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THE KRESGE FOUNDATION  
NEMOURS  
ROBERT WOOD JOHNSON FOUNDATION  
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## **National Funders Award Over \$1.8 million in Healthy Community Grants**

*The Convergence Partnership highlights 15 local foundations for their work building a healthier environment*

NEW YORK -- The Convergence Partnership—a collaboration of six of the nation’s leading funders, plus the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention—awarded 15 community and family foundations a total of over \$1.8 million in grants for their work building healthier, more equitable communities.

The awards honor new innovative projects and initiatives that help ensure all Americans can live, work, learn, and play in healthy communities.

“Innovative projects like these are at the vanguard of a national effort to create healthier communities for all people,” said Judith Bell, president of PolicyLink and the Partnership’s program director. “By investing in the local foundations that know their regions best, the Convergence Partnership hopes we will encourage new risk-taking and create sustainable, long-term impact in communities across America.”

The awards provide as much as \$200,000 over two years to each recipient to support innovative local and regional initiatives and projects. Foundations were required to provide a \$2 match for every \$1 they were awarded. Earlier this year, the Partnership invited grant-making foundations to request funds to support their efforts to improve the built environment and/or expand food access to improve health and equity through increased partnership, and a focus on creating long term solutions.

Awardees included:

Chicago Community Trust (Chicago, Ill.)  
Community Foundation of Greater Buffalo (Buffalo, NY)  
Community Foundation of Greater Memphis (Memphis, Tenn.)  
Consumer Health Foundation (Washington, D.C.)  
HNHFoundation (Concord, NH)  
Humboldt Area Foundation (Humboldt, Calif.)

Mary Black Foundation (Spartansburg, SC)  
New Mexico Community Foundation (Santa Fe, NM)  
Northwest Health Foundation (Portland, Ore.)  
Raymond John Wean Foundation, (Youngstown, Ohio)  
The Rosalinde and Arthur Gilbert Foundation (Santa Monica, Calif.)  
St. Christopher's Foundation for Children (Philadelphia, Penn.)  
The Health Trust (Santa Clara County, Calif.)  
Whatcom Community Foundation (Bellingham, Wash.)  
Zilber Family Foundation (Milwaukee, Wisc.)

To find out more about the individual winners, please visit [www.ConvergencePartnership.org](http://www.ConvergencePartnership.org).

The Convergence Innovation Fund – the Partnership's initiative that awarded these grants – supports place-based efforts focused on promising and innovative strategies and works to build connections across multiple fields, including public health, transportation, urban planning, sustainable agriculture and more. By focusing on local and regional foundations who are already dedicated to their communities, the Fund seeks to create sustainable policy and environmental changes focused on developing healthier, more equitable communities.

The Convergence Partnership launched the Innovation Fund in May 2009 as a way to:

- Support foundations to shift their grant-making towards policy and environmental change strategies which target health and equity;
- Create local and sustainable resources for promising, innovative strategies to build healthy, equitable communities;
- Promote multi-field partnerships on the ground; and,
- Support partnership among foundations.

#### **About the Partnership**

*The Convergence Partnership is a collaboration of funders who have come together with the shared goal of changing policies and environments to better achieve the vision of healthy people living in healthy places. Its members include The California Endowment, Kaiser Permanente, The Kresge Foundation, Nemours, Robert Wood Johnson Foundation, and the WK Kellogg Foundation. The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention serve as technical advisors. For more information on the partners and the partnership, please visit [www.ConvergencePartnership.org](http://www.ConvergencePartnership.org).*