Climate Change, Equity, and Health: Philanthropic Opportunities

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BRING FUNDERS TOGETHER

LA FRACKING TOUR – JAN 2014

DATA SHARING FOR ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH & JUSTICE – JUNE 2014

HEFN ANNUAL MEETING – OCT 2014

GLOBAL GATHERING ON CLIMATE, ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH & JUSTICE OCT 2014

CLIMATE FOR HEALTH: PHILANTHROPIC OPPORTUNITIES
Providing Information

Webinars • Blogs • Funder Briefs • Email Updates • Funder Calls

Climate for Health: Philanthropic Opportunities
SUPPORT COLLABORATION

CLIMATE FOR HEALTH: PHILANTHROPIC OPPORTUNITIES
HOW CAN FUNDERS ENGAGE ON CLIMATE & HEALTH?

PROTECTION

PREVENTION

TRANSFORMATION

CLIMATE FOR HEALTH: PHILANTHROPIC OPPORTUNITIES
Widespread scientific consensus exists that the world’s climate is changing. Some of these changes will likely include more variable weather, heat waves, heavy precipitation events, flooding, droughts, more intense storms, sea level rise, and air pollution. Each of these impacts could negatively affect public health. While climate change is a global issue, the effects of climate change will vary across geographic regions and populations. CDC’s Climate and Health Program is helping state and city health departments prepare for the specific health impacts of climate change that their communities will face.

Arizona Department of Health Services
Health Impacts: Health effects due to extreme heat
California Department of Health
Florida Department of Health
Taking The Lead On Air Pollution

Heinz Endowments Initiative Raises Awareness & Support for Cleaner Air

Pinpointing the Problem
Pittsburgh’s air is cleaner than it has been in decades, yet its air quality still ranks as one of the unhealthiest in the country. While the highly visible soot and smoke of Pittsburgh’s industrial past are gone, the region remains burdened with high levels of fine particulate matter, ground-level ozone (smog), and toxic air pollutants that are often nearly invisible. The relatively clear skies of today’s Pittsburgh contribute to residents’ perceptions that air quality is a low priority. Yet particulates, smog, and air toxics pose a serious health threat with links to increased risks of respiratory and cardiac diseases, stroke, birth outcomes like premature birth and low birth weight, cancer, and early death.

Between 1995 and 2011, southwestern Pennsylvania-focused The Heinz Endowments awarded $32 million to improving air quality, but concluded that its investments had not had the degree of immediate impact the region needed. An Endowments-funded study in 2011 confirmed the region’s air quality was still among the worst in the country. It also found that a major portion of its pollution was from local sources, meaning the region had the power to make its air much cleaner. Later in 2011, the
Revealing And Remediating Hidden Hazards

The Liberty Hill Foundation Funds Clean Up and Green Up Campaign

Revealing Critical Gaps
After years of hearing about cancers, birth defects, lung disease, and other environmentally-linked health problems in poor and minority Los Angeles neighborhoods, the Liberty Hill Foundation took action. In 1996 Liberty Hill helped found the Los Angeles Collaborative for Environmental Health and Justice. The Collaborative connects academic researchers with organizations from low-income communities and communities of color to study, fund, and support environmental justice work on relationships between toxic exposures and race, income status, and health. Funding partners also include: the California Endowment, California Wellness Foundation, Ford Foundation, Frances Fund, Hewlett Foundation, and Marisla Foundation.

Their work revealed critical gaps in information. Publicly collected data was presenting only a partial picture of toxic air pollutants in neighborhoods. The Foundation and its collaborative partners concluded that drawing official data together with local knowledge could help target efforts to make these communities healthier and more vibrant.

TO LEARN MORE, VISIT:
- Hidden Hazards: A Call to Action for Healthy, Livable Communities
- Up in the Air: The Fight for Clean Air in Boyle Heights

MAJOR ISSUE:
THANK YOU!

- HEFN’S WEBSITE:  WWW.HEFN.ORG
- FUNDER STORIES:  WWW.HEFN.ORG/CONNECT/FUNDER_STORIES
- CDC’S CLIMATE READY STATES & CITIES INITIATIVE:  WWW.CDC.GOV/CLIMATEANDHEALTH/CLIMATE_READY.HTM
- INTERESTED IN THE CLIMATE FOR HEALTH BRIEFING PAPER? CALL OR EMAIL:  KFORTUNATO@HEFN.ORG / 301-565-0500

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