Assist in disseminating the work of the initiative to cultivate a broad understanding chronic disease prevention; and
3. Review the policies and practices within the NHECC and the early care and education sector in New Haven in an effort to address the key risk factors associated with heart disease and obesity

New Haven Early Childhood Council

...Creating Universal Access to Quality, Affordable Early Care and Education

The New Haven Early Childhood Council is committed to supporting the work proposed by the Connecticut Department of Public Health and the City of New Haven. We will work closely with the applicants and with CDC to help implement the community action plan for policy, systems, and environmental changes to address nutrition and physical activity risk factors. Over the course of the two-year project period, we will ensure that activities developed through this grant initiative are directly linked to the activities of the Council, its partners and members and will work to sustain those efforts beyond the initial grant period.

The New Haven Early Childhood Council looks forward to the opportunity to work as collaborative community partner and we hope that the Department of Public Health looks favorably on the application.

Sincerely yours,

Jennifer M. Heath

Jennifer Heath
Co-Chair
New Haven Early Childhood Council

DataHaven The Information Hub of South Central Connecticut
www.ctdatahaven.org
Regional Data Cooperative ◆ c/o Holt, Wexler & Farnam, LLP
900 Chapel St. Suite 620 ◆ New Haven, CT 06510

November 19, 2009

J. Robert Galvin, MD, MPH, MBA
Commissioner, Connecticut Department of Public Health
410 Capitol Avenue, MS #13 COM
Hartford, CT 06134

Dear Dr. Galvin:

On behalf of the DataHaven Board of Directors, I would like to express my support for the Connecticut Department of Public Health's (CTDPH) proposal for Communities Putting Prevention to Work (CPPW) implementation in the City of New Haven.

DataHaven, a partner of the National Neighborhood Indicators Partnership (NNIP), was developed by a consortium of governmental, philanthropic and academic interests to make data more available and accessible for planning purposes. The core product of DataHaven is an interactive Community Knowledge Center allowing easy access to accurate and relevant qualitative and indicator data and reports about the New Haven Region. DataHaven provides outreach, training and data assistance on request to a diverse and growing user base. We are committed to helping both individuals and organizations, especially neighborhood and grassroots groups, use high-quality data for assessment and for analysis down to the Census Tract and Block Group levels.

DataHaven has worked closely over the past three years as a partner of the New Haven Health Department, typically meeting several times per month with the Community Alliance for Research and Engagement (CARE) and the New Haven Health Equity Alliance (HEA). We have contracts with both CARE and HEA for projects such as the New Haven Health Data Atlas, as well as grant commitments with regional philanthropy, to develop community indicators on public health issues and make data on health inequities more accessible to the public. Grant funding and in-kind Board, staff and technical resources will allow DataHaven to:

- Develop the Community Knowledge Center to (a) document programs and partner involvement and (b) track data and results relating to nutrition and physical activity efforts at a neighborhood level;
- Upload indicators related to nutrition and activity, including results from interventions within this proposal;
- Continue to lead the Data Work Group of the New Haven Health Equity Alliance and incorporate CPPW-related quantitative and qualitative data into its community advocacy and organizing around health issues.
- Draw attention to CDC, CTDPH and City initiatives by publishing frequent blog posts and online articles regarding their ongoing mix of interventions. DataHaven is a growing media portal for community policy interests, including researchers at Yale University and neighborhood advocacy groups.

DataHaven partnerships with the City of New Haven, Health Department and communities will help the CPPW initiative promote more rapid environmental and policy change. We look forward to supporting these efforts.

Sincerely,

Mark Abraham
Project Director

RIDEWORKS
COMMUTER TRANSPORTATION SERVICES

195 Church Street, 9th Floor
New Haven, CT 06510
203-777-RIDE, 800-ALL-RIDE
Fax: 203-773-5014
www.rideworks.com

November 20, 2009

J. Robert Galvin, MD, MPH, MBA
Commissioner
Connecticut Department of Public Health
410 Capitol Avenue, MS #13 COM
Hartford, CT 06134

Dear Commissioner Galvin:

As the Executive Director of Rideworks of Greater New Haven, a non-profit Connecticut Commuter Services organization funded by the Connecticut Department of Transportation, I would like to offer our support of the Connecticut Department of Public Health's Proposal for the CDC's funding opportunity called "Communities Putting Prevention to Work".

Since our incorporation in 1984, Rideworks has been a Connecticut Commuter Services organization in the Greater New Haven region. As a commuter services organization funded by the Connecticut Department of Transportation, our mission is to promote use of commute alternatives to driving alone including use of public transportation, biking and walking. Rideworks provides transportation information and assistance to employers and employees alike, thus helping support sustainability efforts in the region. We have compiled a database that includes over 2,000 employers, who collectively have the ability to directly reach thousands of the region's commuters with the message regarding the environmental correlation between not driving alone and better health.

Rideworks' mission is to enrich the quality of life through improved transportation mobility resulting in cleaner air, greater energy efficiency and reduced traffic congestion. Incorporating language explaining the health benefits of using public transportation, bicycling, and walking are a natural fit. Much of work involves active marketing of transportation alternatives through personal contacts, print, and web. We will collaborate actively with the City of New Haven's Health Department on the planned community-wide media strategy to bring attention to City policy changes and planned public improvements and other policy initiatives to support increased walking and bicycling and in general will apply our resources to assist in their efforts to advocate that residents walk, bike or use public transit while improving their nutrition and physical activity needs.

As Rideworks' Executive Director, I feel that the Department of Public Health and the City of New Haven's approach of changing the behavior of its residents to sustain a healthy lifestyle will help this community and the Greater New Haven region overall.

Sincerely,

Jean T. Stimolo

Jean Taylor Stimolo, Executive Director

JTS/bmh

November 23, 2009

J. Robert Galvin, MD, MPH, MBA
Commissioner
Connecticut Department of Public Health
410 Capitol Avenue, MS #13 COM
Hartford, CT 06134

Dear Dr. Galvin:

On behalf of Community Mediation, Inc. (CM), I am pleased to submit this letter of support of the Connecticut Department of Public Health's (DPH) proposal for the CDC's funding opportunity entitled, **"Communities Putting Prevention to Work."** Funding for this initiative will help us build our community's capacity and policy infrastructure to address to key risk factors – poor diet and lack of exercise – that are tied to obesity and other chronic diseases within New Haven. This two year support through ARRA resources and the resources it will leverage will support critical, sustainable policy and environmental changes. It will also help to undergird the program's infrastructure and organizational development, thus having a lasting impact on our capacity to reach and give help to a large proportion of our population most at risk for poor health outcomes. .

This funding would provider synergy between this activity and two major, connected efforts already underway, one in which Community Mediation, Inc. is very significantly involved. That program is the Health Equity Alliance (HEA) a cross-cutting community engagement and policy change initiative. The second, the first U.S. implementation of Community Interventions for Health, promotes evidence-based strategies to understand and address the same risk factors as CPPW. This effort seeks to eliminate health inequities and reduce disparities by refocusing the city's extensive existing health and community investments towards prevention and long-term policy and structural change.

Founded in 1980, Community Mediation, Inc. (CM) is a nonprofit organization that promotes peaceful communities and just relationships by enabling individuals, families, organizations and communities to resolve their conflicts themselves through mediation, dialogue, training, facilitation and education. Locally, we collaborate with a broad range of organizations and provide staff, trained volunteer mediators and facilitators, and other resources to resolve disputes. CM provides community-based mediation services to residents throughout New Haven and surrounding communities. Its program and services include: **Adult Court Mediation**, **Juvenile Court Mediation**, including the New Haven Juvenile Review Board; **General Community Mediation**, including Neighborhood, Consumer/Merchant, Employee/Employer, Parent/Teen and Child & Family mediation; **Housing Mediation**, including the Eviction & Foreclosure Prevention Program (EFPP) and the Homelessness Intervention Program, both serving 6 towns in the greater New Haven area; **Training**, including peer mediation training, and adult mediation, facilitation and conflict resolution training; and the**Dialogue Project**, now a part of the **Network for Civic Engagement through Dialogue, Deliberation & Story**.

Since 2007, CM has coordinated New Haven's **Network for Civic Engagement through Dialogue, Deliberation & Story** ("Network"). The Network's **mission** is: "*to engage residents in dialogue, deliberation and story to foster participation in public life.*" As a partner with the NHHD in this public health initiative, CM has been committed to coordinating dialogues to help community members develop a deeper, clearer understanding of health inequities in New Haven, and craft action plans to address the root causes of these health inequities.

Community Mediation, Inc. is committed to supporting the work proposed by the Connecticut Department of Public Health and City of New Haven. We will work closely with the applicants and with CDC to implement the community action plan for policy, systems, and environmental changes to address nutrition and physical activity risk factors. Over the course of the two-year project period, we will help the NHHD convene a Health Leadership Work Group to ensure the success of the initiative over a sustained period of time. Activities of the Community Mediation in this project will include: a) providing facilitators for discussions within the Health Department and discussions

32 Elm Street • New Haven, CT 06510
Telephone: 203-782-3500 • Fax: 203-782-3503 • www.community-mediation.org
Program Member of the National Association for Community Mediation

between the Health Department and other City departments regarding obesity and chronic health problems to implement beneficial programs; train volunteers in active listening and other mediation facilitative techniques to facility community conversations; facilitate city wide discussion groups for purposes of community education and action plan implementation. We project that the total value of the above commitments, including in-kind contributions, at $15,000 per year for a two-year total of $35,000. We look forward to working with our partners in order to sustain the initiatives within this grant well beyond the initial year grant period.

I am confident that the DPH and the New Haven community's approach will advance appropriate population-based health initiatives necessary to achieve behavior change in youth and sustain healthy behavior into adulthood throughout our community and throughout the entire state. Please feel free to contact me with any questions.

Sincerely,

Chester J. Brodnicki, LCSW
Interim Executive Director

www.caanh.net 781 Whalley Avenue, New Haven, CT 06515

Community Action Agency of New Haven

Phone: (203) 387-7700 Fax: (203) 397-7475

November 23, 2009

J. Robert Galvin, MD, MPH, MBA
Commissioner
Connecticut Department of Public Health
410 Capitol Avenue, MS #13 COM
Hartford, CT 06134

Re: Communities Putting Prevention to Work

Dear Dr. Galvin,

It is with great pleasure that the Community Action Agency of New Haven, Inc. (CAANH) provides this letter in support of the Connecticut Department of Public Health's (DPH) proposal for the CDC's initiative entitled "Communities Putting Prevention to Work."

CAANH is a nonprofit organization whose purpose is to alleviate the causes and conditions of poverty that impact the lives of our clients. Our mission is to offer "pathways to prosperity" to those in poverty in the Greater New Haven area. The primary services provided by CAANH are Energy Assistance, Weatherization, Food Pantry and Diaper Bank, Asset Development - Personal Financial Management Counseling and referrals to other agencies with the resources appropriate to our customers' needs. The Agency directly served approximately 35,000 individuals or 15,000 families last year during the economic crisis.

Two years of funding via "Communities Putting Prevention to Work" will complement and enhance several CAANH programs including the Open Choice Food Pantry, Medical Transportation, Diaper Bank, and Asset Building and Family Support. These programs are designed to alleviate some of the most stressful conditions of poverty and to enable low-income, minority, English/Spanish speaking, disabled, disadvantaged, elderly families/individuals to become more self sufficient.

Through our Open Choice Food Pantry Program, low-income families can receive enough groceries to prepare the equivalent of 19 nutritional meals per month. Additionally they will receive appropriate nutritional guidance, based on the USDA Food Pyramid, as well as food preparation instruction. This will enable them to prepare and select from the Open Choice Food Pantry the most nutritious foods for their family. Approximately 300 families will be served annually through this program.

The Medical Transportation program increases access to healthcare for approximately 300 Hill Health patients. The availability of low cost/free transportation enables families to routinely access their healthcare professionals, to become full partners in modifying their behavior and supports their efforts to practice preventive healthcare measures. CAANH will also work more closely with various health care institutions to educate customers to become better consumers of healthcare services.

www.caanh.net 781 Whalley Avenue, New Haven, CT 06515

Community Action Agency of New Haven

Phone: (203) 387-7700 Fax: (203) 397-7475

The Asset Building and Family Support Program is specifically geared to help 180 families through intensive case management, group and individual counseling and working with the families as a unit to identify, locate and access the appropriate resources to address specific social, economic and health care needs.

We project that the total value of the above commitments for a two year period is $400,000 including in-kind contributions. We look forward to working closely with our partners to sustain the initiatives within this grant beyond the initial grant period. Thank you for this opportunity.

Sincerely,

Amos L. Smith
President and CEO

cc: William Quinn, New Haven Health Department

elm city cycling
New Haven Bike Advocacy & Community

Nov 14, 2009

J. Robert Galvin, MD, MPH, MBA
Commissioner
Connecticut Department of Public Health
410 Capitol Avenue, MS#13 COM
Hartford CT 06134

Dear Dr. Galvin,

The Board of Directors of Elm City Cycling, Inc. strongly supports New Haven's and the State of Connecticut's application for *Communities Putting Prevention to Work* (CPPW) funding. Elm City Cycling, Inc. which existed since 2003 as an ad-hoc community organization before formally incorporating as a non-profit last year is committed to helping the city reach its public health goals and ready to offer time and support.

The Department of Health and Human Services' guidelines for CPPW funds states that they are intended to support "intensive community approaches to chronic disease prevention and control" in order to promote outcomes such as increased levels of physical activity and decreased rates of obesity. Under its current administration, the city of New Haven has shown a remarkable willingness to promote bicycling and walking as viable forms of transportation and earned an 'honorable mention' as a Bike-Friendly Community from the League of American Bicyclists (LAB). Funding from the CDC would enable New Haven to continue emphasizing the value of healthy lifestyles and reducing the disturbing level of health disparities. For example, obesity rates in New Haven average 20% more than Connecticut as a whole. Encouraging more people to use bicycles for everyday transportation will have a substantial impact on this figure.

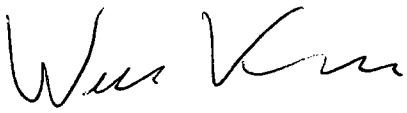
Elm City Cycling has a six year history of partnering with New Haven's government and non-profits to improve bicycle infrastructure and promote cycling as a viable transportation choice. Each year since 2003, we have led a series of free bicycle tours around the city and the surrounding communities in conjunction with the International Festival of Arts & Ideas and City-Wide Open Studios and held 2-3 community bike rodeos for city youth in partnership with schools and civic organizations. We helped organize, promote and support New Haven's 2008 'Summer Cycling Celebration' and the 2009 Rock-to-Rock cross city bicycle ride. We have seen attendance grow at our monthly bicycle commuter breakfast from about 10 in May of 2006 to an average of 40-50 in the spring of 2009. Elm City Cycling turned out in support of both New Haven's and Connecticut's (SB-735) Complete Streets legislation and ECC representatives worked closely with city officials to design the city's Street Smarts campaign which launched in October 2008.

Elm City Cycling has accomplished a great deal with minimal funding and informal partnerships and is ready to support New Haven during the two-year project period by:

- increasing the number of organized bicycle rides we can offer to the public. For the past several years, ECC has offered an average of 15 sponsored rides each year. Liability insurance is a limiting factor. Members of ECC frequently lead 'unofficial' rides that we cannot advertise widely because of the risk of litigation. If the city can fund a liability waiver through the CDC grant, we can double the number of offerings with weekly events through the spring and summer and publicize them more widely to increase participation. These events would likely attract upwards of 1,000 riders over the course of the spring, summer and fall.
- providing volunteer hours for a city-funded Safe Routes to School program. City government intends for this program to reach all 27 of New Haven's K-8 schools and is planning to use the travel data from the first year to construct safety improvements for bike and pedestrian access to five target schools in high-density, mixed-use districts in the second year.
- increasing support for city-wide initiatives that address the problem of poverty. In 2008 and 2009, ECC raised funds for the city's overflow homeless shelter and in 2009, provided in-kind support for a first-ever bicycle leg of the annual Downtown Evening Soup Kitchen's Ride to End Hunger, (traditionally a motorcycle-only event). Cycling is inexpensive and affordable to nearly everyone, and with the support of the city through the grant, we can offer more services to low-income residents to help get individuals riding with safe and effective equipment as well as provide training in safe cycling, bike maintenance and repair.
- offering Safe Cycling and Road Skills training using League of American Bicyclist curricula. ECC currently has three League-Certified Instructors (LCIs) on its board of directors.
- establishing a partnership with city schools and/or non-profit youth organizations to teach safe and effective cycling and repair skills to area young people, in order to empower them and reduce the rate of childhood obesity and its attendant health problems.
- educating policy makers about the need for, and nature of, effective bicycle and pedestrian infrastructure.
- sending representatives to meet with state officials regarding bicycle and pedestrian programs.

We estimate the total value of our commitments at approximately $25,000 per year for a total of $50,000 and we look forward to sustaining the initiatives begun by this grant well beyond the initial two-year period. The city of New Haven has demonstrated that it is ready to be on the leading edge of bicycle and pedestrian advocacy in Connecticut, and we look forward to working with city officials as well as the statewide project staff to meet the goals of this important project.

Sincerely yours,



William Kurtz, on behalf of

the Elm City Cycling, Inc. Board of Directors

cc: William Quinn, New Haven Department of Health

new haven safe streets coalition

November 21, 2009

J. Robert Galvin, MD, MPH, MBA
Commissioner, Connecticut Department of Public Health
410 Capitol Avenue, MS #13 COM
Hartford, CT 06134

Dear Dr. Galvin:

We are writing to **express our strong support** for the Connecticut Department of Public Health's (DPH) proposal for the CDC funding opportunity entitled "Communities Putting Prevention to Work."

The New Haven Safe Streets Coalition is a grassroots organization of over 2,000 residents, neighborhood associations, businesses, religious organizations and advocacy groups. Our members regularly attend community meetings in every city neighborhood. All 12 of New Haven's Community Management Teams, and over 30 state and local elected officials, have voted to support our **Petition for Safe Streets**, which calls for a 90% reduction in traffic-related injuries and fatalities in New Haven by the year 2015. With 12 traffic fatalities reported in New Haven in 2008 and many again this past year, solutions to this issue will need to encompass a broad range of education and road engineering initiatives, and most importantly, policy change.

To this end, the City of New Haven and the Health Department have identified transportation reform as a key priority. **New Haven has invested significantly in traffic calming, bike racks, crosswalks, greenway trails and bicycle lanes over the past five years and since 2008**, has nearly tripled the amount of traffic enforcement conducted by police officers. Locally, the advocacy of members of the Safe Streets Coalition has resulted in a Complete Streets Order, the first of its kind in Connecticut, which creates a citywide policy to provide equitable access to bicyclists and pedestrians. The Complete Streets Order was approved by the New Haven Board of Aldermen by a vote of 30-0 in October 2008. The resulting Complete Streets Design Manual is nearly ready for approval by the full Board of Aldermen.

Nationally, the Mayor of New Haven was one of the very first Mayors in the nation to sign onto Transportation for America's platform for national policy change. This platform is strongly supported by the public health community and calls for a **tripling of bicycling, walking and transportation usage** as well as a 50% reduction in traffic crashes.

Members of the New Haven Safe Streets Coalition have actively participated on the **Complete Streets Steering Committee** and the **Health Equity Alliance**, as well as in the creation of the **Sustainability Office**, initial **Safe Routes to Schools** applications and other city-sponsored initiatives related to increased physical activity and improved nutrition. We will continue to invest our time, as volunteers, to furthering these efforts. Our resources include a high degree of civic engagement, connections with local media, and a successful track record of lobbying for legislation at the local, state and federal levels.

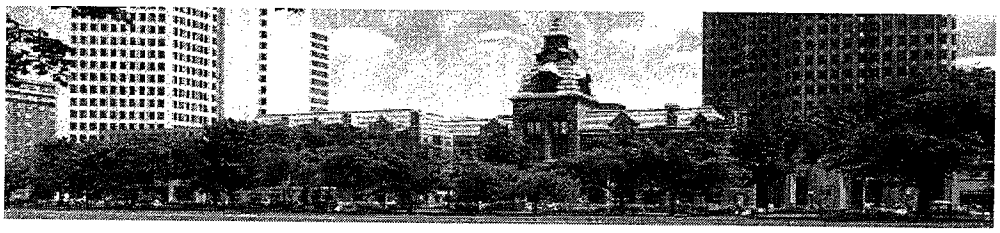
The CDC grant will help the City of New Haven draw connections across various health-related initiatives in support of common objectives, thereby **allowing far more rapid environmental changes**. We are excited about the numerous transportation-related policy proposals contained within this funding request, including the expansion of the Safe Routes to Schools and Complete Streets programs, and commit to assisting in any way that we can.

Best regards,

Roland Lemar, Ward 9 Alderman, *New Haven Board of Aldermen*; Member, *Complete Streets Steering Committee*
Justin Elicker, Ward 10 Alderman, *New Haven Board of Aldermen*
Tokunbo Aanifalaje, Board, *West River Neighborhood Services Corporation*, Member, *Complete Streets Steering Committee*
Erin Sturgis-Pascale, Member, *Complete Streets Steering Committee*; Former Ward 14 Alderwoman (New Haven)
Mark Abraham, Secretary, *Dixwell Enterprise Community Management Team*
Doug Hausladen, Vice-Chair, *Downtown-Wooster Square Community Management Team*
Chris Heitmann, Executive Director, *Westville Village Renaissance Alliance*
Natalie Spicyn, Coordinator, *Yale Medical Campus Traffic Safety Group*

On behalf of members of the New Haven Safe Streets Coalition: www.newhavensafestreets.org

THE DOWNTOWN – WOOSTER SQUARE COMMUNITY MANAGEMENT TEAM



November 20, 2009

J. Robert Galvin, MD, MPH, MBA
Commissioner, Connecticut Department of Public Health
410 Capitol Avenue, MS #13 COM
Hartford, CT 06134

Dear Dr. Galvin:

As the Vice Chairman for the Downtown-Wooster Square CMT and a participant in the city's new Health Equity Alliance, I am writing to express my strong approval for the Department of Public Health's (DPH) proposal for Communities Putting Prevention to Work, a program of the Centers for Disease Control (CDC).

As an organization that serves as a problem-solving and community forum for the Downtown and Wooster Square neighborhood, we have dozens of citizens engage in our meetings every single month. Like the eleven other Management Teams in New Haven, we are particularly aware of the need to pursue policy changes to address poor diet and lack of physical activity. We are particularly pleased that the CDC grant would enable our city to take concrete actions to encourage active transportation on our streets by expanding bicycle routes, security lighting and pedestrian wayfinding signage, as a large proportion of our residents and employees already walk or bicycle to work.

Over the course of the next two years:

- By volunteering many hours to lead our Management Team, our public forum will help the city continue to coordinate and plan more bicycle lanes, new urban infill projects like 360 State Street (a 32 story tower with a full-service Downtown supermarket, to be completed early 2010), and improved crosswalks. These actions are essential for promoting physical activity and nutrition access within our neighborhood, a goal of the CDC grant.
- Through advertising and advocacy for our neighborhood, we will continue to support Farmer Markets within the Downtown and Wooster Square neighborhoods. We have one Market in Historic Wooster Square Park on Saturdays, and another in Downtown on Wednesdays, right in front of City Hall. Both are extremely popular and help build a sense of community. We will help brainstorm ways to increase access to low-income residents.
- We will support the city's goal of providing nutrition guidance so that citizens can better understand the relative nutritional value found within many of our most commonly-available foods. We will communicate with residents in our area so that they can participate in city-related events, street closing festivals and workshops, and so that they are aware of the city's media campaign and incentive programs for improved nutrition and activity.

I very much look forward to our work together and with the City on these proposals.

Sincerely,

Doug Hausladen

Douglas Hausladen
Vice-Chairman, Downtown-Wooster Square Community Management Team
dwscmt@gmail.com
203-676-8330

November 21, 2009

J. Robert Galvin, MD, MPH, MBA
Commissioner
Connecticut Department of Public Health
410 Capitol Avenue, MS #13 COM
Hartford, CT 06134

Dear Dr. Galvin:

As the Director of the Grand Avenue Village Association, I am writing in support of the Connecticut Department of Public Health's (DPH) proposal for the CDC's funding opportunity entitled, "Communities Putting Prevention to Work."

As an organization that represents the commercial corridor in the Fair Haven neighborhood, we are particularly aware of the need to pursue policy changes to address persistent health issues in New Haven.

We are committed to supporting the work proposed by the Connecticut Department of Public Health and City of New Haven. We are particularly pleased that this grant would enable our city to take concrete actions to promote wellness within our schools, encourage active transportation on our streets through our excellent Department of Transportation, and provide access to healthy foods in our supermarkets.

Over the course of the two-year project period, we will:

- Continue to support Farmer Markets within our neighborhood. In our neighborhood, Farmers Markets that reaches hundreds of people every Thursday from April through November. Our farmers market in Fair Haven is the most of diverse in all the City, as many of the immigrant families come to get the truly fresh product that they are accustomed to- this exchange is a joy both for the farmers and the City Seed workers. They make sure to have tomatillos, corn and tomatoes, as they are in high demand. In addition our famers' market has become an important community gathering place; where people bring blankets and exchange ideaqs about life, parenting, or simply share a meal and a laugh. We support the markets by engaging in a number of activities from, or ganizing a student clean up of the park to keeping local streets clean and attractive, and by creating events and partnerships that helps to promote the market and our neighborhood.
- Continue to create district events that promote walking, biking or physical activities such as historic tours, the most recent one drawing over 60 people. Our goal is to create a similar event every quarter.
- Help the city continue to coordinate and plan more bicycle lanes, pedestrian lighting, urban design guidelines promoting walk-friendly streets, and improved crosswalks to our city. These actions are essential for promoting physical activity and safety within our neighborhoods. We are currently spending a large portion of our time working with the City on these topics as we continue to plan a more pedestrian oriented zoning code for our neighborhood, a managed parking plan and start working through what our streetscape might look like in the future.
- Support policies that will change our city over time and make it a better place to live, work and do business. That is why we actively engage residents and merchants to better inform them of workshops & events that are taking place so that they too may participate and have their views incorporated into the future planning for our community.

I am looking forward to our work together for a healthier New Haven.

Please feel free to contact me with any questions.

Sincerely,

Gabriela Campos
Executive Director
Grand Avenue Village Association

Grand Avenue Village Association 233 Blatchley Ave #2, New haven, CT 06513 e) gava.fairhaven@gmail.om

[UPPER STATE]
WWW.UPPERSTATESTREET.ORG

November 22, 2009

J. Robert Galvin, MD, MPH, MBA
Commissioner, Connecticut Department of Public Health
410 Capitol Avenue, MS #13 COM
Hartford, CT 06134

Dear Dr. Galvin:

I am President of the Upper State Street Association Inc, a group of merchants and community members in the Upper State Street neighborhood of New Haven.

Although our street runs parallel to I-91, we have one of the most walking friendly streets in New Haven. In the last year we have raised money to put in bike racks, plant new trees and put pedestrian signs in crosswalks. We also have encouraged businesses to have outdoor seating and increase their outdoor lighting. Our group has been supportive of the city's new Complete Streets initiative and we also have worked with state government on various transportation issues in our neighborhood, such as the reconstruction of the State Street Bridge.

That being said, there are some things that we can not do on our own. We would love to see bike lanes and low level street lighting for pedestrians. We have a beautiful tree canopy that unfortunately blocks light from the sidewalk, sometimes making it feel dangerous at night. These types of problems inhibit bicycling and walking in our neighborhood. By funding the long-term changes needed to increase access to active transportation, we are confident that the leadership of the City of New Haven and Communities Putting Prevention to Work grant would help accelerate change in the city policies needed to improve bicycling and walking.

Recently we started a volunteer-run Farm Market on the street, which runs for 32 Saturdays a year. Additional support for this market, in the form of media campaigns, could encourage local eating and really make it a success.

Locals are doing a ton to bootstrap community improvement but we could use resources to help leverage that self-improvement and help spread it to adjacent neighborhoods.

Thank you for your consideration of New Haven for this funding.

Sincerely,

Ben Berkowitz

Ben Berkowitz
President
Upper State Street

November 21, 2009

J. Robert Galvin, MD, MPH, MBA
Commissioner
Connecticut Department of Public Health
410 Capitol Avenue, MS #13 COM
Hartford, CT 06134

WESTVILLE
VILLAGE
RENAISSANCE
ALLIANCE

Dear Dr. Galvin:

As the executive director of the Westville Village Renaissance Alliance (WVRA), I am writing in support of the CT Department of Public Health's (DPH) proposal for the CDC's funding opportunity entitled, "Communities Putting Prevention to Work."

As an organization that represents Westville Village and its surrounding neighborhoods, WVRA is particularly aware of the need to pursue policy changes to address persistent health issues in New Haven. We are committed to supporting the work proposed by the CT Department of Public Health and City of New Haven and are particularly pleased that this grant would enable our city to take concrete actions to promote wellness within our schools, encourage safe and active transportation on our streets through our excellent Department of Transportation, and provide access to healthy foods in our supermarkets, grocery stores, and farmers markets.

Over the course of the two-year project period, we will:

- Continue to support the Edgewood Park Farmers Market, which we co-founded four years ago in our district. Our market reaches approximately 500 persons every weekend from May through November, is a major community-building activity, and enhances local residents' access to fresh, healthy, affordable food, in particular through EBT access and acceptance of WIC and Senior Farmers Market Nutrition Program coupons. WVRA supports the market by promoting its weekly offerings, coordinating programming, advocating for greater improvements to walking and bicycling to and from the market, and working with local property owners to extend the market's season indoors during the winter months.
- Encourage the city's goal of providing nutrition guidance so that citizens can better understand the relative nutritional value found within many of our most commonly-available foods (e.g. sugar-sweetened beverages versus milk).
- Continue to create and/or promote events in the district that promote walking, biking or physical activity, such as the city-wide Rock-to-Rock bicycle event (which has a rest stop in our district), tennis tournaments, and establishment of a neighborhood running club. We currently program and/or promote these types of events 15-20 times per year and many residents come out for them.
- Assist the city in coordinating and planning more bicycle infrastructure, pedestrian-scale lighting, urban design guidelines promoting pedestrian-friendly streets, and improved crosswalks to our city. These actions are essential for promoting physical activity and safety within our neighborhoods. We spend an estimated 12-15 hours of staff time every month working with the city on these types of plans.
- Support policies that will change our city over time and make it a better place to live, work and do business. Examples of this include communicating with residents so that they can participate in neighborhood- and city-related events or workshops.

I look forward to our work together for a healthier New Haven. Please feel free to contact me with any questions.

Sincerely,

Chris Heitmann
Executive Director

WESTVILLE VILLAGE RENAISSANCE ALLIANCE
873 Whalley Avenue, New Haven, Ct 06515, (203) 285-8539, www.WestvilleCT.org

November 21, 2009

J. Robert Galvin, MD, MPH, MBA
Commissioner
Connecticut Department of Public Health
410 Capitol Avenue, MS #13 COM
Hartford, CT 06134

Dear Dr. Galvin:

On behalf of the Town Green Special Services District (Town Green District), I am writing in support of the Connecticut Department of Public Health's (DPH) proposal for the CDC's funding opportunity entitled, "Communities Putting Prevention to Work."

As an organization that represents downtown, we are particularly aware of the need to pursue policy changes to address persistent health issues in New Haven.

We are committed to supporting the work proposed by the Connecticut Department of Public Health and City of New Haven. The Town Green District supports the following initiatives in downtown New Haven:

- Maintaining the strong and vibrant downtown Farmers. We support the markets by doing setting up the vendors and keeping local streets clean and attractive. and helping to market the event to the downtown consumer.
- Creating and encouraging a more pedestrian-friendly downtown, which includes improved pedestrian lighting, changing one-way streets to two-way, slowing downtown traffic, and creating a safe environment for pedestrians and bicycles.
- Support policies that will change our city over time and make it a better place to live, work and do business.

I look forward to our work together for a healthier New Haven.

Please feel free to contact me with any questions.

Sincerely,

Rena Leddy

Rena Leddy
Executive Director

Christian Community Action, Inc.

dministrative Offices

168 Davenport Avenue
New Haven, CT 06519
Phone: (203) 777-7848
Fax: (203) 777-7923
Email: cca@ccahelping.org
www.ccahelping.org

illside Family Shelter

Davenport Site
166-168 Davenport Avenue
New Haven, CT 06519
Phone: (203) 777-7848
Fax: (203) 777-7923
Sylvan Site
124 Sylvan Avenue
New Haven, CT 06519
Phone: (203) 777-7172
Fax: (203) 777-7174

pping Stone Transitional
using Program

660 Winchester Avenue
New Haven, CT 06511
Phone: (203) 777-7167
Fax: (203) 777-7171

vocacy and Education Project
thers For Justice
Works Center

660 Winchester Avenue
New Haven, CT 06511
Phone: (203) 777-6072
Fax: (203) 777-6039

OT
Works Center

660 Winchester Avenue
New Haven, CT 06511
Phone: (203) 777-6072
Fax: (203) 777-6039

United Way

Offering Help, Housing and Hope

November 19, 2009

J. Robert Galvin, MD, MPH, MBA
Commissioner
Connecticut Department of Public Health
410 Capitol Avenue, MS #13 COM
Hartford, CT 06134

Dear Dr. Galvin:

As the Executive Director of Christian Community Action, (CCA) Inc, I am writing in support of the Connecticut Department of Public Health's (DPH) proposal for the CDC's funding opportunity entitled, "Communities Putting Prevention to Work." If awarded, the CDC funding opportunity will help us build our community's capacity and policy infrastructure to address to key risk factors -- poor diet and lack of exercise -- that are tied to obesity and other chronic diseases within New Haven.

I am particularly excited about the potential for synergy between this activity and two major, connected efforts already underway. The first, Health Equity Alliance (HEA), is a cross-cutting community engagement and policy change initiative. The second, the first U.S. implementation of Community Interventions for Health, promotes evidence-based strategies to understand and address the same risk factors as CPPW. This effort seeks to eliminate health inequities and reduce disparities by refocusing the city's extensive existing health and community investments towards prevention and long-term policy and structural change.

Because of the work my staff members have done with families who mostly African American and Latino who are poor and in need, we see the need for this funding. We have worked with staff members from the New Haven Health Department for many years as they served families who were without food, shelter and clothing. We are pleased that we have a new, cutting edge way to do so now and fully support the application. This work strengthens the advocacy in which we have engaged in the area of health access and equity.

Towards that end, I and the Director of our Advocacy and Education Project have been invited into partnership with the Health Department through its HEA and one staff member at Christian Community attending the inaugural meeting. I do look forward to attending future meetings and assisting in the organization of the daring and important work to be undertaken.

As a relatively new partner, I am not as aware of how CCA can be specifically involved, but I pledge our participation in meetings, as time allows, and any other support that might be needed in the area of empowerment, advocacy and consideration of the social determinants of health.

I project that the total value of the above commitments, including in-kind contributions, at $5,000 per year for a two-year total of $10,000. I also look forward to working with our

partners in order to sustain the initiatives within this grant well beyond the initial year grant period.

I am confident that the DPH and the city of New Haven's approach to advancing appropriate population-based strategies are necessary to achieve behavior change in youth and sustain healthy behavior into adulthood throughout our community and can be replicated throughout the entire state. Please feel free to contact me with any questions.

Sincerely,

Bonita Grubbs (Rev.)
Executive Director

JUNTA for Progressive Action

Celebrating 40 years serving the New Haven community

169 Grand Avenue, New Haven, CT 06513
203.787.0191 www.juntainc.org

November 22, 2009

J. Robert Galvin, MD, MPH, MBA
Commissioner
Connecticut Department of Public Health
410 Capitol Avenue, MS #13 COM
Hartford, CT 06134

Dear Dr. Galvin:

JUNTA for Progressive Actions supports the Connecticut Department of Public Health's (DPH) proposal for the CDC's funding opportunity entitled, "Communities Putting Prevention to Work." If awarded, the CDC funding opportunity will help us build our community's capacity and policy infrastructure to address to key risk factors, particularly poor diet and lack of exercise, that are tied to obesity and other chronic diseases within New Haven. The two year infusion of ARRA resources and the resources it will leverage will support critical, sustainable policy and environmental changes as well as infrastructure and organizational development that will have a lasting impact on our capacity to reach and improve poor health outcomes for a large proportion of our most at risk residents.

We are particularly excited about the potential for synergy between this activity and two major, connected efforts already underway. The Health Equity Alliance (HEA) a cross-cutting community engagement and policy change initiative. The second, the first U.S. implementation of Community Interventions for Health, promotes evidence-based strategies to understand and address the same risk factors as CPPW. This effort seeks to eliminate health inequities and reduce disparities by refocusing the city's extensive existing health and community investments towards prevention and long-term policy and structural change. **We have worked over the past two years with the City of New Haven to address disparities in health and issues of health literacy through their support of our health literacy program that works with the Latino community to enhance linguistic skills needed to communicate effectively with healthcare providers, and identify and combat health risks specific to the Latino community through health screenings and fairs.**

JUNTA for Progressive Action is non-profit organization in New Haven that works to improve the social, political and economic conditions of the Latino community, while building bridges with other communities. We offer core programs and services including adult education (ESL, GED,

Conversational Spanish and citizenship tutoring), family management/case management services, employment assistance and computer skills training, cultural awareness, workers' rights and a therapeutic arts after-school program.

JUNTA for Progressive Action is committed to supporting the work proposed by the Connecticut Department of Public Health and City of New Haven. We will work closely with the applicants and with CDC to implement our community action plan for policy, systems, and environmental changes to address nutrition and physical activity risk factors. Over the course of the two-year project period, we will:

- **Provide ongoing information on increasing physical activity and instituting better health habits within our current Adult Education (ESL, GED) courses, through presentations by nutritionist and/or health agencies, incorporation of health-related material into education curriculum.**
- **Promote healthy food choices for youth enrolled in The Neighborhood Place, JUNTA's after-school program by providing healthy foods, presentations by nutritionists, pediatricians, and fitness individuals to work directly with youth.**
- **Present a bilingual (English/Spanish) nutrition and health workshop for parents of children enrolled in the after-school program.**
- **Work collectively with local agencies to present a health fair once a year, for community residents, with health information and activities such as yoga, aerobics, cooking demonstrations, etc.**

We project that the total value of the above commitments, including in-kind contributions, at **$15,000** per year for a two-year total of **$30,000.** We also look forward to working with our partners in order to sustain the initiatives within this grant well beyond the initial year grant period.

I am confident that the DPH and the city of New Haven's approach to advancing appropriate population-based strategies are necessary to achieve behavior change in youth and sustain healthy behavior into adulthood throughout our community and can be replicated throughout the entire state. Please feel free to contact me with any questions.

Sincerely,

Sandra Trevino

Executive Director

NEW HAVEN
URBAN
DESIGN
LEAGUE

129 Church Street Suite 419

New Haven, Connecticut, 06510

tel 203 624 0175

urbandesignleague@att.net

November 17, 2009

J. Robert Galvin, MD, MPH, MBA
Commissioner
Connecticut Department of Public Health
410 Capitol Avenue, MS #13 COM
Hartford, CT 06134

Dear Dr. Galvin:

We are very encouraged that New Haven has been invited to apply for participation in the Connecticut Department of Public Health proposal for the Centers for Disease Control's program, "Communities Putting Prevention to Work."

The New Haven Urban Design League works to improve the quality of life in New Haven. The League supports physical space planning for improved access to physical activity, an increase in biking/walking routes, enhanced tree canopy, clean harbor initiates and meaningful public participation in the planning process. Clean air, safe streets, reduced traffic, access to parks and green space are all critical issues which have enormous health impacts. Increasing the city's ability to track and analyze health data will give our community the information it needs to shape development and allocate resources where they are most needed.

This grant could have a significant policy impact on the city. In particular, we support the city's goal of increasing walking and bicycling trips, and walking trips to school, by 20% over the next two years, as active transportation is essential to community health. It is very propitious that the city is now especially well suited to manage this program with its new Office of Sustainability and the new Community Services Administrator on board.

New Haven also has a strong network of community groups, which the League is a part of, which work together on quality of life issues. These community alliances would also help leverage the value and real impact of an investment by the CDPH and the CDC.

Sincerely,

Anstress Farwell,
President

94.3 FM
WYBC
1340 AM

Yale Broadcasting Company, Inc.
142 Temple Street, Suite 203
New Haven, Connecticut 06510

November 24, 2009

J. Robert Galvin, MD, MPH, MBA
Commissioner
Connecticut Department of Public Health
410 Capitol Avenue, MS #13 COM
Hartford, CT 06134

Dear Dr. Galvin:

Yale Broadcasting Company Inc. is writing in support of the Connecticut Department of Public Health (DPH) and the City of New Haven's proposal for the CDC's funding opportunity entitled, **"Communities Putting Prevention to Work."** If awarded, this CDC funding opportunity will assist the City of New Haven to build the community's capacity and policy infrastructure to address two key risk factors that contribute to poor health outcomes -- poor diet and lack of exercise -- that are closely tied to obesity and other chronic diseases within the New Haven community. The two year infusion of ARRA funding and the resources it will leverage will support critical, sustainable policy and environmental changes as well as infrastructure and organizational development that will have a lasting effect on the CT Department of Public Health and the City of New Haven's capacity to reach and impact a large proportion of New Haven's population most at risk for poor health outcomes.

The Yale Broadcasting Company Inc. is owned and operated by Yale students. The company operates 3 radio stations 1340 AM, "Yale Radio", 94.3 WYBC F.M.and WYBCX an internet station. The most recent Arbitron report placed WYBC-FM first in the New Haven market, attracting 49,100 people weekly. This allows WYBC-FM to serve as a link to New Haven, giving students "access to the ears of the community", and provides one of the strongest flagship college stations in the country.

We are excited about the plans outlined in the New Haven proposal for a community-wide media strategy, and we look forward to playing whatever active role the New Haven Leadership and Project Management Team feels is appropriate.

We are committed to provide full and active coverage of any programs or events of potential importance for the community and understand that health is among the top

issues facing not only our community but the nation. WYBC has the capability to highlight important initiatives through the activities outlined in this grant.

Beyond that role, we stand ready to provide advice to the media campaign planned to launch in year one, as well as the development of the Wellness Portal and the investment in the online data capacity at Data Haven.

Do not hesitate to call on the WYBC staff and volunteers to join in the important work of helping to inform the New Haven community of the new policies and opportunities that this initiative will provide.

If we can provide any additional information or assistance please don't hesitate to contact us.

Sincerely,

Juan Castillo,

NEW HAVEN INDEPENDENT
IT'S YOUR TOWN. READ ALL ABOUT IT.

J. Robert Galvin, MD, MPH, MBA
Commissioner
Connecticut Department of Public Health
410 Capitol Avenue, MS #13 COM
Hartford, CT 06134

Dear Dr. Galvin:

The New Haven Independent (www.newhavenindependent.org) is an online news site covering all aspects of community life in New Haven. Public health is a central focus of our reporting. We have been following the work of the Health Department, CARE's Community Interventions for Health and other health issues closely with grant support from the Connecticut Health Foundation. I personally have been covering New Haven since 1979 for a series of outlets, giving me insight into what is happening in the city. In a short period NHI has established itself as one of the premier "hyperlocal" news organizations in New England. We have an average of over 70,000 unique visitors a month (more than double that when bigger news hits).

We look forward to covering the myriad community-based activities planned by the City of New Haven using resources from the "Communities Putting Prevention to Work" grant offering. We stand ready to provide advice to the media campaign planned to launch in year one as well as the development of the Wellness Portal and the investment in the online data capacity at DataHaven. We plan to provide our readers -- who encompass every racial, economic and ideological corner of New Havener -- with regular updates and human interest reports on residents working to increase their level of physical activity and improve their diets. And our site will offer readers a chance to participate in discussion about those issues and how to take action.

Do not hesitate to call on the New Haven Independent to join in the important work of informing our community of all the new policies and opportunities that this initiative will provide.

Sincerely,

Paul Bass
Editor

J. Robert Galvin, MD, MPH, MBA
Commissioner
Connecticut Department of Public Health
410 Capitol Avenue, MS #13 COM
Hartford, CT 06134

Dear Dr. Galvin:

The New Haven Advocate is a weekly newspaper that has served the greater New Haven community since 1975. We pride ourselves on our incisive coverage of topics of interest to our varied readers, and health is one of the hot topics the year.

We are pleased to lend our support to the City of New Haven and its community and institutional partners' efforts to secure this funding to mount a media campaign in support of healthier eating and increased levels of physical activity. We stand ready to lend our expertise to the City Team in the design of the campaign and the messages and to explore options for the specific vehicles that would be most effective. We are able to produce a special section with a tie in to the incentives that will be available through the use of the Elm City Resident Card. We are able to mount contests, conduct special promotions, and pull together advertisers in ways to support the media campaign and the proposed interventions.

We look forward to covering the "Communities Putting Prevention to Work" initiative as a news story as appropriate.

The New Haven Advocate is ready to join in the important work of informing our community of all the new policies and opportunities that this initiative will provide.

Be sure to include us in the start-up planning should this proposal be funded.

Sincerely,

John Sebehr, Editor
The New Haven Advocate

La Voz Hispana de Connecticut

Your Weekly Spanish Newspaper, speaking to over 125,000 consumers per publication

Headquarters: 51 Elm Street, Suite 307 New Haven, CT 06510 Tel. (203) 865-2272 Fax (203) 787-4023
Hartford Office: 67 Russ St., Hartford, CT 06106 Tel. (860) 547-1515 Fax (860) 547-1616
Stamford Office: 400 Main St. Suite 510, Stamford, CT 06901 Tel. (203) 674-6793 Fax (203) 674-6794

November 24, 2009

J. Robert Galvin, MD, MPH, MBA
Commissioner
Connecticut Department of Public Health
410 Capitol Avenue, MS #13 COM
Hartford, CT 06134

Dear Dr. Galvin:

La Voz Hispana is the largest Spanish Language paper in Connecticut with a weekly readership of 125,000 and a web portal that receives at least 30,000 unique visitors a month. We pride ourselves in being a voice for the Latino community in Connecticut. Our headquarters are in New Haven so we have especially deep connections to the New Haven Latino Community. I personally have a long history in New Haven as a community leader and businesswoman.

We are excited about the plans in the New Haven proposal under the "Communities Putting Prevention to Work" grant offering for a community-wide media strategy and we look forward to playing whatever active role the New Haven Leadership Team and project management team feels is appropriate.

We will of course provide full and active coverage through our news division of any programs or events of potential importance to the Spanish-speaking community. Health is among the top issues facing not only our community but the nation. Many of our readers are without health insurance due to their immigration status or other issues. We also have the capability to do special sections or to highlight important things that you will be doing through this grant.

Beyond that role, we stand ready to provide advice to the media campaign planned to launch in year one as well as the development of the Wellness Portal and the investment in the online data capacity at DataHaven. We have developed a keen understanding of the potential of the web to reach the Latino community which is large. To better reach the Hispanic market we have the capabilities to professionally translate the materials print or electronically.

Do not hesitate to call on La Voz Hispana to join in the important work of informing our community of all the new policies and opportunities that this initiative will provide.

Good luck with your application and if you need anything else call me at the New Haven office.

Sincerely,

Norma Rodriguez-Reyes

Norma Rodriguez-Reyes
President

NEWS 8 CHANNEL my TV 9
wtnh.com

J. Robert Galvin, MD, MPH, MBA
Commissioner
Connecticut Department of Public Health
410 Capitol Avenue, MS #13 COM
Hartford, CT 06134

Dear Dr. Galvin:

News Channel 8 is a multi-platform media organization in the 30th Nielsen market place. We provide on-air, online, and mobile news and entertainment content to distribute to over 1 million households in the state of Connecticut. As New England's second oldest television station, News Channel 8 is privileged to be an ABC affiliate, as well as producing our own unique and local programming. We also offer another television station in the market known as MyTV9. News Channel 8's Health Reporter/Anchor Jocelyn Maminta is keenly aware of the importance of health issues to the citizens of the state of Connecticut and we have demonstrated a lasting commitment to covering such important and vital information in our daily newscasts.

We look forward to building awareness for community-based activities planned by the city of New Haven. We anticipate helping the city of New Haven to utilize fully the resources from the "Communities Putting Prevention to Work" grant offering. We look forward to providing for a media campaign which we understand has been planned to launch in year one. We would also like to provide our resources on WTNH.com, which reaches over 800,000 unique viewers each month, for the development of the Wellness Portal and the investment in the online data capacity at DataHaven. We will coordinate and collaborate with the city of New Haven to develop an interactive health information outreach plan to our viewers. We are encouraged by the possibilities that this grant will provide and offer our full support from our media outlets that we have to offer.

We appreciate the consideration of utilizing our platforms and look forward to helping in the future.

Sincerely,

Mary Lee Weber
Director of Marketing
News Channel 8

Greater New Haven
CHAMBER of COMMERCE

Bethany Branford Cheshire East Haven Guilford Hamden Milford New Haven North Branford North Haven Orange Wallingford West Haven Woodbridge

November 24, 2009

J. Robert Galvin, MD, MPH, MBA
Commissioner
Connecticut Department of Public Health
410 Capitol Avenue, MS #13 COM
Hartford, CT 06134

Dear Dr. Galvin:

As President of the Greater New Haven Chamber of Commerce, I hear from my members on virtually a daily basis about the impact of rising health care costs on their businesses and on the families of their employees. Our Health Care Council with 150 active members is our most active member Council due to the high degree of interest in this issue. I therefore applaud the Connecticut Department of Public Health's (DPH) efforts to secure resources for our central city and the state through the CDC's "Communities Putting Prevention to Work" initiative to address the serious risk factors of poor diet and lack of exercise which are at the root of so many of our chronic disease issues. These CDC resources will provide for critical infrastructure to mount a communitywide campaign to mitigate these risk factors through an array of evidence-based interventions detailed in the City of New Haven's proposal.

For these reasons, I am pleased to accept the invitation of the City of New Haven to serve on the Leadership Team for their proposed initiative. I look forward to bringing the perspective and resources of the business community to the work of implementing the thorough New Haven community action plan.

Over the course of the grant period the Chamber of Commerce in addition to serving on the Leadership Team will: (1) participate in the design and execution of a communitywide media strategy to promote healthy eating and physical activity, bringing our substantial communications and messaging capacity to bear; (2) connect the work of our Health Care Council, and other Councils as relevant, to this initiative in order to forge stronger connections to regional health care providers; (3) support the expansion of the use of the Yale Griffin Prevention Research Center's NuVal nutritional guidance system to additional retail food outlets and restaurants; (4) actively encourage and support business member participation in Transportation Demand Management strategies to encourage bicycling and walking to work and around the city to contributes to the City's physical activity goals; and (5) participate n the Leadership Team's efforts to sustain the interventions and continued work on policy changes after the expiration of the CDC grant funds.

I look forward to joining this important effort and working to ensure its success in whatever way I can.

Sincerely,

Anthony P. Rescigno

Anthony P. Rescigno
President

900 Chapel Street 10th Floor New Haven, Connecticut 06510-2811 Tel: (203) 787-6735 Fax: (203) 782-4329
info@gnhcc.com www.gnhcc.com

Ferraros Foods

664 Grand Ave, New Haven, CT. 06511
(203) 776-3462

November 20, 2009

J. Robert Galvin, MD, MPH, MBA
Commissioner
Connecticut Department of Public Health
410 Capitol Avenue, MS #13 COM
Hartford, CT 06134

Dear Dr. Galvin:

As the Manager of Ferraro's, I am writing in support of the Connecticut Department of Public Health's (DPH) proposal for the CDC's funding opportunity entitled, "Communities Putting Prevention to Work." I'm excited by the potential this city-wide project offers and appreciate the opportunity to be a part of such an innovative and important initiative.

Ferraro's Market has been in business in New Haven since 1952, and primarily serves the residents of Farnham Court, Wooster Square and Grand Avenue. We are a full service grocery store and approximately 28% of our customers are enrolled in the SNAP program.

We are committed to supporting the work proposed by the Connecticut Department of Public Health and City of New Haven, and look forward to working with the project team to implement the Nutrition Guidance program in our supermarket. We see tremendous value in helping our customers make healthy choices and are thrilled to have the opportunity to provide that guidance through the NuVal system. The initial work will involve obtaining scores for all foods we sell and labeling them with the NuVal score. While that is being done, we'll focus our attention on our purchase tracking systems to be sure that all systems are in place in order to generate reports on consumer purchasing habits over time. In addition, we will work with the Yale-Griffin Prevention Research Center to create and put in place the systems to incentivize healthy purchases for SNAP recipients. We look forward to working with the larger team to promote the Nutrition Guidance system once the initial set up phase is completed.

I understand that this funding will help New Haven build capacity and policy infrastructure to help support a health-promoting environment – one which encourages healthy eating and physical activity. I'm excited to be a part of this important work.

Please feel free to contact me at the number listed abovewith any questions.

Sincerely,

Al Lauro

Al Lauro
Manager

NuVal LLC
1 Rex Drive, Suite A
Braintree, MA 02184
Tel (781) 228-5800
Fax (781) 849-6047

November 23, 2009

J. Robert Galvin, MD, MPH, MBA
Commissioner
Connecticut Department of Public Health
410 Capitol Avenue, MS #13 COM
Hartford, CT 06134

Dear Dr Galvin:

As the President of NuVal, LLC, I write to support your application in response to the CDC RFA entitled, "Communities Putting Prevention to Work" and to commit the resources of NuVal, LLC for the nutrition guidance component of your comprehensive community-wide obesity prevention project.

The ONQI algorithm, which serves as the foundation for the NuVal scoring system, was developed by Dr. David L. Katz, director of the Yale-Griffin Prevention Research Center. We have worked closely with Dr. Katz over the past two years as we have transitioned the NuVal scoring system into the public sector. NuVal is currently offered in the Price Chopper, HyVee, and Meijer grocery store chains throughout the country, providing guidance in more than 500 stores in 18 states. In addition, two additional retailers are committed to launch in the first quarter of 2010.

Through our relationship with Dr. Katz, I know that the Yale-Griffin Prevention Research Center (PRC) has a strong history of working with the New Haven Health Department and we are excited by the opportunity to work with this expanded project team assembled in New Haven. Of note, as related to the proposed nutrition guidance system in the New Haven schools, we are currently working with the PRC and the Independence MO School District to bring NuVal scoring to their schools as part of a community-wide effort to improve health. We will bring our experience with that project to expedite the implementation of the nutrition guidance system both in the schools and the community at large in New Haven.

I believe we are in a unique position to contribute to the city-wide Nutrition Guidance initiative as detailed in the proposal because of our relationship with Dr. Katz and the fact that the system has been implemented in grocery stores throughout the United States. We are pleased to be a part of the State of Connecticut's plans to improve the health of its residents and are excited by the opportunity to work with the city of New Haven to contribute the NuVal scoring system to the nutrition guidance initiative.

Sincerely,

Nancy McDermott

Nancy McDermott
President

145 Witherspoon St. t. 609.497.4600
Princeton, NJ 08542 f. 609.497.0660

C A R E

Technologies for healthier living

November 30, 2009

J. Robert Galvin, MD, MPH, MBA
Commissioner
Connecticut Department of Public Health
410 Capitol Avenue, MS #13 COM
Hartford, CT 06134

Dear Dr. Galvin:

As the President of Viocare, Inc., I am writing in support of the Connecticut Department of Public Health's (DPH) proposal for the CDC's funding opportunity entitled, "Communities Putting Prevention to Work." If awarded, the CDC funding opportunity will help build New Haven's capacity and policy infrastructure to address two key risk factors -- poor diet and lack of exercise -- that are tied to obesity and other chronic diseases within New Haven. The two year infusion of ARRA resources and the resources it will leverage will support critical, sustainable policy and environmental changes as well as infrastructure and organizational development that will have a lasting impact on our capacity to reach and impact a large proportion of our population most at risk for poor health outcomes.

Viocare is a healthcare technology company that has been working for the past 16 years on promoting wellness. Together with the help of the Yale-Griffin Prevention Research Center, Viocare was awarded a National Institutes of Health Small Business Innovation Research Phase I grant to develop a community health web portal for the Princeton metro area of New Jersey (a population of around 200,000). A successful pilot was developed and implemented in Phase I called Princeton Living Well (www.princetonlivingwell.com), which currently has over 2,000 registered members and 72 business partners providing rewards for participants. The website included: a wellness navigation core, an impediment profiler, a community toolbox, and a wellness loyalty rewards program. As evidenced by the website users' tracked activity and the utilization of its unique tools, it is apparent that a community health web portal is a technologically feasible method of modifying one's dietary and physical activity behavior. We have gained significant knowledge from the last three years of building and supporting the Princeton Living Well program that could be valuable for this endeavor.

Viocare is committed to supporting the work proposed by the Connecticut Department of Public Health and City of New Haven. We will work closely with the applicants and with CDC to implement the community action plan for policy, systems, and environmental changes to address nutrition and physical activity risk factors. Over the course of the two-year project period, we will provide consulting on the development and implementation of a community health web portal.

I will be pleased to serve as consultant on this project and be able to devote 4 days of effort per year at $5,000 per year for a two-year total of $10,000. I look forward to working with the group in order to sustain the initiatives within this grant well beyond the initial year grant period.

I am confident that the Connecticut Department of Public Health and city of New Haven approach to advancing appropriate population-based approach is necessary to achieve behavior change in youth and sustain healthy behavior into adulthood throughout the New Haven community and throughout the entire state. Please feel free to contact me with any questions.

Sincerely,

Rick Weiss
President