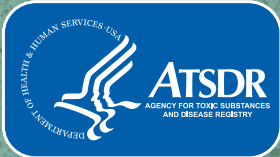


National Land Reuse Health Program

BROWN Land Reuse and Redevelopment Handbook



BROWN Land Reuse and Redevelopment Handbook

Information for Communities provided by the
Brownfields & Reuse Opportunity Working Network (BROWN)



Acknowledgement: Thank you to Bryan Curran, MPH, who compiled much of this Handbook during his graduate Practicum in Public Health internship with ATSDR.

ATSDR, 2021

Table of Contents

- BROWN and Community Partnerships..... 1
- About this Handbook..... 3
- Community Partnership Summaries 4
- Community Partnership Resources..... 4
 - ATSDR Resources..... 4
 - Federal Agency Resources 5
 - Inventory of Relevant Federal Brownfields Programs 5
 - Federal Government Grants 5
 - Links to Health Agencies 6
 - Links to State Environmental Agencies..... 7
 - Agriculture Resources 8
- Urban Gardening and Brownfields Resources..... 8
 - Information on Food Deserts..... 9
- Health Literacy Resources 10
- GIS Resources 11





BROWN and Community Partnerships

The [Brownfields & Reuse Opportunity Working Network](#) (BROWN) is a coalition of stakeholders with a wide range of expertise in redevelopment. These Agency for Toxic Substances and Disease Registry (ATSDR) partners help our National Land Reuse Health Program (Land Reuse Program) reach out to more communities and stakeholders to integrate health into redevelopment.

Through Community Partnerships, BROWN can help communities shape redevelopment plans to include community health improvements. For example, the ATSDR Land Reuse Team or individual BROWN members can share among the entire BROWN collaboration an overview of a community seeking assistance in creating a revitalization vision. Additional BROWN members can use their expertise to provide rapid feedback on projects to help the community move towards this vision.



Sacred land sign on a land reuse site in Northern Arizona (Lloyd DeGrane, 2019).

From 2014 – 2020, the ATSDR Land Reuse Team facilitated BROWN assistance to these Community Partnerships:

Andrews University Center for Excellence in Environmental Health is a university-led collaboration in Berrien Springs, Michigan to raise awareness and understanding among communities about the impact of the environment on overall community health in Berrien County. Launched in early 2019, this is BROWN's newest partnership. Andrews University faculty approached BROWN for assistance in establishing the Center for Excellence in Environmental Health (CEEH). BROWN members provided some resources such as funding opportunities and contributions to a white paper spearheaded by CEEH faculty chair focusing on environmental determinants of health in Berrien County. BROWN also participated in ATSDR's SoilSHOP and blood lead screening in Benton Harbor.



Person touring a land reuse site in Navajo Nation (Lloyd DeGrane, 2019)

Arizona Healthfields Initiative is a statewide network of individuals and agencies dedicated to creating Healthfields and reusing land to improve health. The Arizona Healthfields Initiative (AHI) benefitted from EPA Brownfields Assessment funding and ATSDR Community Health and Land Reuse funding awarded to the Arizona Department of Health Services (ADHS). The City of Phoenix assessed 42 properties in Phoenix that could potentially be reused as corner stores, tot lots, gardens, or other amenities. The ADHS conducted public health assessments on some of the sites. In 2016, the project lead, Dave Laney, a Tempe resident and environmental consultant, received \$95,000 in Robert Wood Johnson Foundation funding to expand the AHI. In one project, he leveraged funds into Navajo (Diné) Nation, which occupies much of northern Arizona and parts of New Mexico and Utah, where he performed a free Phase 1 Environmental Site Assessment for the Chinle Chapter, saving the Chapter \$5000.

Baker City Community Partnership, Oregon

Partnership: Baker Technical Institute (BTI) teachers and students are the first in the country to include brownfields as part of their school curriculum, educate their community about contamination and land reuse, and work with city to increase funding opportunities to clean up and redevelop brownfields.

Goal: To increase personal health and environmental awareness of contamination from and distress about brownfields sites to clean up sites for reuse, redevelopment, and green spaces.

Community and population:


- Community built on logging and mining
- Less than 10,000 residents
- Median income: \$22,778
- 11.2% of population below poverty line
- Median age: greater than 40

Environmental concerns:

- Community has abandoned brownfields in 7 areas sites that together with adjacent city streets and rail lines and rail sidings total 100+ acres
- 20 abandoned well-spread across 10 neighborhoods, 25 abandoned industrial sites
- 10 brownfields sites in Baker Basin, which runs through the middle of town
- Contaminated gravel, ashland from old landfills, pesticides, petroleum products and others

Health concerns:

- Local cancer rates have risen and cancer rates are above state and national averages
- Higher respiratory rates than other communities and help cancer than neighboring cities

Baker City, Oregon conducted a project spearheaded by Environmental Science teacher Megan Alameda, whose high school students are assessing brownfields properties, creating site inventories, and becoming local champions. Baker School District's Baker Technical Institute (BTI) hosts the only high school-run brownfield program in the country. Over the past five years, students managed the cleanup of their first brownfield property and learned that Baker City has the second highest number of brownfields per capita in Oregon. Students raised brownfield awareness and used ATSDR's Site Tool to help the City write an EPA Community- Wide Assessment Grant.

Howardville Community Partnership, Missouri

Partnership: Howardville serves as a model for brownfield communities by providing medical clinics, improving water quality, securing funding, and creating job redevelopment.

Goal:



- To make Howardville as a historic African American community
- To build "broader" coalition to support safe land reuse to improve community health
- To create awareness with companies, environmentalists, legislators, and others, to increase funding and access to healthy foods and recreation
- To be for cities, improve water quality, funding, and redevelopment

Community and population:

- Located in Southeast of Missouri in New Madrid
- Primarily African American (80.4%)
- Lower median income (\$18,474)
- Lower 97th than New Madrid County as a whole
- Lowest high school graduation and drop-out rates (64.5%)
- Closest to Howardville High school - site of a cultural icon

Environmental concerns:

- The land use is 100% residential brownfields, 100% abandoned industrial sites
- Contaminated gravel, petroleum, asbestos, and other hazardous materials

Howardville Community Betterment (HCB) in the Bootheel of Missouri is a project for which Howardville received a brownfields cleanup grant from the US Environmental Protection Agency to clean up and repurpose the old Howardville School. Through a collaboration with BROWN, HCB hosted a Healthy Howardville event in which local health agency partners performed free health screenings and children's blood lead level screenings. In addition, ATSDR and EPA BROWN members and partners facilitated a soilSHOP (screening of soil samples). Howardville benefitted from \$95,000 in Robert Wood Johnson Foundation (RWJF) funding in partnership with BROWN members. Howardville and the Bootheel are pursuing potential state-sponsored Technical Brownfields Assistance to assess multiple properties and Underground Storage Tank assistance to remove old petroleum tanks throughout the Bootheel area. Howardville also benefitted from consulting with a BROWN planner, resulting in a plan to create a clinic in an old school, a walking path and improved city park, and a senior housing development for hundreds of Bootheel residents.

Jacksonville Health Zone 1 Community Partnership, Florida

Partnership: The Health Zone 1 (HZ1) community partnership provides healthfields, increased access to healthy foods, increased access to safe drinking water, and local health care services.

Goal: To provide healthfields through safe reuse of contaminated properties

- Increased access to healthy foods
- Safe places to play and walk
- Local health care services for residents

Community and population:

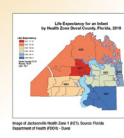

- Urban core of Jacksonville: 17 of 18 Health Zones established to address health disparities in inner city areas of the county
- Range of age: city's poor, downtown commercial core, inner-city, historic homes and residential areas
- 81% minority population; 31% of Duval County's black population
- Highest poverty rates in Duval County: 28.8% of the population

Environmental concerns:

- Environmental health hazards from over 100 abandoned sites including brownfields, water storage sites, 100 brownfield sites
- 100 abandoned sites
- All abandoned sites are contaminated with asbestos, lead, and other hazardous materials
- Contaminated gravel, petroleum, asbestos, and other hazardous materials, asbestos, and other hazardous materials

Health concerns:

- High cancer rates in Jacksonville for Blacks that are higher than other counties in Florida
- High rate of asthma in Jacksonville (17.5% per 100,000 population)
- High rate of diabetes in Jacksonville (17.5% per 100,000 population)

Jacksonville Health Zone 1 is a project to engage community members in the cleanup of seven Superfund sites and over 100 brownfields. The Jacksonville pilot partnered with Florida Health - Duval County, which also received funding from ATSDR for community health and land reuse projects. Florida Health-Duval County inventoried 139 land reuse sites that included Superfund and brownfields sites. They also participated in two soilSHOP (Soil Screening, Health, Outreach and Partnership) events and followed up with residents who had high levels of lead in garden soil. Florida Health-Duval County collaborated with local partners to help create a land reuse/brownfields curriculum to educate residents.

KI Sawyer Community Partnership, Upper Peninsula, Michigan

Partnership: Sawyer Community Alliance addresses health, economic, and social disparities within the community identified with being a brownfield.

Goal: To improve health, economic, and social disparities by:

- Establishing a stronger sense of community
- Revolving lighted buildings
- Providing community services
- Improving public services (water, transportation, etc.)

Community and population:



- Former town in the Upper Air Flare Basin, established in 1900 during the lumber boom
- 2010 Census population: 1,206, nearly identical growth since community opened, 2017 population estimate: 3,200
- 41% of residents living below poverty level

Environmental concerns:

- Various, general environmental and community concerns
- Health and environmental issues and hazardous buildings

Health concerns:

- Lack of access to services and healthy foods
- Lack of access to health care

KI Sawyer, Michigan Sawyer Community Alliance (SCA) is creating a sense of community in KI Sawyer, which is a former air force base. The project, called "From Base to Place: Building a Healthy Sawyer" benefitted from \$95,000 in Robert Wood Johnson Foundation (RWJF) funding, in partnership with BROWN members. KI Sawyer, SCA, and BROWN conducted a community needs Assessment and food access survey to create a mini master plan for community development and increased food access. In addition, SCA helped create a food truck grocery store pilot to visit the local elementary school weekly.

Navajo Nation Healthfields is a land use project to reuse potentially contaminated lands to improve community health—a Healthfields approach. Navajo Nation benefitted from \$95,000 in RWJF funding from BROWN member efforts. Navajo Nation and BROWN members launched the Healthfields Redevelopment Coalition to target three areas with large numbers of land reuse sites. BROWN partners developed a plan for a vendor crafts village with community health amenities in Chinle, AZ. ATSDR partnered with Diné College in Tsaile to educate Summer Institute students about environmental health and land reuse. A BROWN member who is contracting with Navajo Nation as a planner obtained \$500,000 in federal funding to move forward with plans for the vendor crafts village and expanded their reach by hiring a Navajo consultant to pursue additional projects and funding.



A diverse group standing together arm in arm.

North America-Eastern Europe Brownfields Working Group, a collaborative to share best practices, resources, and knowledge between BROWN, new partners, and Oradea University in Romania. As a result of this collaboration, Dr. Cezar Morar of Oradea University in Romania won an Erasmus mobilities grant to sponsor an exchange program in 2018/19, during which one BROWN partner, a faculty member at the University of Illinois, spent 16 days engaging with Oradea faculty during August 2018. Two students, one each from University of Illinois and Oradea University have an option to participate in a 3-month exchange to broaden their knowledge of environmental health and land reuse. Dr. Morar was awarded and completed a Fulbright Fellowship during the summer of 2019 to study land reuse and redevelopment at University of Illinois in partnership with ATSDR's Land Reuse Program.

All Community Partnerships continue to this day. Much of BROWN technical assistance occurred early in the pilots, and each project has currently leveraged and benefitted from additional funding or support.

About this Handbook

The BROWN Land Reuse and Redevelopment Handbook resulted from our Community Partnerships Pilot Projects. We discovered that we were repeating much of the assistance information to our partners, so we created the Handbook as a community assistance resource.

This Handbook contains information and resources to help you achieve your goal of improving the health of your community, including:

- Links to government programs, agencies, and information
- Help from academic institutions on a range of topics
- Links or contacts with private organizations that may be of assistance



BROWN member Eric Neagu and Howardville Community Betterment Partner Vanessa Frazier. Source: Lloyd DeGrane, 2018.



A fenced property in Navajo Nation. Source: Lloyd DeGrane, 2019.

Community Partnership Summaries

One of the most useful sources of information may be examples of Community Partnership accomplishments. We have created [Community Partnership Factsheets](#) to tell those stories and to help you start your own community redevelopment visions and projects. People are a great source of information and advice as well as a reality check about what has worked and what hasn't. The Community Partnership Summaries, along with this BROWN Land Reuse Handbook, may help steer you on your path to community revitalization.

Community Partnership Resources

ATSDR Resources

ATSDR has a range of tools and experts available to help. Please take some time to read through the information. It will both introduce you to the idea of community health in land reuse and redevelopment and give you some ideas on how to begin and continue your efforts.

About ATSDR: <http://www.atsdr.cdc.gov/about/index.html>

About ATSDR's National Land Reuse Health Program: <http://www.atsdr.cdc.gov/sites/brownfields/>



A family jogging across a bridge in a community park.



Federal Agency Resources

Many federal agencies can assist you. The links below provide access to these agencies.

- A-Z Index of US Government Departments and Agencies: <https://www.usa.gov/federal-agencies/a>
- Centers for Disease Control and Prevention: <http://www.cdc.gov/>
- U.S. Department of Agriculture: <http://www.usda.gov/wps/portal/usda/usdahome>
- U.S. Department of Health and Human Services: <http://www.hhs.gov/>
- Federally Qualified Healthcare Center (FQHC) information: <https://bphc.hrsa.gov/index.html>
- U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA): <https://www3.epa.gov/>

Inventory of Relevant Federal Brownfields Programs

- Inventory of Federal Programs Which Might Be of Use: www.atsdr.cdc.gov/sites/brownfields/index.html

In addition, the following EPA programs provide information and assistance specific to brownfields:

- Brownfields (EPA): <https://www.epa.gov/brownfields>
- Brownfields to Healthfields StoryMap: <https://epa.maps.arcgis.com/apps/Cascade/index.html?appid=fa7b68b3075a4340970b1e5c00c76cf4>
- Clean Ups in My Community (EPA): <https://www.epa.gov/cleanups/cleanups-my-community>

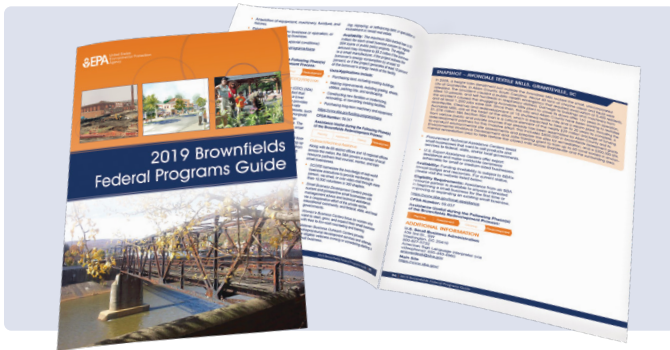


Image of the 2019 Brownfields Federal Program Guide

Federal Government Grants

The federal government offers funding grants to support efforts. Grants.gov and HRSA's Health Center Program are great sources of information on grants, rules, dates, and contacts.

Grants.Gov: <http://www.grants.gov/>

Health Resources Service Administration (HRSA) grant and other funding opportunities:

<https://bphc.hrsa.gov/programopportunities/fundingopportunities/default.aspx>

As discussed above, the EPA provides funding for brownfields assessment, cleanup, and redevelopment:

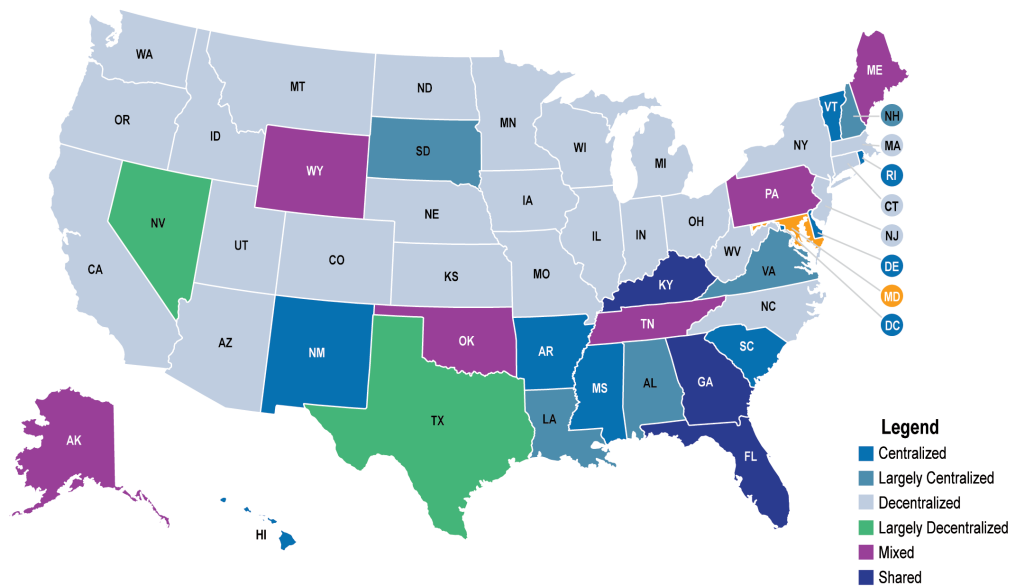
U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA): <https://www3.epa.gov/>

Brownfields (EPA): <https://www.epa.gov/brownfields>

Links to Health Agencies

- Public Health Professionals Gateway: <https://www.cdc.gov/stltpublichealth/healthdirectories/index.html>
- State & Territorial Health Department Websites: <https://www.cdc.gov/stltpublichealth/healthdirectories/healthdepartments.html>

State and Local Health Department Governance Classification Map



Your local state or county health agencies are also available to help. As local agencies, they often have a better understanding of the problem in your area and can point you to groups and agencies for partnerships and assistance. You can search for health agencies using the link below. Directory of Local Health Departments:

<https://www.naccho.org/membership/lhd-directory>

Agriculture Resources

Growing food in your area may sound daunting at first, but community gardens have proven very successful and provide many benefits.

- They provide a low-cost source of fresh fruit and vegetables, which may not be readily available in many areas.
- Agriculture projects can also provide an opportunity for community engagement and help develop community pride as residents take a small but visible action and have real (and tasty) results.



Photo: Volunteer teaching children gardening techniques in community garden.

Urban Gardening and Brownfields Resources

- US Department of Agriculture Community Food Projects Webinars: <https://nifa.usda.gov/resource/cfp-webinars>
- Kansas State University Brownfields and Urban Gardening Contacts: www.gardenonbrownfields.org/contact

Technical Assistance to Brownfields (TAB)
<https://www.epa.gov/brownfields/brownfields-technical-assistance-training-and-research>

Crossroads Resource Center, Tools for Community Self-Determination: <http://www.crcworks.org>

≈ Farming Concrete

Started by gardeners in 2009, Farming Concrete is an open, community-based research project to measure how much food is grown in community gardens and urban farms. Farming Concrete is fiscally sponsored by the New York City Community Garden Coalition. Source: <https://farmingconcrete.org/home-2/about/>

≈ US Department of Agriculture Farmer's Market Promotion Program

The Farmers Market Promotion Program (FMPP) aims to increase domestic consumption of and access to locally and regionally produced agricultural products and to develop new market opportunities for farm and ranch operations serving local markets.

To meet these goals, the FMPP helps to develop, improve, expand, and provide outreach, training, and technical assistance to direct producer-to-consumer market opportunities: domestic farmers markets, roadside stands, community-supported agriculture programs, and agritourism activities. Source: <https://www.ams.usda.gov/services/grants/fmpp>

≈ Information on Food Deserts

US Department of Agriculture (USDA) Food Access Research Atlas, which includes a food desert mapping tool: <https://www.ers.usda.gov/data/fooddesert>

Hospital Resources

Local hospitals may be sources of funding. The Affordable Care Act provides a Community Benefit for food deserts.

- **The Health Affairs Blog** is a good source of information on the topic of involving local hospitals: <http://healthaffairs.org/blog/2015/10/22/hospital-community-benefit-how-partnerships-can-support-healthy-communities/>
- **Hospital Community Benefits** <http://healthaffairs.org/blog/2014/05/08/an-extraordinary-opportunity-hospital-community-benefits/>

The **Robert Wood Johnson Foundation** is an excellent resource on a range of health and community topics including food. RWJF Info: <http://www.rwjf.org/>

- **Healthy Food Access:** <http://www.rwjf.org/en/library/collections/healthy-food-access.html>
- **Working to Provide a Disadvantaged Community Access to Healthy Food - and Environmental Justice:** <http://www.rwjf.org/en/library/articles-and-news/2015/03/working-to-provide-a-disadvantaged-community-access-to-healthy-f.html>
- **Culture of Health Blog: A Community Food Market Where Dignity is at the Center:** http://www.rwjf.org/en/culture-of-health/2015/08/a_community_foodmar.html



Farming Concrete

TOOLKIT | MILL | BARN | CONTACT | DONATE | HISTORY | FAQ

Farming Concrete

Started by gardeners in 2009, Farming Concrete is an open, community-based research project to measure how much food is grown in community gardens and urban farms. Farming Concrete is fiscally sponsored by the New York City Community Garden Coalition.

Between 2009-2012, Farming Concrete provided approximately 200 free scales, record keeping materials, training, and customized reports to New York city gardeners who recorded harvests through their online platform. Farming Concrete's 2012 Harvest report revealed the yield of more than 195 crop varieties from the data of 106 gardeners across the city.

Farming Concrete is now dedicated to expanding its support to gardeners and farmers across the world by using more comprehensive data collection tools available on this website.

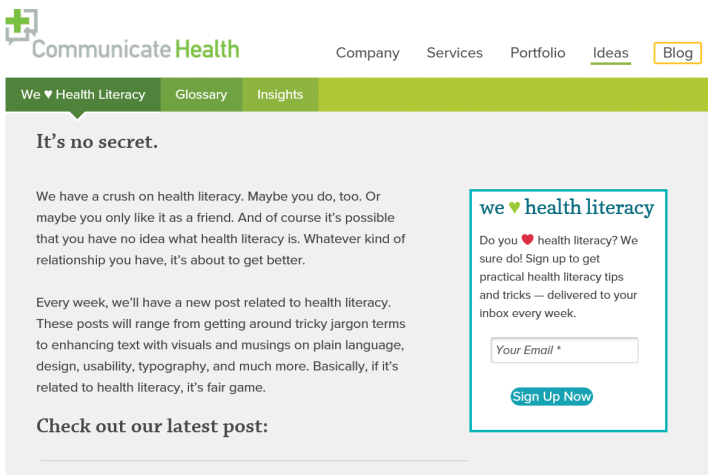


A person researching available community resources

Health Literacy Resources

- Communicate Health’s website on health literacy frequently posts health literacy information and resources. Posts will range from getting around tricky jargon terms to enhancing text with visuals and musings on plain language, design, usability, typography, and much more.

<http://communicatehealth.com/ideas/we-heart-health-literacy/>



- Health Literacy Online: access to user-friendly health information and services on the web.

“This research-based guide discusses why and how to design health websites and other digital health information tools for all users, including the millions of Americans who don’t have strong reading or health literacy skills—as well as those who don’t have a lot of time to find, process, and use complex health information.” Source:

<https://health.gov/healthliteracyonline/about/>

- Centers for Disease Control (CDC) and Prevention Health Literacy Guidance & Tools: <https://www.cdc.gov/healthliteracy/developmaterials/guidancestandards.html>

GIS Resources

Geographic Information Systems (GIS) can be used to map disease outbreaks, locations of hazardous waste, and a variety of additional environmental and health data. The resources below offer national and state GIS data uses and data sources.

- EPA Geospatial Data Download Service: <https://www.epa.gov/enviro/geospatial-data-download-service>
- Center for Health Journalism – Using GIS: When a Map is Worth a Thousand Words: <http://www.centerforhealthjournalism.org/2015/02/06/using-gis-when-map-worth-thousand-words>
- Stanford University Geospatial Center: <https://library.stanford.edu/research/stanford-geospatial-center>
- Arizona State Land Department – State Cartographer’s Office: <https://land.az.gov/mapping-services/state-cartographers-office>
- Florida Department of Transportation: <http://www.fdot.gov/statistics/gis/>
- University of Illinois Geographic Information Systems Laboratory: <http://www.uis.edu/gis/projects/data/>
- State of Michigan GIS: https://www.michigan.gov/som/0,4669,7-192-78943_78944---,00.html
- Oregon Geospatial Enterprise Office: <http://www.oregon.gov/GEO/Pages/index.aspx>
- Texas General Land Office: <https://www.glo.texas.gov/land/state-lands/vlb/index.html>

Public Health Data Resources

A wealth of public health data is available at the country, state, and regional/county levels. These data are useful to compare your area to its surrounding community and to highlight issues or problems.

- CDC – National Center for Health Statistics: <https://www.cdc.gov/nchs/index.htm>
- CDC Wonder: <http://wonder.cdc.gov/>
- Healthdata.gov: <http://www.healthdata.gov/>
- New York State - National Public Health Data Resources: <https://www.health.ny.gov/statistics/chac/national.htm>
- ASTHO - Public Health Data Sources & Assessment Tools: A Resource Compendium to Measure
- Access and Health Disparities: <http://www.astho.org/Programs/Access/Public-Health-Data-Sources---Assessment-Tools/>
- Dartmouth Atlas of Health Care: <http://www.dartmouthatlas.org/>



Other Useful Resources and Links

Resource	Advice
Blue Cross Blue Shield Foundation	Blue Cross Blue Shield Foundation - Check with local state entities to see if they may be interested in funding healthy eating and active living initiatives
Center for Community Progress	https://www.communityprogress.net/about-pages-4.php
Technical Assistance Scholarship Program	The Technical Assistance Scholarship Program (TASP) serves communities ready to move beyond the status quo. It engages communities in a focused, collaborative technical assistance process to address large-scale vacancy and abandonment.
Cities of Service: Cities of Service Resilience, AmeriCorps, VISTA, and the Love Your Block, City Hall AmeriCorps and VISTA Programs	https://citiesofservice.jhu.edu/ Cities of Service helps mayors and city leaders tap into citizen service to solve community problems and create vibrant cities. "Cities of Service is a nonprofit organization that helps mayors build stronger cities by changing the way local government and citizens work together. We help coalition cities tap into the knowledge, creativity, and service of their citizens to help identify and solve critical public problems. Cities of Service supports a coalition of more than 250 cities, representing over 70 million people across the Americas and Europe."
(United States) Conference of Mayors - Community Wins	http://www.usmayors.org/communitywins/ "Wells Fargo Bank and the Wells Fargo Foundation are teaming up with the U.S. Conference of Mayors (USCM) to offer the CommunityWINSSM (Working/Investing in Neighborhood Stabilization) Grant Program. CommunityWINSSM will be administered by USCM with the goal of awarding \$3 million over three years to support local nonprofits in promoting long-term economic prosperity and quality of life for their community."
Community Foundations	Check out local, community, state, and tribal foundations by Internet searches for keywords such as "local foundations" and the name of your city
Crowdfunding	Crowdfunding link to various funding platforms: https://www.crowdfunding.com/ .
Department of Defense Readiness and Environmental Protection Integration	https://www.repi.mil/ The Readiness and Environmental Protection Integration (REPI) program "is a key tool for combating encroachment that can limit or restrict military training, testing, and operations." REPI is implemented through partnerships between the military, private conservation groups, and state and local governments to preserve compatible land uses and natural habitats near installations and ranges that help sustain critical, at-risk military mission capabilities. The best way to get involved in a project is to work with established partners. REPI State Fact Sheets are available here: http://www.repi.mil/Resources/State-Fact-Sheets/ .

Resource	Advice
<p>United States Department of Education (DEA) Promise Neighborhoods</p>	<p>https://www2.ed.gov/programs/promiseneighborhoods/index.html</p> <p>Place-Based Initiatives Pilot. "Agencies, including the U.S. Department of Education ("ED"), under the leadership of Secretary Arne Duncan, were charged to orient programs and initiatives around community-centric contexts. ED adopted a 'place-based' approach in a few of its signature programs and initiatives, including its Promise Neighborhoods program. This approach recognizes that the federal government can better support strategies to achieve improved outcomes for students and families by considering where investments are made and how those investments interact with out-of-school conditions for learning."</p> <p>"ED integrates the 'place-based' approach through a handful of programs, interagency initiatives, and partnerships:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Neighborhood Revitalization Initiative – includes connecting the work of Promise Neighborhoods with Choice Neighborhoods, Byrne Criminal Justice Innovation, and Community Health Centers ▪ Building Neighborhood Capacity ▪ Strong Cities Strong Communities ▪ Promise Zones ▪ My Brother's Keeper ▪ Performance Partnership Pilots (P3) <p>With a portfolio of 40 (and growing) priority commitments to regions across the nation, ED's PBI team offers tiered support to communities through a structure that includes senior career and political leadership and coordination; an interagency advisory committee; federal staff serving as relationship managers who connect with local communities and interagency programming; external experts; and technical assistance resources."</p>
<p>DEA Federal Work Study Programs</p>	<p>https://www2.ed.gov/programs/fws/index.html</p> <p>The FWS Program provides funds for part-time employment to help needy students finance the costs of postsecondary education. Students can receive FWS funds at approximately 3,400 participating postsecondary institutions.</p> <p>Students may be employed by the institution itself; a federal, state, or local public agency; a private nonprofit organization; or a private for-profit organization. Institutions must use at least 7 percent of their Work- Study allocation to support students working in community service jobs, including reading tutors for preschool age or elementary school children; mathematics tutors for students enrolled in elementary school through ninth grade; literacy tutors in a family literacy project performing family literacy activities; or emergency preparedness and response.</p>
<p>Department of the Treasury's Community Development Financial Institutions Fund (CDFI Fund) and Native American CDFI Assistance Program (NACA Program)</p>	<p>https://www.cdfifund.gov/Pages/default.aspx</p> <p>Through the CDFI Program, the CDFI Fund invests in and builds the capacity of CDFIs to serve low-income people and communities lacking adequate access to affordable financial products and services. The CDFI Fund invests in certified CDFIs by providing Financial Assistance awards to applicants that have demonstrated the financial and managerial capacity to deliver financial products and services to a low-income target market and to leverage additional resources effectively. Through Technical Assistance grants, the CDFI Fund enables certified CDFIs and emerging entities working toward CDFI certification to build their capacity as lending institutions.</p>

Resource	Advice
FHWA Transportation Alternatives Program	<p>https://www.fhwa.dot.gov/environment/transportation_alternatives/overview/</p> <p>The Transportation Alternatives Program (formerly Transportation Enhancement Program) provides funding for programs and projects defined as transportation alternatives, including on- and off-road pedestrian and bicycle facilities, infrastructure projects for improving non-driver access to public transportation and enhanced mobility, community improvement activities, and environmental mitigation; recreational trail projects; safe routes to school projects; and projects for planning, designing, or constructing boulevards and other roadways largely in the right-of-way of former divided highways.</p> <p>State resources available here: http://www.pedbikeinfo.org/data/state.cfm</p>
Funders' Network for Smart Growth and Livable Communities (TFN)	<p>https://www.fundersnetwork.org/partners-for-places-new-grants-available/</p> <p>Partners for Places is a successful matching grant program that creates opportunities for cities and counties in the United States and Canada to improve communities by building partnerships between local government sustainability offices and place-based foundations. National funders invest in local projects to promote a healthy environment, a strong economy, and the well-being of all residents. Through these projects, Partners for Places fosters long-term relationships that make our urban areas more prosperous, livable, and vibrant.</p>
Groundworks USA	<p>http://groundworkusa.org/</p> <p>Dedicated to changing places and changing lives, Groundwork USA is a national organization with local roots, engaging local businesses, residents and government officials to revitalize neighborhoods and transform community liabilities into community assets.</p>
Health Foundation of Western & Central New York	<p>https://hfwcny.org/</p> <p>Free online training resources available for community-based organizations seeking partnerships with the health care sector</p>
Home Depot Foundation	<p>http://homedepotfoundation.org/page/applying-for-a-grant</p> <p>Home Depot will fund gardens if they benefit veterans or if veterans build them.</p>
Home Depot Foundation Community Impacts Grants Program and Veteran Housing Grants Program	<p>https://corporate.homedepot.com/foundation/celebrationofservice/home-depot-foundation-grants</p> <p>Through the Community Impact Grants, the Foundation offers grant awards up to \$5,000 to 501(c)(3) designated organizations recognized and in good standing with the IRS for a minimum of one year and to tax-exempt public service agencies in the U.S. that are using the power of volunteers to improve the community.</p> <p>The Foundation's Veteran Housing Grants Program awards grants to nonprofit organizations for the new construction or rehabilitation of permanent supportive housing for veterans. Awards typically range from \$100,000 to \$500,000."</p>
United States Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) Community Development Block Grant (CDBG)	<p>https://www.hud.gov/program_offices/comm_planning/communitydevelopment</p> <p>Activities may address needs such as infrastructure, economic development projects, public facilities installation, community centers, housing rehabilitation, public services, clearance/acquisition, microenterprise assistance, code enforcement, homeowner assistance, etc. Federal support encourages systematic and sustained action by state and local governments.</p>

Resource	Advice
HUD Choice Neighborhoods Planning Grant	<p>https://www.hud.gov/program_offices/public_indian_housing/programs/ph/cn/planninggrants</p> <p>The Choice Neighborhoods Planning Grant, called ‘Planning and Action Grants.’</p> <p>Choice Neighborhoods Planning Grants support the development of comprehensive neighborhood revitalization plans, which focus on directing resources to address three core goals: Housing, People and Neighborhoods. To achieve these core goals, communities must develop and implement a comprehensive neighborhood revitalization strategy, or “Transformation Plan.” The Transformation Plan will become the guiding document for the revitalization of the public and/or assisted housing units while simultaneously directing the transformation of the surrounding neighborhood and positive outcomes for families.</p> <p>Choice Neighborhoods Planning Grant funds are available for public housing authorities, local governments, nonprofit organizations, and tribal entities.</p>
Insurance companies - managed cares and local insurers that have foundations	<p>Check out all local larger companies to see if they have foundations that give out funds. Check what their specifications for funding are. If the funding doesn’t match your needs, ask if they provide funds for projects that do match your needs.</p>
Kresge Foundation	<p>http://kresge.org/programs/environment#sthash.mH1SvX0F.dpuf http://kresge.org/programs/environment</p> <p>The Kresge Foundation focuses its program funding on climate change that impacts communities. They invest in three primary areas:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Reducing the greenhouse gas emissions that drive climate change; ▪ Planning for the effects of climate change that are underway or anticipated; and ▪ Fostering social cohesion and inclusion.
Land Banks and Land Banking Book	<p>The Center for Community Progress provides the Second Edition of the 2015 Land Banks and Land Banking Book at http://www.communityprogress.net/filebin/LandBanksLandBankingVer2DigitalFinal.pdf</p> <p>This newest edition (2015) provides clear historic context about the development of land banking and explains the rapid evolution of land banking over the last four years. Practitioners will find an expanded trove of practical resources, including extensive guidance on creating and operating a land bank in Part II and a detailed look at ensuring a strong future for land banks in Part IV.</p>
Landscaping companies	<p>Talk to landscaping companies that might donate leftover scraps of landscape fabric. It’s expensive, and every scrap can be used in smaller garden boxes.</p>
League of American Bicyclists and local bicycling organizations	<p>The League of American Bicyclists advocates for safer roads, stronger communities, and a Bicycle Friendly America. For resources, see: https://www.bikeleague.org/</p> <p>There are also local resources to promote and advocated for increased bicycling, such as PATH:</p> <p>https://www.pathfoundation.org/ that Brownfields folks can search for in their local communities.</p>
Local businesses	<p>See if local businesses might sponsor one 4’ X 8’ garden bed, which may cost less than \$125.00, including soil and compost.</p>

Resource	Advice
Local hospitals	Check out the community benefit activities that your local hospitals may provide to the community as part of the Affordable Care Act. For example, a local hospital may want to be a part of a 'pilot' garden in which you survey gardeners before and after gardening to see if they increased their intake of vegetables or increased their knowledge about preparing low cost meals with vegetables, etc.
Local nurseries	Contact local nurseries in late fall and they may donate leftover seed. Just be sure to store it in a cool, dry place that insects or mice can't access. Some local nurseries have donated their plants once the June selling season is past. They may need a little love and trimming, but they can still thrive.
Lumber supply	A lumber supply place may be willing to donate boards that aren't perfectly straight, and you can ask them to save them for you. Four boards and 16 screws equal a garden bed.
My Brother's Keeper (MBK)	<p>https://www.obama.org/mbka/</p> <p>President Obama launched My Brother's Keeper in February 2014 to address persistent opportunity gaps facing boys and young men of color and to ensure all youth can reach their full potential. In 2015 the My Brother's Keeper Alliance (MBK Alliance) was launched, inspired by My Brother's Keeper, to scale and sustain this mission. In late 2017, MBK Alliance became an initiative of the Obama Foundation. Within the Obama Foundation, MBK Alliance focuses on building safe and supportive communities for boys and young men of color, where they feel valued and have clear pathways to opportunity.</p> <p>The MBK website provides a multitude of tools and resources designed to help MBK Communities, community leaders, and other partners increase their impact on life outcomes for boys and young men of color in tangible, measurable ways.</p>
National Association of Development Organizations (NADO) Research Foundation	<p>http://www.planningforresilience.com/</p> <p>The NADO Research Foundation has released "Planning for a More Resilient Future: A Guide to Regional Approaches," a report summarizing the rapidly growing body of research on resilience. It describes the main ideas that are driving policy and practice across the country and examines current thinking on regional and economic resilience. It is intended for regional development organizations (RDOs) as well as local governments, community foundations, voluntary organizations, and others who plan, convene, organize, fundraise, mediate, coordinate, and advocate on behalf of communities impacted by, or at risk of disasters, both natural and human-induced.</p>
National Fish and Wildlife Foundation	<p>https://www.nfwf.org/apply-grant#.VVDxCfVhHw</p> <p>The National Fish and Wildlife Foundation provides funding on a competitive basis to projects that sustain, restore, and enhance our nation's fish, wildlife, and plants and their habitats. Programs of interest are listed at this link:</p> <p>https://www.nfwf.org/programs</p>

Resource	Advice
National Forest Foundation	<p>https://www.nationalforests.org/grant-programs</p> <p>The National Forest Foundation supports action-oriented projects that directly enhance the health and well-being of America's national forests and grasslands and that engage the public in stewardship. Nonprofit organizations dedicated to addressing natural resource issues on National Forests and Grasslands can apply for support to complete projects through three distinct grant programs.</p> <p>Additionally, the NFF provides funding opportunities that address specific strategic initiatives aligned with its mission and goals.</p>
National Parks Foundation	<p>https://www.nationalparks.org/our-work</p> <p>The National Parks Foundation is the official nonprofit partner of America's national parks. The National Park Foundation generates private support and builds strategic partnerships to protect and enhance America's national parks for present and future generations.</p> <p>Grant information is available at this link: https://www.nationalparks.org/grant-applications</p>
National Parks Service (NPS) Land and Water Conservation Fund	<p>https://www.nps.gov/subjects/lwcf/index.htm</p> <p>The Land and Water Conservation Fund was established by Congress in 1964 to fulfill a bipartisan commitment to safeguard our natural areas, water resources and cultural heritage, and to provide recreation opportunities to all Americans. Using zero taxpayer dollars, the fund invests earnings from offshore oil and gas leasing to help strengthen communities, preserve our history, and protect our national endowment of lands and waters. The LWCF program can be divided into the "State Side" which provides grants to state and local governments, and the "Federal Side" which is used to acquire lands, waters, and interests therein necessary to achieve the natural, cultural, wildlife, and recreation management objectives of federal land management agencies.</p> <p>State level program information: http://www.nps.gov/nrc/programs/lwcf/contact_list.html</p>
National Service AmeriCorps (VISTA)	<p>http://www.nationalservice.gov/programs/ameri-corps</p> <p>AmeriCorps programs do more than move communities forward; they serve their members by creating jobs and providing pathways to opportunity as they enter the workforce. AmeriCorps places thousands of people into intensive service positions where they learn valuable skills, earn money for education, and develop a strong sense of civic responsibility.</p>
Patagonia	<p>https://www.patagonia.com/how-we-fund/</p> <p>Patagonia supports innovative work that addresses the root causes of the environmental crisis and seeks to protect both the environment and affected communities. We focus on places where we've built connections through outdoor recreation and through our network of retail stores, nationally and internationally.</p>
Rails to Trails	<p>Rails to Trails is a citizen-based organization that provides assistance for converting old rail bands (land given by the federal government to railroads) into bicycling and pedestrian paths. Several resources, such as a trail building toolbox, are available on their website:</p> <p>https://www.Railstotrails.org/</p>

Resource	Advice
Robert Wood Johnson Foundation (RWJF)	http://www.rwjf.org/ The Robert Wood Johnson Foundation supports a wide array of research and programs which are working to help build a national culture of health.
Seed saving clubs for local gardening efforts	Check and see if any seed saving clubs are in your area; they may donate heirloom seeds to you. Stores such as Walmart donate their leftover seeds each year. Not all of them will germinate, but you may still get some germination with them.
Service organizations that support gardens and planting of native species	Talk to service organizations, like Elks, Kiwanis, etc. and see if they would sponsor a few beds to start you off. Even try Girl Scouts, 4H, or youth clubs, as they may have projects where they obtain funding themselves and build your garden as their culminating project. Native plant societies at the national and local level may donate plants or plant them as a service projects. See: http://nanps.org/ for a list of resources by state. See also http://www.xerces.org/ which has resources for gardening practices that protect pollinators.
Small Business Administration – Cooperative Guide	https://www.sba.gov/content/cooperative Information from Small Business Administration (SBA) on how to form a cooperative. A cooperative is a business or organization owned by and operated for the benefit of those using its services. Profits and earnings generated by the cooperative are distributed among the members, also known as “user-owners.” Typically, an elected board of directors and officers runs the cooperative while regular members have voting power to control the direction of the cooperative. Members can become part of the cooperative by purchasing shares, though the number of shares they hold does not affect the weight of their vote. Cooperatives are common in the healthcare, retail, agriculture, art, and restaurant industries.
SMART POTS	If you can’t afford garden beds immediately, a material called “SMART POTS” comes in sizes up to 300-gallon size. You can plant anything in them, and they are movable, so you could find a small amount of funding for a few and start a garden. (See https://www.smartpots.com/)
Technical Assistance to Brownfields	https://www.epa.gov/brownfields/brownfields-technical-assistance-training-and-research#:~:text=The%20Technical%20Assistance%20to%20Brownfields,brownfields%20cleanup%2C%20revitalization%20and%20reuse. The Technical Assistance to Brownfields (TAB) Program provides technical assistance to communities and stakeholders to help address their brownfield sites, and to increase their understanding and involvement in brownfields cleanup, revitalization and reuse. The TAB Program is funded by EPA and available to anyone interested in brownfields redevelopment. EPA has awarded three TAB Grants which provide technical support to brownfield sites in multiple EPA regions as listed below. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ EPA Regions 1, 3 and 4: New Jersey Institute of Technology (NJIT) ▪ EPA Regions 5, 6, 7, 8 and nationwide: Kansas State University (KSU) ▪ EPA Regions 2, 9 and 10: Center for Creative Land Recycling (CCLR)

Resource	Advice
The Trust for Public Land	<p>https://www.tpl.org/</p> <p>The Trust for Public Land creates parks and protects land for people, ensuring healthy, livable communities for generations to come.</p>
United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) Extension Service	<p>https://www.usda.gov/topics/rural/cooperative-research-and-extension-services</p> <p>Rural Development’s Cooperative Services Program promotes understanding and use of the cooperatives to market and distribute agricultural products. Through grants and services, the Cooperative Services division serves cooperative members, directors, management, educational institutions, organizations, rural residents, and others interested in cooperative-based business.</p> <p>The Cooperative Services Program has factsheets available at a state level that can be useful for creating gardens on repurposed brownfields. Each state cooperative extension service sponsors Master Gardener programs (often there is one in each county). Participants can pay back the training by providing hundreds of hours of free community service, such as to help convert brownfields into parks and gardens. See:</p> <p>https://mastergardener.extension.org/about-us-2/extension-master-gardener-national-committee/#:~:text=The%20Extension%20Master%20Gardener%20National%20Committee%20%28EMGNC%29%20provides,critical%20issues%20related%20to%20home%20yards%20and%20landscapes%3B</p>
USDA Farmers Market USDA Promotion Program	<p>https://www.ams.usda.gov/services/grants/fmpp</p> <p>The purpose of the USDA Farmers Market Promotion Program (FMPP) is to increase domestic consumption of, and access to, locally and regionally produced agricultural products. It seeks to develop new market opportunities for local markets of farm and ranch operations by developing, improving, expanding, and providing outreach, training, and technical assistance to domestic farmers markets, roadside stands, community-supported agriculture programs, agritourism activities, and other direct producer-to-consumer market opportunities.</p>
USDA New Farmers	<p>https://newfarmers.usda.gov/</p> <p>The USDA offers many resources for new farmers through this link.</p>
USDA Rural Development	<p>https://www.rd.usda.gov/about-rd</p> <p>The USDA Rural Development program offers loans, grants, and loan guarantees to help create jobs and support economic development and essential services such as housing; health care; first responder services and equipment; and water, electric and communications infrastructure.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ “We provide technical assistance to help communities undertake community empowerment programs. ▪ We help rural residents buy or rent safe, affordable housing and make health and safety repairs to their homes.” <p>Information about grants: https://www.rd.usda.gov/about-rd/grant-awards</p>
University cooperative extension program – Land Grants	<p>Check with your state university that may house a cooperative extension program, as they may have resources or be able to point you to them.</p>

Resource	Advice
Urban Farming Guide in NY State	<p>https://smallfarms.cornell.edu/resources/guides/urban-guide-to-farming-in-ny/</p> <p>Cornell University's Urban Guide to Farming in NY informs urban farmers about advocating for urban agriculture, accessing and reclaiming land, producing food and farm products in city centers, marketing, financing, and other information they need to know to launch, continue, or expand their farm businesses.</p>
Wal-Mart Foundation Community Grant Program	<p>https://www.youthop.com/competitions/grants/walmart-foundation-community-grant-program-2019</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Walmart Foundation provides nonprofits grants ranging from \$250 to \$5000. ▪ In 2019, organizations could apply in 8 areas of funding.: ▪ Hunger relief and healthy eating: Providing federal or charitable meals/snacks for low-income individuals and families in the United States ▪ Health and human service: Providing medical screening, treatment, social services, or shelters for low-income individuals and families in the United States ▪ Quality of life: Improving access to recreation, arts or cultural experiences for low-income individuals and families in the United States ▪ Education: Providing afterschool enrichment, tutoring, or vocational training for low-income individuals and families in the United States ▪ Community and economic development: Improving local communities for low-income individuals and families in the United States ▪ Diversity and Inclusion: Fostering the building of relationships and understanding among diverse groups in the United States ▪ Public Safety: Supporting public safety programs through training or equipment in the United States ▪ Environmental sustainability: Preventing waste, increasing recycling or supporting other programs that work to improve the environment in the United States
YouthBuild	<p>https://www.youthbuild.org/about-youthbuild</p> <p>YouthBuild programs give low-income young people who have fallen off the edges of society the opportunity to transform their own lives, get back on track to adult responsibility, and give back to their communities:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ 40 years of empowering youth ▪ 252 sites in 46 states ▪ 8,000 students ▪ 50 MILLION service hours <p>To start a YouthBuild program: https://youthbuild.org/get-involved/start-a-youthbuild-program/</p>



For more information please contact:

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