

Coordinating Center for Environmental Health and Injury Prevention (CCEHIP)

CCEHIP is dedicated to maximizing collaboration; identifying and capitalizing on opportunities for coordination of research; and providing leadership, management, and accountability for cross-center goals.

Mission. The mission of CCEHIP is to plan, direct, and coordinate national and global public health research, programs, and laboratory sciences that improve health and eliminate illness, disability, and/or death caused by injuries or environmental exposures. It includes the following programs:

- ▶ The National Center for Environmental Health (NCEH)
- ▶ The Agency for Toxic Substances and Disease Registry (ATSDR)
- ▶ The National Center for Injury Prevention and Control (NCIPC)

Importance of Healthy Places. CCEHIP championed development of CDC's seven Healthy Places goals. "Place"—where a person lives, works, plays, goes to school, commutes, receives health care—has the potential to impact health through all life stages. Many public health achievements in the 20th century had a strong link with places, including food safety, water sanitation, indoor and outdoor air quality, vector control, and solid and hazardous waste management. The Healthy Places goal areas recognize that each place has unique characteristics and that the policies, actions, and behaviors that protect and improve health and safety vary from place to place.

Importance of Injury Prevention. Working with state and local governments, nonprofit organizations, academic institutions, private entities, other federal agencies, and international organizations, CDC is documenting the numbers and identifying the causes of injuries and violence, finding effective prevention strategies, and promoting the widespread adoption of these solutions. Injuries are the leading cause of death among 1 to 44 year olds, and are a leading cause of death for all Americans. Prevention is the key to reducing death and disabilities from injuries.

Health Goals at CCEHIP. CCEHIP is the host Coordinating Center for the following five goal areas. The activities of its national centers closely align with the objectives of those goals.

- ▶ **Healthy Communities – Healthy Communities Index.** The Healthy Communities goal team is collaborating with the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation and others within CDC to create healthier communities through the development and application of a sustainable community level health and wellbeing index.
- ▶ **Healthy Homes – National Healthy Homes Conference.** The Healthy Homes goal area supported this first of its kind conference that introduced the healthy homes approach to the public health workforce, policy-makers, engineers and builders, and community members.
- ▶ **Adolescent Health – Cross-cutting-Interventions and Strategies.** The Adolescent Health goal area supported rigorous evaluation of the cross-cutting effectiveness of parenting interventions that were found to have sufficient scientific support.
- ▶ **Healthy Travel, Transportation, and Recreation – Healthy Transportation Initiative.** The Healthy Travel, Transportation, and Recreation goal team is promoting an integrated Healthy Transportation Initiative as well as developing a web portal designed to encourage (a) alternative transportation methods; (b) built environments that support these healthier and safer transportation choices; and (c) widespread adoption of policies and incentive programs to reduce injuries and encourage more physical activity and less pollution.
- ▶ **Environmental Health Threats (Preparedness) – Improving CDC's Response Capacity for Terrorist Bombings.** The National Center for Injury Prevention and Control's Division of Injury Response (DIR) leads CDC's efforts to support a public health response to conventional terrorist bombings.

Global Health Activities. CCEHIP has numerous global health initiatives. From Samoa to the Sudan and on topics from melamine to murder, CCEHIP has provided technical assistance, conducted research, and established surveillance systems across the globe. Specific examples of CCEHIP's global activities include Indoor Air Pollution/Black Carbon/Climate Change; Emergency and Refugee Health; Road Traffic Injury Prevention; Global Laboratory Standardization; Safe Water; International Violence Prevention; Emergency Preparedness and Response; and Workforce and Career Development.

Diversity Plan and Council. CCEHIP created a Workforce Development and Diversity Council in 2007 and developed the CCEHIP Diversity Action plan in 2008. This diversity plan established the goal of building a diverse workforce to better meet the needs of communities and partners we serve to create a more equitable and supportive work environment for employees. In addition, CCEHIP offered a training for managers entitled "Interviewing Today's Workforce" to aid managers in conducting interviews using behavioral competencies to expand their cultural comfort zone and develop culturally inclusive questions.