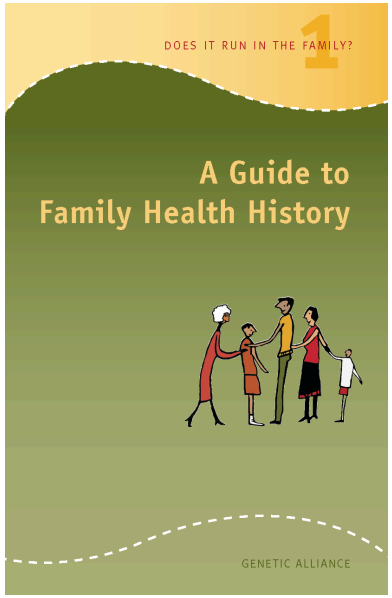
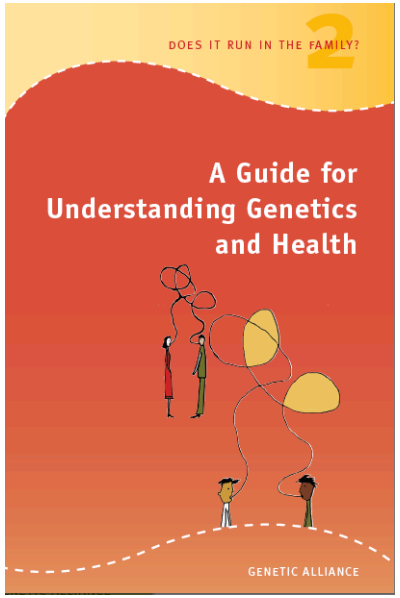
Transforming Health through Genetics

Promoting an Environment of Openness

Does It Run In the Family?

An accessible tool for improving health





www.geneticalliance.org/ccfhh

Community Centered Family Health History Program Awards

- Incorporating Family Health History into Existing Programs and Initiatives

INTEGRATION & INNOVATION

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Goals & Objectives

- Promote conversations about health within the family
- Translate family health history into healthy choices
- Increase community involvement in health education

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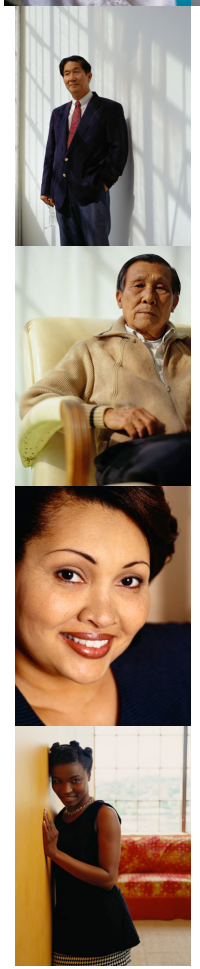
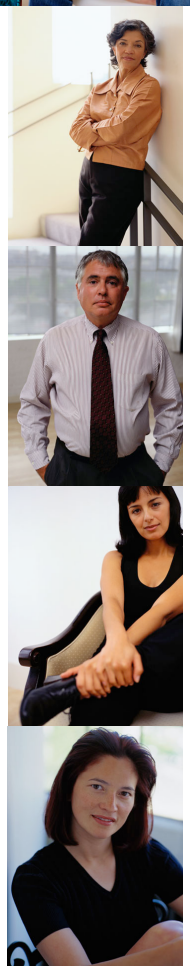


Community

A population that may be defined by geography, culture, race, ethnicity, age, gender, sexual orientation, disability or other health condition, or groups that have a common interest or cause, such as health or service agencies and organizations, health practitioners, policymakers, or groups with public health concerns



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Family Health History:

- Captures heredity, diet, and environment in one location
- Allows a health care provider to diagnose conditions and understand risk
- Increases health and genetics knowledge for the individual and the family
- Promotes conversations about health in the family and community
- Identifies trends and patterns of disease that may lead to treatment or prevention

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Positive health impact

- In a CDC-based survey of over 4,000 individuals:
  - 97% thought that knowledge of family health history was important
  - But, only 30% had actually ever collected health information from relatives to develop a family health history.

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Unique Access Points to Health Information

- Disease-specific Models
- Non-traditional Health Community Models
- Racial/Ethnic Group Models
- Systems Change Models
    - Disease-specific Organizations
    - Hospitals and Healthcare Systems
    - Professional Societies
    - Regional Health or Community Organizations
    - State and Federal Government
    - Universities
    - and more…

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Disease-specific Model

- Angioma Alliance
  - Educate broad audiences about the Common Hispanic Mutation
    - Distribute books through clinics, physicians, and awareness events around Santa Fe, NM
  - Encourage diagnosed and at risk patients to become "Keystone Family Members"

Angioma Alliance
Striving for Answers

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Disease-specific Model

- Brookdale University Hospital and Medical Center
  - Create culturally-competent FHH packages for sickle cell disease
  - Distribute FHH booklets through Brooklyn Public libraries, Parent-Teacher groups, faith-based institutions, and patient referral programs

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System Model
Medical School Curriculum

- University of Oklahoma College of Medicine
  - Develop FHH books for use by first year students as part of the Medical School curriculum
  - Educate medical professionals by having them complete their own family health histories

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System Model
Employee Wellness Program

- Duke University Institute for Genome Sciences & Policy
  - Incorporate FHH into Department of Employee Occupational Health & Wellness
  - Educate staff about the importance of FHH through LIVE FOR LIFE free mobile HealthCheck program

Racial/Ethnic Group Model

- West Side Community Health Services
  - Genomics testing initiative planned for Hmong community
    - Incorporate FHH to explain relationships among family, genetics, and health in culturally appropriate format
  - FHH provides accessible lessons about genetics to increase community's capacity to make decisions about testing

growing healthy

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Non-traditional Model

- Southern Missouri Telehealth Genetic Services
  - Telehealth provides remote medical information for patients that do not normally have access to healthcare
  - Including FHH in remote care increases genetic literacy in patients that would normally not talk about family histories

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Regional Health Organization Model

- Ferre Institute
  - Provides FHH information to GBLT families in upstate NY
  - Many GBLT families are completed by adoption, surrogacy, or sperm donation
  - FHH books customized to address genetic concerns among unrelated family members

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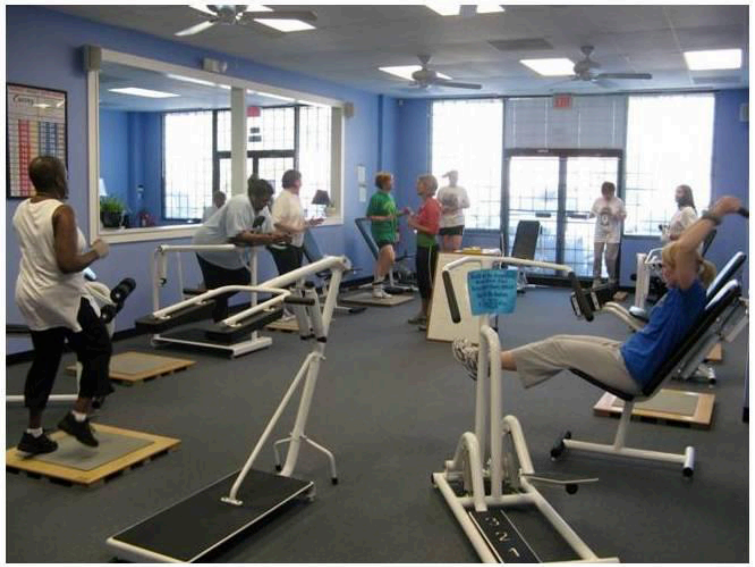
Local Health Community Model

- The Heredity Project
  - Increase genetic literacy by collecting FHH at Curves gym in Midtown Memphis, TN
  - Promote healthy lifestyles choices by combining understanding of genetic risk factors with exercise regiments



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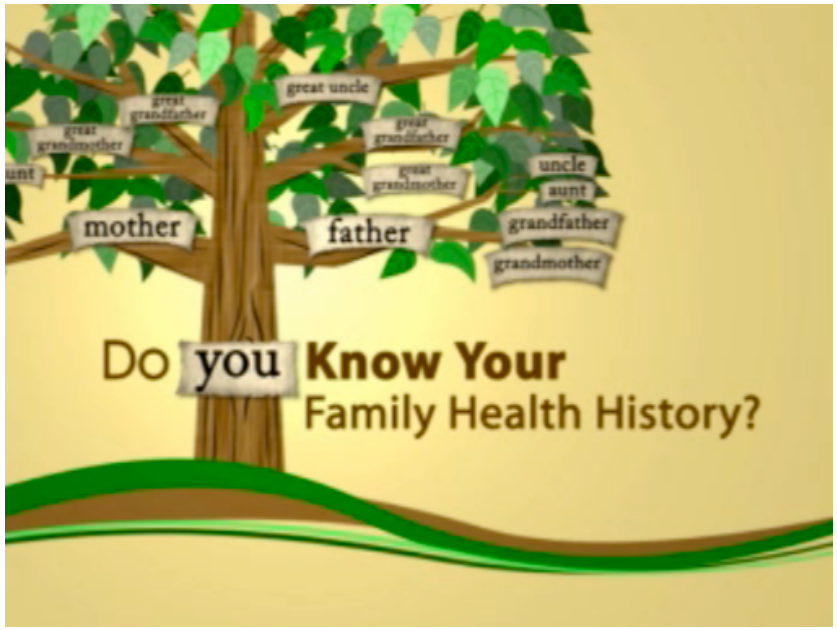
Know Your Family Health History Public Service Announcement



www.talkhealthhistory.com

- Top three questions during phone bank:
  - What is family health history?
  - Where can I find more resources about family health history?
  - How do I collect my family health history?

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