Together, we are educators, clinicians, practitioners, evaluators, researchers, and community leaders at Wayne State University who are committed to working with community partners to advance health and social equity at local, regional, and national levels.

**OUR MISSION IS** to improve community health and economic vitality through healthy living programs, public policy, and research.

**Our Priorities**

We develop and lead culturally relevant, evidence-based, and sustainable programs that transform the healthy living opportunities for families, neighborhoods, and organizations.

We conduct nationally-recognized research, evaluation, and advocacy of community health programs to identify best practices, health impact, and environmental improvement.

Collectively, our work promotes a holistic approach to health and social equity across the lifespan.

**Who We Are**

Together, we are educators, clinicians, practitioners, evaluators, researchers, and community leaders at Wayne State University who are committed to working with community partners to advance health and social equity at local, regional, and national levels.
**CURRENT PROJECTS**

**Air Quality, Health & Learning in School Buildings**
Research and evaluation of the effects of air quality in K-12 schools on the health and academic performance of schoolchildren.

**Brilliant Detroit**
Seeks to enhance physical activity, healthy eating, and overall wellbeing in Detroit families with children from 0 to 8 years of age, by partnering with community health agencies to provide health programming to families within walking distance of their homes.

**Detroit Healthy Youth Initiative**
Nutrition and food education systems programs throughout Detroit high schools to increase healthy eating and healthy food access across the city.

**Healthy Dearborn**
Research and evaluation to support a robust coalition of more than 200 community residents, businesses, employees, elected and civic leaders engaged in community health promotion for Dearborn residents.

**LightUp Shine Now at Wayne State**
Improving the quality of life, health, and water safety of children with disabilities through family-based sport and aquatic programs.

**Starting Small**
Programs and evaluation to enhance healthy eating and physical activity opportunities, policies, and practices in early care and education centers and homes throughout Detroit.

**ArtsCorpsDetroit**
Art-based programs that support Detroit neighborhoods and community groups through workshops and community projects to drive personal and social growth, enrich lives, and revitalize communities.

**Community Health Career Pipeline**
A coordinated, multi-partner program that provides Detroit youth with nutrition education and food systems exposure, leadership, and employment as a pipeline to university degree and careers successful in the health sector.

**Detroit Public Schools Community District (DPSCD) Wellness Policy Implementation**
Research and evaluation to support implementation of DPSCD’s health and wellness policy, and facilitate healthy school environments throughout the district’s 100 schools.

**Kids Work It Out @ Wayne State**
Yoga, nutrition, and mindfulness programs and research with children and families throughout Detroit and southeast Michigan.

**Michigan Swims**
Designed to promote water safety, identify obstacles to swimming participation, and increase swimming opportunities for diverse urban youth in Southeast Michigan.

**Volunteers, Administrators & Coaches Training Program**
An array of programs for Detroit-based youth, families, and sport and recreation professionals focused on physical activity, healthy eating, personal and social development, technology, sport leadership, and career development.
Youth and Seniors to the Markets
Programs that provide nutrition education to high school youth and seniors in Detroit, while integrating them into neighborhood farmer’s markets and food access initiatives/urban farming.

BUILD
BUILD (Bonding Underscores Infant Learning and Development) implements and evaluates baby bundle resources for pregnant mothers and co-parenting fathers to prepare for them for successful parent-child bonding among families.

Creating Connections
Seeks to improve and enhance early parent-child bonding and parent competence as a means to support development in the critical early years. The project follows the Happiest Baby on the Block parenting program and Little Steps early literacy program.

Double Up Food Bucks
Research and evaluation to support and streamline fruit and vegetable vending programs at nearly 200 Michigan stores and farmer’s markets.

Learn, Earn and Play
Partnership with the Lomas Brown Foundation to facilitate the healthy development of high school youth in low-income communities through academic tutoring, career readiness training, nutrition education, and physical activity opportunities.

Mi Plato Mi Vida
Evaluation of healthy corner stores throughout Detroit in collaboration with Authority Health/Wayne County Health Authority improve healthy food access and nutrition among low-income residents.

WSU Farmer’s Market
A large-scale farmer’s market serving the Midtown community and WSU faculty, staff and students with locally grown fresh fruit and vegetables, healthy lunch options, and healthy living programs.

Building Healthy Communities
A comprehensive, healthy school transformation program reaching elementary and middle schools across Michigan to improve the physical activity, nutrition, and academic achievement of Michigan children.

Detroit Healthy Grocer Initiative
Supporting 75 grocers to improve relationships between stores and residents by increasing sales and consumption of healthy foods among low-income Detroiter to drive community health and strengthen economic vitality.

Healthy Chicago Public Schools Wellness Policy Study
Creation of a valid and reliable instrument to measure health and wellness policy implementation in a large, urban school district as a blueprint for nationwide school wellness policy implementation and evaluation.

Let’s Get Healthy
Research and evaluation to support programs at Henry Ford Health System that assist overweight youth with healthy living strategies and healthy weight management.

Recovery Communities
Research and evaluation to support clubhouse recovery communities for people living with persistent and chronic mental illness and their families.

Youth and Seniors to the Markets
Programs that provide nutrition education to high school youth and seniors in Detroit, while integrating them into neighborhood farmer’s markets and food access initiatives/urban farming.
$9 million in external funding to support health promotion programs and research which have directly impacted more than 150,000 youth and families and 500 educators and health practitioners across 350 community organizations.

250 Research Publications

300 National Research Publications

20 keynote addresses

$30 Research and Community Engagement Awards

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