

The Connecticut Department of Public Health (DPH) award from the Affordable Care Act funds will be used to build capacity at the state and county level to implement policies, environmental, and infrastructure changes that will reduce chronic disease rates and address health disparities. The DPH proposes to work with five of Connecticut's eight Counties that have populations of less than five hundred thousand: Litchfield, Middlesex, New London, Tolland and Windham Counties. Three of these counties have successful Action Communities for Health, Innovation, and Environmental Change (ACHIEVE) Programs. These Counties will be funded to conduct the following capacity building activities: (1) establish multi-sectorial, community coalitions; (2) identify relevant training needs; (3) collect and use community health and health assessment data to identify population subgroups experiencing health disparities and inequities; (4) conduct policy scans and identify gaps in policies; and, (5) develop and implement local plans for counties that have established sufficient readiness to pilot and/or implement policy, environmental, and infrastructure changes related to the five strategic directions.

Connecticut has established a CTG Leadership Team that will participate in related trainings, provide overall project oversight, and, most importantly, assist DPH in meeting the identified needs of the five CTG County Coalitions to accomplish the above stated capacity building activities.