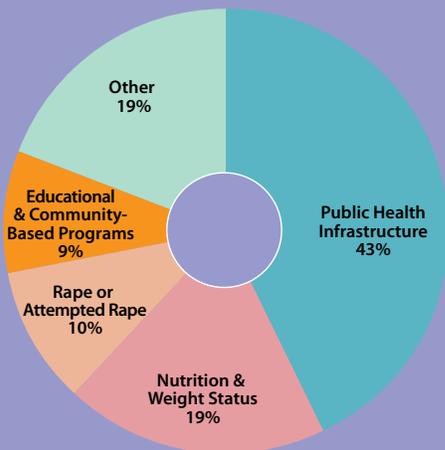


Preventive Health and Health Services Block Grant

Massachusetts

How Massachusetts Invested PHHS Block Grant Funding

Total FY 2015 Funding: \$3,712,099



Massachusetts used PHHS Block Grant funding to improve streets and sidewalks and create community gardens.

Creating Healthy Communities for Older Residents

Massachusetts has a large population of residents ages 65 or older who often have to walk on streets that are structurally unsafe or hard to navigate. In 2014, using Preventive Health and Health Services (PHHS) Block Grant funds, the Division of Prevention and Wellness and the Mass in Motion (MiM) program at the Massachusetts Department of Public Health (MDPH) created and implemented a community design concept featuring safe, walkable communities for older residents. MiM partnered with the Massachusetts Association of Councils of Aging and senior center directors in this effort. The resulting community improvements helped increase residents' access to fresh food from community gardens and expanded more open spaces in parks in seven Massachusetts communities.

MiM started by organizing walk inspections and interviewing the older residents to learn about the challenges they experienced while walking in their communities. The residents gave MiM their recommendations for fixing the unsafe walking conditions.

Guided by these recommendations, MiM then improved signs and crosswalks and made more space for wheelchairs on sidewalks. In the city of Fall River, MiM worked closely with agencies and other community partners to repaint crosswalks, install an in-street crossing sign, and remove overgrowth. Collaborating with partners in other communities, MiM improved crosswalk signals, used reflective paint on crosswalks, created easy-to-understand signs, and removed trash from roads. Many residents at the senior center in New Bedford also wanted access to nutritious food, so MiM helped them create a garden that provides healthy foods for about 100 residents. Another project component was developing a toolkit to help communities create and promote the age-friendly community design concept.

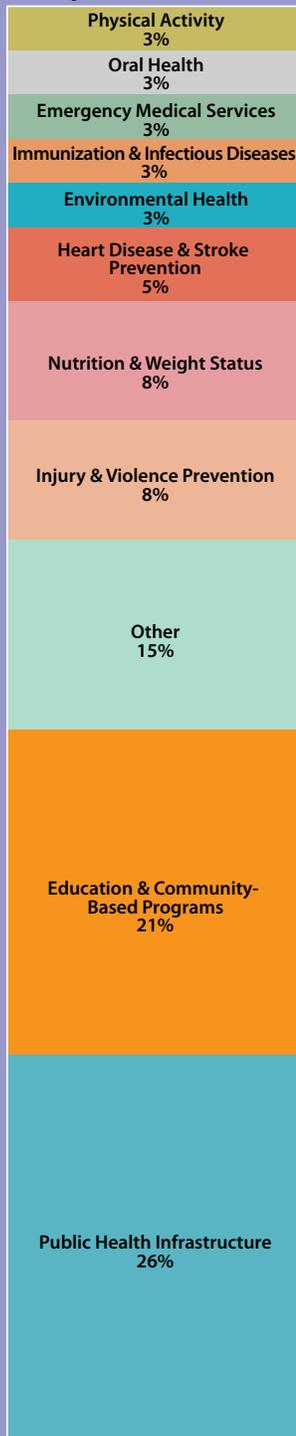
Building on the project's success, MiM and MDPH supported 10 more community projects for residents of all ages in 2015. MDPH is partnering with the Massachusetts Association of Health Boards to award additional healthy aging community design grants in 2016.



Centers for Disease Control and Prevention
Office for State, Tribal, Local and Territorial Support

Preventive Health and Health Services Block Grant

2015 Top-Funded Health Areas



Excludes all non-discretionary funding: administrative costs (up to 10%), direct assistance, and funds set aside for sexual violence (rape prevention).

What is the PHHS Block Grant?

The Preventive Health and Health Services (PHHS) Block Grant provides flexible federal funding to 61 states, tribes, and US territories. These grantees use the funding to meet vital public health needs within their jurisdictions that align with national priorities—the Healthy People (HP) 2020 objectives.

Block Grant Investment Across the Nation

In fiscal year 2015, the 61 grantees received about \$126 million from the PHHS Block Grant to support critical programs and services. Most funds (85%) supported HP 2020 objectives in 10 key areas: 1) Public Health Infrastructure, 2) Education and Community-Based Programs, 3) Injury and Violence Prevention, 4) Nutrition and Weight Status, 5) Heart Disease and Stroke Prevention, 6) Environmental Health, 7) Immunization and Infectious Diseases, 8) Emergency Medical Services, 9) Oral Health, and 10) Physical Activity.

Public Health Infrastructure was the most funded area (26% of total funding); 43 grantees directed funds toward public health systems assessment, health improvement planning, accreditation, quality improvement, laboratory services, and other infrastructure activities. Education and Community-Based Programs was the second-most funded area (21% of total funding); 29 grantees directed funds toward community-based primary prevention services, worksite health promotion programs, and culturally appropriate community health programs.

Grantees also directed funds toward supporting local organizations working to improve community health (27% of total funding) and reduce health disparities (23% of total funding).