



NATIONAL
PREVENTION
COUNCIL

National Prevention Council Action Plan

IMPLEMENTING THE NATIONAL PREVENTION STRATEGY

June 2012

Empowered
People



Healthy
& Safe
Community
Environments



Clinical
& Community
Preventive
Services



Elimination of
Health
Disparities



Message from the Chair of the National Prevention, Health Promotion, and Public Health Council

It is with great pleasure that I present the *National Prevention Council Action Plan: Implementing the National Prevention Strategy*.

The *National Prevention Council Action Plan* outlines the federal commitment to implementing the vision, goal, priorities, and recommendations of the nation's first ever National Prevention Strategy. This action plan is a direct result of the National Prevention Council's leadership and highlights the important contributions that each member department is making to ensure the health, well-being, and resilience of the American people.

The National Prevention Council comprises 17 federal departments that are incorporating prevention in their activities. This action plan demonstrates how these departments are implementing prevention efforts, in line with their respective missions, to achieve the National Prevention Strategy goal of increasing the number of Americans who are healthy at every stage of life.

These efforts range from contributing to safe community environments and improving access to recreation areas to supporting safe and healthy workplaces—all actions intend to put health and wellness into everything we do.

This action plan highlights how the National Prevention Council departments are working together—in conjunction with state, tribal, local, territorial, public, and private partners—to begin to move our health system from one based on sickness and disease to one based on wellness and prevention.

The National Prevention Council, through the combined efforts of all its 17 departments, has voluntarily committed to the following: identifying opportunities to consider prevention and health, increasing tobacco-free environments, and increasing access to healthy, affordable food. In addition, the council is encouraging their partners to do so voluntarily as appropriate.

It is understood that specific actions to advance these commitments will vary across departments. However, with the National Prevention Council's guidance, departments are encouraged to develop specific goals in alignment with the council commitments.

Like the National Prevention Strategy, the National Prevention Council Action Plan is intended to be dynamic and evolve as the needs, interests, and priorities of individuals, families, and communities change.

I encourage everyone—government, business, academics, industry, private and public partners, philanthropy, community and faith-based organizations, and each of us as Americans—to take actions toward making America a more healthy and fit nation.

Join the National Prevention Council and me in helping to achieve the National Prevention Strategy goal of increasing the number of Americans who are healthy at every stage of life.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Regina Benjamin MD". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Regina M. Benjamin, MD, MBA
U.S. Surgeon General
Chair of the National Prevention, Health Promotion, and Public Health Council

National Prevention, Health Promotion, and Public Health Council

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Table of Contents

| | |
|--|----|
| Message from the Chair of the National Prevention, Health Promotion, and Public Health Council | 1 |
| National Prevention, Health Promotion, and Public Health Council | 2 |
| Introduction | 4 |
| National Prevention Council Commitments: Accelerating Prevention | 6 |
| National Prevention Council Department Actions Aligned to the National Prevention Strategy | 10 |
| National Prevention Strategy Strategic Directions | |
| Healthy and Safe Community Environments..... | 11 |
| Clinical and Community Preventive Services..... | 15 |
| Empowered People | 19 |
| Elimination of Health Disparities..... | 22 |
| National Prevention Strategy Priorities | |
| Tobacco Free Living | 25 |
| Preventing Drug Abuse and Excessive Alcohol Use | 27 |
| Healthy Eating | 29 |
| Active Living | 32 |
| Injury and Violence Free Living..... | 34 |
| Reproductive and Sexual Health | 36 |
| Mental and Emotional Well-being..... | 38 |
| Moving Forward..... | 41 |
| Appendices | |
| Appendix 1: National Prevention Council Department Abbreviations and Descriptions | 42 |
| Appendix 2: Framework for National Prevention Council Commitments..... | 44 |
| Appendix 3: Department Action Items (by National Prevention Council Department as listed in Appendix 1)..... | 48 |
| Appendix 4: Additional Information about Programs/Initiatives..... | 77 |
| Appendix 5: References..... | 83 |

Introduction

On June 16, 2011, the National Prevention, Health Promotion, and Public Health Council (National Prevention Council)¹ released the *National Prevention Strategy: America's Plan for Better Health and Wellness*. Authorized by the Affordable Care Act, the National Prevention Strategy² represents the leadership of 17 federal departments, agencies, and offices (departments) and identifies Strategic Directions and Priorities that promote good health for all Americans. (See Appendix 1 for National Prevention Council Department Abbreviations and Descriptions.) Led by the U.S. Surgeon General, the National Prevention Council is committed to prevention and wellness for individuals, families, and communities.

The National Prevention Council Action Plan builds from the vision, goal, recommendations, and actions of the landmark National Prevention Strategy. This action plan highlights important opportunities that the National Prevention Council and its diverse member departments—representing sectors such as housing, transportation, education, environment, and defense—are creating to ensure the health, well-being, and resilience of the American people.

Using its collective leadership and taking specific actions that align to the Strategic Directions and Priorities of the National Prevention Strategy, the National Prevention Council intends to accelerate high-impact areas to move America from a system of sick care to one based on wellness and prevention. The National Prevention Council provides federal leadership to promote the best health outcomes where people live, learn, work, and play. The work of the National Prevention Council departments affects communities across the country. Thus, the implementation efforts summarized in this National Prevention Council Action Plan strive to ensure everyone has the opportunity to live a long, healthy, and productive life.

The National Prevention Strategy outlines federal actions that will improve the health of all Americans. The National Prevention Council Action Plan identifies *National Prevention Council commitments*, shared across all 17 departments, and unique *department actions* being taken to further each of the Strategic Directions and Priorities of the National Prevention Strategy.

The Strategic Directions are the foundation for all prevention efforts:

- **Healthy and Safe Community Environments:** Creating, sustaining, and recognizing communities that promote health and wellness through prevention.
- **Clinical and Community Preventive Services:** Ensuring that prevention-focused health care and community prevention efforts are available, integrated, and mutually reinforcing.
- **Empowered People:** Supporting people in making healthy choices.
- **Elimination of Health Disparities:** Eliminating disparities and improving the quality of life for all Americans.

The Strategy's Priorities—designed to improve health and wellness for the entire U.S. population, including those groups disproportionately affected by disease and injury—provide evidence-based recommendations that have the greatest potential to reduce the leading causes of preventable death and major illness:

- **Tobacco Free Living**
- **Preventing Drug Abuse and Excessive Alcohol Use**
- **Healthy Eating**
- **Active Living**
- **Injury and Violence Free Living**
- **Reproductive and Sexual Health**
- **Mental and Emotional Well-Being**

Advancing the Strategic Directions and Priorities of the National Prevention Strategy requires action beyond the federal government. The actions of state, tribal, local, and territorial governments, the private sector, philanthropic organizations, community- and faith-based organizations, and individual Americans are essential to improving health through prevention. Aligning strategies at the national, state, tribal, local, and territorial levels can help ensure that actions are synergistic and complementary.

Just as the National Prevention Strategy has increased awareness of the value of prevention across multiple sectors, this action plan further supports a comprehensive federal approach to preventing sickness and disease by promoting health and wellness. The National Prevention Council Action Plan highlights important work already under way. Presenting shared National Prevention Council commitments and unique department actions, the efforts highlighted in the National Prevention Council Action Plan have the potential to significantly improve the health of Americans. The action plan illustrates the breadth of federal prevention activity. It is not a complete inventory of the prevention efforts across the federal government. In addition, all action items—whether in new or existing initiatives—are subject to the annual budget processes that require federal agencies to balance priorities within available resources.

For many National Prevention Council departments, these actions support and reinforce their ongoing contributions to *Healthy People 2020*, a 10-year set of science-based national health objectives developed through multi-agency collaboration and intended to measure the impact of prevention activities. A smaller set of *Healthy People 2020* objectives, called Leading Health Indicators, were released in November 2011 to communicate high-priority health issues and actions that can be taken to address them.



National Prevention Council Commitments: Accelerating Prevention

One role of the National Prevention Council is to ensure federal health and prevention efforts are coordinated, aligned, and championed. The National Prevention Council recognizes that some opportunities are shared across all departments and that synergies may occur when all departments work together to make progress. Thus, the National Prevention Council has identified specific areas in which prevention can be accelerated through the combined efforts of all 17 National Prevention Council departments.

The National Prevention Council commitments include the following:

- Identify opportunities to consider prevention and health within National Prevention Council departments and encourage partners to do so voluntarily as appropriate.
- Increase tobacco free environments within National Prevention Council departments and encourage partners to do so voluntarily as appropriate.
- Increase access to healthy, affordable food within National Prevention Council departments and encourage partners to do so voluntarily as appropriate.

A flexible approach allows each National Prevention Council department to identify relevant processes and goals. (See Appendix 2 for “Framework for National Prevention Council Commitments.”) Department-specific actions to advance these shared commitments will vary.

Prevention in Action examples for each National Prevention Council commitment demonstrate that progress is already being made.

National Prevention Council Commitment: The National Prevention Council will identify opportunities to consider prevention and health within its departments and encourage partners to do so voluntarily as appropriate.

National Prevention Council departments can improve health by considering prevention and health within their respective organizations. Many are already carrying out actions consistent with their respective missions. (See National Prevention Council Department Actions Aligned to Strategic Directions and Priorities.) In addition, the National Prevention Council realizes the opportunity for collaborative, cross-sector efforts that consider prevention and health in areas where they may not typically be considered (e.g., workforce development, transportation planning). Specific activities will vary by department but might include enhancing the capacity of the workforce to engage in prevention and cross-sector work, enhancing mechanisms to align data and foster cross-sector information exchange, coordinating investments in communities, or communicating the relationship between health and departmental goals and objectives. By identifying opportunities to improve health, the National Prevention Council can support healthier communities. Healthier communities can increase productivity, reduce direct (e.g., medical claims) and indirect (e.g., absenteeism) costs, and improve health outcomes.

PREVENTION IN ACTION:

Department of Health and Human Services and Department of Labor Undertake Innovative Efforts to Integrate Prevention into Workplaces

Creating a healthy workforce is crucial to the strength and prosperity of our nation. Studies have shown that on average for every one dollar spent on worker medical costs, employers absorb two to three dollars of health-related productivity costs.³ A healthy workforce is one that is empowered to make healthy choices. Americans working full-time typically spend more than one-third of their day, five days per week, at the workplace, providing a powerful opportunity to prevent illness and injury and improve workers' overall health and well-being.

As the nation's largest employer, the federal government engages in efforts to integrate prevention into its own worksites. The Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) provides occupational health and wellness services including clinical services such as physical exams, immunizations, vision and health screenings, and health risk appraisals. Additionally, participation in programs such as FedStrive links employees with comprehensive worksite wellness services. Workplace wellness resources and best practices are shared across federal agencies through initiatives such as the Healthier Federal Workers Symposium.

In addition, HHS and the Department of Labor (DOL) are committed to ensuring that the more than 141 million workers across the nation have healthy and safe workplaces.⁴ The departments take a broad view of workplace health that seeks to protect workers from hazards and ensures access to health promotion in their workplaces and communities.

Through initiatives such as the Susan Harwood Training Grant Program, DOL has trained and educated more than 1.8 million workers on the recognition, avoidance, and prevention of health hazards in the workplace.⁵ In September 2011, DOL partnered with HHS and the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) to share resources, identify promising practices, and help eliminate health and safety disparities in the workplace. According to Secretary of Labor Hilda L. Solis, "protecting the health and safety of the nation's workforce through prevention of workplace hazards is one of the core missions of the U.S. Department of Labor."

In 2011, HHS launched innovations to integrate disease prevention and health promotion into workplaces around the nation through the Total Worker Health™ initiative and the National Healthy Worksite™ program. Total Worker Health™ encourages employers to build a culture of safety and health that provides an environment where the well-being of workers is valued, preserved, and enhanced. Total Worker Health™ is a comprehensive set of organizational policies and practices that promote healthier choices and opportunities for workers on and off the job (e.g., in their homes and communities when away from work).⁶ The National Healthy Worksite™ program is designed to assist employers in implementing evidence-based prevention and wellness strategies that will lead to specific, measurable health outcomes to reduce chronic disease rates and improve outcomes that will improve employers' competitiveness.⁷ Participating employers will receive intensive onsite support to address physical activity, nutrition, and tobacco cessation.⁸ "This exciting initiative will help companies of all sizes across the nation implement strategies to improve employee health and reduce the costs associated with chronic diseases," said HHS Secretary Kathleen Sebelius. "After all, a healthy worker contributes to a healthy company."

National Prevention Council Commitment: The National Prevention Council will increase tobacco free environments within its departments and encourage partners to do so voluntarily as appropriate.

Tobacco use remains the leading preventable cause of disease and death in the United States. Tobacco use causes significant health consequences, including cancer and nicotine addiction. The adverse health effects from cigarette smoking and exposure to tobacco smoke account for an estimated 443,000 deaths or nearly one of every five deaths each year.⁹ In addition, exposure to secondhand smoke causes an estimated 3,400 lung cancer deaths and more than 46,000 heart disease deaths among U.S. adult nonsmokers each year.¹⁰ By encouraging tobacco free environments and promoting tobacco cessation services across the National Prevention Council departments, the council serves as a leader in prevention and can help improve health in communities across the country.

PREVENTION IN ACTION:

Department of Housing and Urban Development Promotes Smoke Free Environments for Public Housing Residents

The U.S. Surgeon General has concluded that even brief exposure to secondhand smoke can have serious health effects, especially for children, the elderly, and the disabled^{11,12} who are represented in more than 85 percent of households in public housing.¹³ Exposure to secondhand smoke can cause lung cancer¹⁴ and heart disease among adults who do not smoke.¹⁵ Among children, exposure to secondhand smoke is associated with acute respiratory infections, middle ear disease, delayed lung growth, respiratory symptoms, and more severe asthma.¹⁶ In addition to the adverse health effects from involuntary exposure to secondhand smoke, smoking in multi-unit housing can also lead to injuries and loss of life as well as excess costs associated with smoking-attributable fires and property maintenance. From 2006 to 2008, an estimated 9,000 smoking-related fires occurred in residential housing each year in the United States, resulting in approximately 450 deaths, 1,025 injuries, and \$303 million in property loss each year.¹⁷

Ensuring safe, healthy, affordable, accessible, and environmentally friendly homes for Americans is important to improving the nation's overall health.¹⁸ The Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) is committed to providing the approximately 2.1 million people who reside in public housing with healthy and safe living environments, including the option to live smoke free. Since 2009, HUD has strongly encouraged Public Housing Authorities (PHAs) to adopt smoke free policies,¹⁹ and by 2011 at least 230 PHAs had adopted such policies for some or all of their buildings.²⁰ In partnership with the Department of Health and Human Services (HHS), the American Academy of Pediatrics, and the American Lung Association, HUD will soon release a collection of resources for property owners, housing managers, landlords, resident organizations, and residents to help them create smoke free environments. HUD is working with HHS and other partners to increase residents' access to proven tobacco cessation services and identify best practices. In the future, HUD will make these best practices for achieving smoke free multi-unit housing available to the residents and managers of public housing who are considering implementing these smoke free policies.

Through its comprehensive efforts to promote smoke free multi-unit housing, HUD is helping to achieve the department's strategic goal to "Utilize housing as a platform for improving quality of life." The implementation of smoke free homes has been shown to reduce consumption and promote cessation among current smokers, as well as prevent relapse among former smokers.²¹ HUD's recent efforts to promote healthy and safe smoke free environments for public housing residents are helping to achieve the goal of the National Prevention Strategy by increasing the number of Americans who are healthy at every stage of life.

According to Assistant Secretary for Public and Indian Housing Sandra Henriquez, "HUD's work in smoke free multi-unit housing will have a lasting and significant contribution to the health and well-being of residents of public and assisted housing in this country. We all know that good physical and mental health depends on a number of factors, including homes that are safe and free from physical hazards. I'm sure housing authorities that have gone smoke free will admit it's not an easy road to travel, but the destination—making public housing a healthier environment for residents—is worth it."

National Prevention Council Commitment: The National Prevention Council will increase access to healthy, affordable food within its departments and encourage partners to do so voluntarily as appropriate.

Healthy eating is associated with lower risks of heart disease, high blood pressure, type 2 diabetes, osteoporosis, certain cancers, and being overweight or obese.²² Currently, Americans eat too many foods high in calories, sodium, solid fat, added sugars, and refined grains, foods that now account for approximately 30 percent of the energy intake of the U.S. population. The *Dietary Guidelines for Americans, 2010* recommend a healthy eating pattern that limits intake of such foods and emphasizes nutrient-rich foods and beverages—vegetables, fruits, whole grains, fat-free or low-fat milk products, seafood, lean meats and poultry, eggs, beans and peas, and nuts and seeds. By increasing access to healthy, affordable food, many National Prevention Council departments are already helping to make the healthy choice the easy choice for millions of Americans.

PREVENTION IN ACTION:

Department of Defense Launches Groundbreaking Initiative to Improve Nutrition Standards

On February 9, 2012, the Department of Defense (DOD), joined by First Lady Michelle Obama, launched a new obesity and nutrition awareness initiative aimed at improving the health and well-being of troops, retirees, and their families. For the first time in 20 years, the DOD is improving its nutrition standards militarywide.

This initiative will feature cooperative efforts with each of the armed services to:

- Update menu standards at military dining facilities
- Assess the nutritional environment of military facilities
- Ensure healthier foods are available in dining facilities, DOD schools, and wherever service members and their families purchase food on base, including vending machines and snack bars
- Ensure access to enhanced nutrition information and obesity-related counseling for military retirees

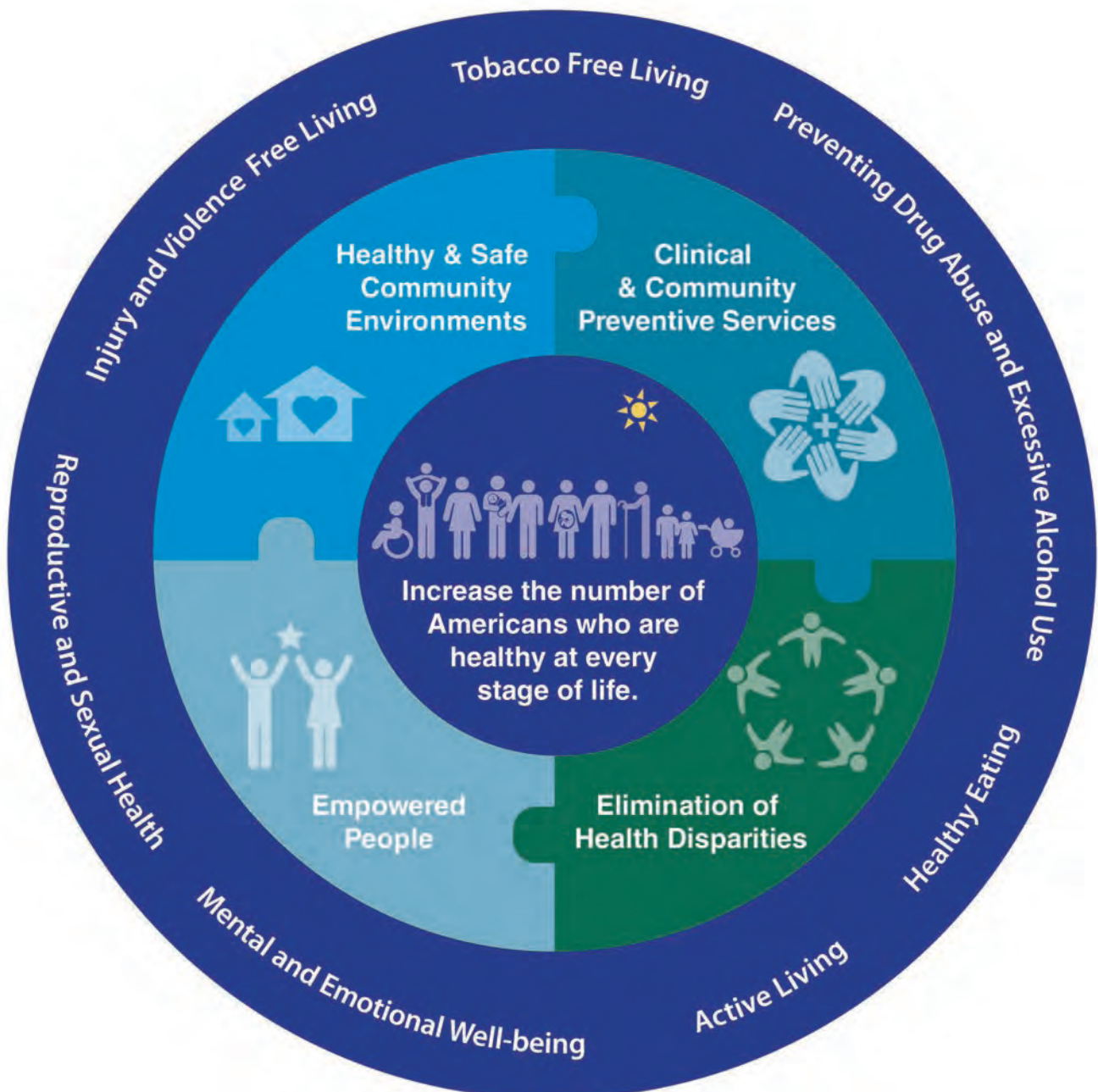
Those improvements, which will affect more than 1,000 dining facilities and nearly 1.5 million troops, 1.2 million children of active duty personnel, and 1.9 military retirees should, it is hoped, reduce the estimated \$1.4 billion a year the DOD spends on health-related problems related to obesity, including diabetes, heart disease, and osteoarthritis. According to Dr. Jonathon Woodson, Assistant Secretary of Defense for Health Affairs, these efforts are in response to “a national security issue.” He adds, “We have an issue of increasing obesity within the civilian population, [and] a history of poor nutritional choices, both in the civilian and military populations, that’s affecting readiness.” Nearly 30 percent of potential military candidates ages 17 to 24 years cannot qualify for the military because they are overweight. Additionally, the military discharges about 1,200 entry-level candidates each year due to their inability to meet fitness and weight standards.

“Our strategy within health affairs is moving from what we call health care—just delivery of services—to producing health in our population we serve,” Dr. Woodson stated. “It’s about a mindset that looks at disease prevention rather than disease treatment.”



National Prevention Council Department Actions Aligned to the National Prevention Strategy

Each National Prevention Council department has taken ownership of specific actions aligned with the Strategic Directions and Priorities of the National Prevention Strategy, providing examples of activities that contribute to implementing the strategy's goal. These department actions balance innovative programs and proven initiatives. One or more National Prevention Council departments are addressing each federal action within the National Prevention Strategy. The actions showcase each department's contributions as they work to prioritize prevention in their efforts. These actions do not represent an inventory of the full set of prevention-related activities ongoing within the departments. (See Appendix 4 for more detailed information.)



Healthy and Safe Community Environments

Many elements of our communities affect health directly and also influence individuals' health-related choices. A healthy community environment can help make healthy choices easy and affordable. Many factors influence individual choices, including the availability of resources to meet daily needs (e.g., educational and job opportunities, safe and affordable housing, healthy and affordable foods), community structures (e.g., accessible and safe buildings, parks, transportation), and the natural environment (e.g., absence of toxic substances and other physical hazards).²³ Federal, state, tribal, local, and territorial policies that improve these factors within communities are often interrelated.

National Prevention Strategy Recommendations

1. Improve quality of air, land, and water.
2. Design and promote affordable, accessible, safe, and healthy housing.
3. Strengthen state, tribal, local, and territorial public health departments to provide essential services.
4. Integrate health criteria into decision making, where appropriate, across multiple sectors.
5. Enhance cross-sector collaboration in community planning and design to promote health and safety.
6. Expand and increase access to information technology and integrated data systems to promote cross-sector information exchange.
7. Identify and implement strategies that are proven to work and conduct research where evidence is lacking.
8. Maintain a skilled, cross-trained, and diverse prevention workforce.

National Prevention Council Department Actions

Please refer to Appendix 1 for a list of National Prevention Council department abbreviations and descriptions.

National Prevention Strategy Federal Actions

Coordinate investments in transportation, housing, environmental protection, and community infrastructure to promote sustainable and healthy communities.

National Prevention Council Department Actions

- CNCS will continue to fund and support programs such as Retired Senior Volunteer Program (RSVP), Senior Companions, and AmeriCorps that increase seniors' ability to remain in their own homes with the same or improved quality of life for as long as possible. These programs will increase social ties and social support among homebound or older adults and individuals with disabilities, promoting mental health.
- CNCS will continue to fund and support grant activities with the Social Innovation Fund, AmeriCorps VISTA, and AmeriCorps State and National that help economically disadvantaged people transition into or remain in safe, healthy, affordable housing and provide opportunities for communities to address housing transition and affordable housing resources.
- ED is supporting Promise Neighborhoods to combat the effects of poverty and provide high-quality opportunities to improve educational outcomes, ensuring children are healthy and have safe places to live, learn, and play.
- HUD will encourage recipients of Sustainable Communities Regional Planning Grants and Community Challenge Grants to evaluate planning and development investments for potential to promote access to affordable communities and active and healthy living.
- The HUD-DOT-EPA Partnership for Sustainable Communities is working to improve access to affordable housing, increase transportation options, and lower transportation costs while protecting the environment in communities nationwide.

Healthy and Safe Community Environments

National Prevention Strategy Federal Actions

Enhance capacity of state, tribal, local, and territorial governments to create healthy, livable, and sustainable communities (e.g., increase access to healthy food and opportunities for physical activity, revitalize brownfields, enhance alternative transportation options, and develop green facilities and buildings).

Support standards to reduce pollution and environmental exposure to ensure that all communities are protected from environmental and health hazards.

Support healthy housing while addressing unsafe housing conditions and health-related hazards, including injury hazards, asthma triggers, and lead-based paint hazards.

Increase availability and use of prevention research to identify effective environmental, policy, and systems that reduce chronic diseases, promote safety, and eliminate health disparities.

National Prevention Council Department Actions

- BIA will work with USDA, ED, DOT, CNCS, and HHS to reinforce and improve upon the goals of the First Lady’s Let’s Move! in Indian Country initiative to connect communities, schools, and tribal leaders to resources, funding, opportunities, trainings, and programs that can support efforts to reduce high rates of obesity and improve the health of native youth by increasing access to healthy, affordable, and traditional foods, and opportunities for physical activity.
- ED will continue the ED-Green Ribbon Schools initiative to recognize exemplary achievement in schools that save energy, reduce costs, feature environmentally sustainable learning spaces, protect health, foster wellness, and offer environmental education. DOD and the Bureau of Indian Education are working with ED to recognize schools that exemplify achievement in reduced environmental impact, energy efficiency, healthy school environments and practices, and effective environmental and sustainability education that teaches science, technology, engineering, and math (STEM) and civic skills.
- BIA will engage with partners, such as EPA and ED, to improve access and infrastructure in BIA-funded schools to enhance efforts to improve air quality in schools, decrease greenhouse gas emissions, meet Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design (LEED) certification standards, recycle and clean up hazardous waste, and improve the health of the school environment.
- HUD addresses residential health hazards, including unsafe conditions that may result in injury, asthma triggers, and lead-based paint hazards, through housing intervention grants awarded under its Lead Hazard Control and Healthy Homes Production grant programs.
- HHS is supporting and disseminating the results of evidence-based research through programs such as the Community Guide, the Prevention Research Centers, and Partnerships for Environmental Public Health and is increasing the use of evidence-based prevention research through programs such as the evidence-based Healthy Aging Program and Community Transformation Grants.

PROJECT HIGHLIGHT: Green Ribbon Schools

On April 23, 2012, the Department of Education (ED) announced the first ever honorees of ED-Green Ribbon Schools, recognizing exemplary achievement in three complementary areas: reduced environmental impact, improved health, and effective education. The award represents a collaboration among several federal agencies including the Environment Protection Agency (EPA), the Department of the Interior, the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, the Department of Energy and the Department of Agriculture (USDA). State education agencies and schools are encouraged to recognize the links between education, health, and the environment, make all three of these areas a priority, and use partner agencies’ resources in order to achieve the goals of the recognition award. The recognition encourages states and schools to increase physical activity time, improve nutrition, and ensure that schools are healthy and safe spaces. Learn more about the [Green Ribbon Schools](http://www2.ed.gov/programs/green-ribbon-schools/index.html) (<http://www2.ed.gov/programs/green-ribbon-schools/index.html>).

National Prevention Strategy Federal Actions

Use housing development subsidies to promote mixed-income neighborhoods and access to safe and healthy housing.

National Prevention Council Department Actions

- HUD will encourage Choice Neighborhoods grantees to focus on health in their communities by incorporating health-related metrics in their evaluations and will encourage HUD grantees to collaborate with local public health agencies to implement neighborhood revitalization plans.
- HUD is working with HHS to implement initiatives, such as Section 811 Supportive Housing for Persons with Disabilities program, that help older adults and persons with disabilities live in healthy and safe community settings or transition from institutions to independent living in community settings that prevent injuries and support positive physical and mental health.
- HUD and HHS will continue to coordinate the provision of appropriate housing and services to people experiencing homelessness or at risk of homelessness by 1) aligning resources to ensure that persons who become homeless can be quickly rehoused and receive necessary resources; 2) using administrative data sources to better understand the intersection between homelessness and health and human service program usage; 3) conducting joint research to better understand the value of housing and services; and 4) developing and testing homelessness prevention initiatives that can be linked to existing programs designed to serve low-income populations with an increased risk of homelessness (e.g., Temporary Assistance for Needy Families, child welfare) to reduce housing instability and improve health and quality of life for individuals and families experiencing homelessness or at risk for homelessness.
- VA, in collaboration with HUD, will provide permanent housing and ongoing case management treatment services through the Supportive Housing initiative (HUD-VASH) to support homeless veterans.

Support state, tribal, local, and territorial partners to enhance epidemiology and laboratory capacity, health information technology, and performance improvement.

- HHS will continue to enhance epidemiology and laboratory capacity to detect and respond to infectious disease outbreaks through the Epidemiology and Laboratory Capacity for Infectious Disease and the Emerging Infections Program Cooperative Agreements.
- HHS is improving health information systems and accelerating national implementation of Electronic Laboratory Reporting (ELR) to improve the use and functionality of health information technology, resulting in more accurate data and measurement of health impact.
- HHS will work with Regional Extension Centers and Quality Improvement Organizations to increase the number of meaningful users of health information technology to support prevention efforts and improve the quality of health data through systemwide process improvements at the community level.
- USDA will continue to collaborate with HHS to address foodborne illnesses, linking state and local governments, and facilitate communication and decision making in emergency outbreaks.
- USDA, in collaboration with the Food Emergency Response Network (co-chaired by USDA and HHS), will disseminate information regarding standards for federal, state, local, and industry laboratory testing and results to promote consistency and strengthen the food safety system.

Healthy and Safe Community Environments

National Prevention Strategy Federal Actions

Support state, tribal, local, and territorial partners in strategic health security planning efforts for pandemics, biological and chemical attacks, incidents affecting food and agriculture, natural disasters, and other catastrophic events.

Support effective public safety measures, such as community-based anti-crime and anti-gang initiatives to facilitate physical activity and prevent injury and violence.

National Prevention Council Department Actions

- BIA will partner with DHS to prepare BIA-funded schools to respond to emergencies (e.g., manmade or natural disasters).
 - HHS will implement the National Health Security Strategy to improve public health and health care preparedness to promote a resilient nation that can prevent, protect, mitigate, respond to, and recover from all health threats.
 - HHS, in collaboration with USDA, is developing the National Voluntary Environmental Assessment Information System to identify factors contributing to foodborne outbreaks and help determine how to reduce the risk of foodborne illnesses associated with food-service establishments.
 - HHS, USDA, and other partners will maintain and enhance the national surveillance networks for foodborne diseases (e.g., Foodborne Diseases Active Surveillance Network [FoodNet], PulseNet, CaliciNet National Notifiable Diseases) to share information and address incidents of unsafe food released in commerce.
 - USDA, along with HHS, will train health specialists to better assess foodborne outbreak response and will also provide technical assistance to organizations in support of their food safety training efforts.
 - USDA and HHS have developed high-level priority goals to reduce the rate of illnesses from certain high-risk pathogens in the population, especially salmonella.
-
- BIA will ensure that BIA-funded schools provide a safe and secure environment for students and staff by conducting site visits to ensure that current safety measures are being used and by training staff in preventing suicide, bullying, and violence.
 - DOJ, in collaboration with HUD, HHS, ONDCP, and ED through the National Forum on Youth Violence Prevention, will assist and collaborate with cities on best practices for preventing youth and gang violence to support effective public safety measures to prevent injury and violence, such as community-based anti-crime and anti-gang initiatives.

PROJECT HIGHLIGHT: Veterans Transportation and Community Living Initiative

In the summer of 2011, the Department of Transportation (DOT) partnered with the Departments of Veterans Affairs (VA), Labor (DOL), Defense (DOD), and Health and Human Services (HHS) to develop the Veterans Transportation and Community Living Initiative. This federally coordinated partnership provides service members, veterans, and their families access to safe, reliable, and affordable transportation to improve mobility and ensure access to jobs and health care. Competitive grants to states and localities are creating One-Call/One-Click Transportation Resource Centers providing open government support tools to build local partnerships. The Federal Coordinating Council on Access and Mobility is leading the initiative. This permanent partnership of federal departments coordinates federal programs on behalf of people with disabilities, older adults, and low-income individuals. Learn more about the [Veterans Transportation and Community Living Initiative](http://www.fta.dot.gov/veterans) (<http://www.fta.dot.gov/veterans>).

Clinical and Community Preventive Services

The provision of evidence-based clinical and community preventive services and the integration of these activities are central to improving and enhancing physical and mental health. Certain clinical preventive services have proven to be both effective and cost-saving through decades of practice and research. The Affordable Care Act reduces barriers to people receiving many clinical preventive services by removing cost-sharing requirements in new health plans. Clinical preventive services can be supported and reinforced by community prevention efforts that have the potential to reach large numbers of people.

National Prevention Strategy Recommendations

1. Support the National Quality Strategy’s focus on improving cardiovascular health.
2. Use payment and reimbursement mechanisms to encourage delivery of clinical preventive services.
3. Expand use of interoperable health information technology.
4. Support implementation of community-based preventive services and enhance linkages with clinical care.
5. Reduce barriers to accessing clinical and community preventive services, especially among populations at greatest risk.
6. Enhance coordination and integration of clinical, behavioral, and complementary health strategies.

National Prevention Council Department Actions

Please refer to Appendix 1 for a list of National Prevention Council department abbreviations and descriptions.

| National Prevention Strategy Federal Actions | National Prevention Council Department Actions |
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| <p>Support delivery of clinical preventive services in various health care and out-of-home care settings, including Federally Qualified Health Centers; Bureau of Prisons, Department of Defense, and Veterans Affairs facilities; and among Medicare providers.</p> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • BIA will partner with HHS and USDA to strengthen linkages for medical, dental, nutrition, and mental health, and other health services for school-age children in BIA-funded schools to develop a comprehensive approach to addressing health and wellness in the school environment and to improve the health and academic outcomes of American Indian/Alaska Native students. • DHS will develop and disseminate a “Health & Wellness Management Directive and Instruction” guide to make supervisors and managers aware of tools and support available to their employees to help them lead healthier and more productive lives. • DHS will develop and implement a Medical Quality Management (MQM) and Credentialing Program department-wide, and provide guidance for the department’s First Responder, Emergency Medical Responder, and clinical staff to raise the quality of care, standardize the quality of care, and eliminate any disparities in care delivery, including the provision of appropriate preventive services. • HHS will continue to identify Medicare and Medicaid payment and delivery system models that promote access to and delivery of preventive services through Center for Medicare and Medicaid Innovation programs (e.g., the Federally Qualified Health Center Advanced Primary Care Practice Demonstration, Pioneer Accountable Care Organizations, and Comprehensive Primary Care Initiative), and evaluate the outcomes. • ONDCP will collaborate with HHS to support the integration of the Screening, Brief Intervention, and Referral to Treatment (SBIRT) program into health care settings, disseminate information about SBIRT to a wide variety of health care settings, highlight model programs that are using SBIRT, and encourage training opportunities for the allied health professions. • VA will implement Clinical Preventive Services Guidance Statements with recommendations for screening, counseling, immunizations, and preventive medications to support the delivery of clinical preventive services to veterans. |

Clinical and Community Preventive Services

| National Prevention Strategy Federal Actions | National Prevention Council Department Actions |
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| <p>Improve monitoring capacity for quality and performance of recommended clinical preventive services.</p> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • HHS will implement the National Quality Strategy, catalyzing national, state, and local efforts to improve health care quality focused on common aims, priorities, and goals to ensure that all patients receive the right care including recommended clinical preventive services, at the right time, in the right setting, every time. • VA will continue to monitor many clinical preventive services, report results on a monthly basis to medical facility leadership, and address issues related to these services as needed. |
| <p>Identify, pilot, and support strategies to reduce cardiovascular disease, including improving screening and treatment for high blood pressure and cholesterol.</p> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • EPA will create and conduct continuing education programs for health professionals on the health effects of air pollution on heart disease and stroke as part of the multi-agency Million Hearts™ initiative. • HHS will continue to support the Million Hearts™ initiative, which aims to reduce tobacco use, promote healthy eating, and improve medication adherence to prevent 1 million heart attacks and strokes by December 2017. |
| <p>Encourage older adults to seek a free annual Medicare wellness visit, a new benefit provided by the Affordable Care Act.</p> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • HHS is promoting the Medicare annual wellness visit through consumer education and outreach events with partners (such as a wellness bus tour), as well as by building awareness of the annual wellness visit among providers. |
| <p>Educate clinicians, federal employees, and the public (especially those in underserved populations) about coverage improvements and elimination of cost-sharing for clinical preventive services as set forth in the Affordable Care Act.</p> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • HHS is continuing to develop materials for HealthCare.gov, which provides easy-to-use information for consumers in both English and Spanish, to improve consumers' understanding of new coverage options and consumer benefits made available through the Affordable Care Act. • HHS is working to inform clinicians and providers about the preventive service provisions of the Affordable Care Act through educational materials and other outreach to promote the available benefits. These efforts include a media campaign to generate broad awareness of preventive benefits and encourage people to use them for better health. |

PROJECT HIGHLIGHT: Million Hearts™

Million Hearts™ is a national, public-private initiative to prevent 1 million heart attacks and strokes by 2017. Million Hearts™ was launched in September 2011 by the Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) in cooperation with the Department of Veterans Affairs (VA). It brings together existing efforts and new programs, such as the VA's Go Red for Women initiative, to improve health across communities by focusing on the ABCS (Aspirin for people at risk, Blood pressure control, Cholesterol management, Smoking cessation). Million Hearts™ activities include educational campaigns to empower patients, use of health information technology and quality improvement initiatives to improve care delivery, and community efforts to create healthy environments. Learn more about [Million Hearts™](http://millionhearts.hhs.gov/) (<http://millionhearts.hhs.gov/>).

National Prevention Strategy Federal Actions

Encourage adoption of certified electronic health record technology that meets Meaningful Use criteria, particularly those that use clinical decision supports and registry functionality, send reminders to patients for preventive and follow-up care, provide patients with timely access to their health information (e.g., lab results, discharge instructions), identify resources available to patients, and incorporate privacy and security functions (e.g., encrypting health information to keep it secure, generating audit logs to record actions).

Improve use of patient-centered medical homes and community health teams, which are supported by the Affordable Care Act.

National Prevention Council Department Actions

- HHS, through the Health Information Exchange program, supports the aim of seamless data interchange between clinical providers, laboratories, and public health officials by providing the infrastructure needed to implement and enable data exchange.
- HHS will continue to use the Standards and Interoperability Framework, which enables data exchange by defining data standards to ensure high-quality patient care, including providing clinical preventive services.
- VA will provide veterans (whose identity has been verified) with access to their lab results, wellness reminders, and other health information in their medical records securely within the veteran web portal called My HealtheVet. This will provide veterans access to key portions of their electronic medical information.

- HHS will expand the use of patient-centered medical homes by supporting innovative care models (such as the Comprehensive Primary Care Initiative, the Federally Qualified Health Center [FQHC], Advanced Primary Care Practice Demonstration, and Medicaid Home Health) designed to improve care planning, coordination, and delivery.
- VA will implement a model of patient-centered medical homes, called Patient Aligned Care Teams (PACT), throughout the VA health care system in order to provide accessible, coordinated, comprehensive, patient-centered care for veterans.

PROJECT HIGHLIGHT: Electronic Preventive Services Selector

The Electronic Preventive Services Selector (ePSS) was developed by the Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) to provide primary care clinicians and health care teams decision support regarding screening, counseling, and preventive services for their patients. Available on the web or as a downloadable personal digital assistant (PDA) application, the ePSS brings information on clinical preventive services to the point of care, enabling clinicians to search and browse U.S. Preventive Services Task Force (USPSTF) recommendations by specific patient characteristics. In 2011, more than 58,000 individuals downloaded the ePSS to a mobile device, and the web-based version of the tool had almost 600,000 visitors. The ePSS was awarded the Apple App Store's highest 5-star rating and ranked in the top 10 iPhone medical apps for internal medicine physicians and residents. Learn more about the [Electronic Preventive Services Selector](http://epss.ahrq.gov/) (<http://epss.ahrq.gov/>).

Clinical and Community Preventive Services

National Prevention Strategy Federal Actions

Promote and expand research efforts to identify high-priority clinical and community preventive services and test innovative strategies to support delivery of these services.

Develop new and improved vaccines, enhance understanding of the safety of vaccines and vaccination practices, support informed vaccine decision making, and improve access to and better use of recommended vaccines.

Research complementary and alternative medicine strategies to determine effectiveness and how they can be better integrated into clinical preventive care.

National Prevention Council Department Actions

- HHS continues to educate Americans about evidence-based clinical and community preventive programs, services, and policies supported by the U.S. Preventive Services Task Force and the Community Preventive Services Task Force through websites such as HealthCare.gov and healthfinder.gov.
- To identify high-priority preventive services and support the delivery of preventive services, HHS will conduct research through initiatives such as the Health Care Innovation Challenge and Centers for Excellence in Clinical Preventive Services and support evaluation strategies through efforts such as the Community Transformation Grants.
- HUD will support research and program evaluations that provide evidence linking HUD investments in housing remediation, neighborhood revitalization, and housing assistance programs to health promotion and disease prevention including studies of 1) home interventions to reduce asthma symptoms and injuries and improve outcomes for vulnerable populations; 2) neighborhood revitalization investments such as Choice Neighborhoods; 3) the effect of housing and related household decisions on childhood development; and 4) housing assistance for homeless and older adult populations in order to produce evidence showing how HUD investments in housing remediation, neighborhood revitalization, and housing assistance programs promote health and prevent disease.
- HUD will collaborate with HHS to develop health profiles of HUD-assisted households to identify effective combinations of programs and services to improve the health and quality of life of residents.

- HHS will implement the National Vaccine Plan, a comprehensive strategy to enhance all aspects of vaccines and vaccination including research and development, supply, financing, distribution, safety, informed decision making by consumers and health care providers, surveillance of vaccine-preventable diseases, monitoring of vaccine effectiveness and use, and global cooperation.

- HHS is supporting basic, translational, efficacy, and effectiveness research on complementary interventions and approaches to advance the science and practice of symptom management, as well as enable better evidence-based decision making regarding the use of complementary approaches and their integration into clinical preventive care.

PROJECT HIGHLIGHT: Veterans Health Library

The Veterans Health Library will provide veterans, their families, and the Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) clinical staff an online source of accessible, consistent, up-to-date health information. As part of VA's efforts to enhance patient-centered care, the Veterans Health Library will offer information on a wide range of health topics, including veteran-specific wellness and prevention, understanding a diagnosis, making treatment decisions, preparing for a procedure, rehabilitation and recovery, and self-managing one's health. The Veterans Health Library is designed for easy readability and comprehension and will contain resources such as health information sheets, videos, and interactive tools when the library is launched in late 2012. Learn more about the [Veterans Health Library](http://www.veteranshealthlibrary.org/) (<http://www.veteranshealthlibrary.org/>).

Empowered People

Although policies and programs can make healthy options available, people still have the responsibility to make healthy choices. When people have access to actionable and easy-to-understand information and resources, they are empowered to make healthier choices. Efforts to educate and motivate people to make healthy choices should occur across the lifespan, with a particular emphasis on ensuring that young people are provided with the knowledge, skills, and opportunities they need to allow them to become healthy adults. In addition, we should provide knowledge and opportunities that support the unique needs of our growing older adult population.

National Prevention Strategy Recommendations

1. Provide people with tools and information to make healthy choices.
2. Promote positive social interactions and support healthy decision making.
3. Engage and empower people and communities to plan and implement prevention policies and programs.
4. Improve education and employment opportunities.

National Prevention Council Department Actions

Please refer to Appendix 1 for a list of National Prevention Council department abbreviations and descriptions.

National Prevention Strategy Federal Actions

Identify and address barriers to the dissemination and use of reliable health information.

National Prevention Council Department Actions

- DOD will conduct data collection and assessment of health-related behaviors, such as nutrition and tobacco, to achieve health objectives identified in the National Prevention Strategy.
- HHS will implement the National Action Plan to Improve Health Literacy, promoting and encouraging departmental activities to identify and address barriers to sharing and using reliable health information. An example is providing Americans information about Alzheimer’s disease by creating a new website, alzheimers.gov, a one-stop resource for patients and families.
- USDA is collaborating with states to improve health information by conducting outreach and education at retail sites on contamination of meat and poultry to help prevent foodborne illnesses at the retail level.
- VA will implement an online Veterans Health Library within the My HealthVet web portal, which will include veteran-focused information on a range of health topics that has been vetted by VA subject matter experts, to provide veterans with evidence-based, reliable, useful health information.

PROJECT HIGHLIGHT: Healthy Living Messages Communications Campaign

As part of the Department of Veterans Affairs’ (VA) ongoing transformational health care initiatives, the VA National Center for Health Promotion and Disease Prevention (NCP) is reinforcing positive health and lifestyle behaviors in veterans by promoting nine “Healthy Living Messages”: *Be Involved in Your Health Care, Be Tobacco Free, Eat Wisely, Be Physically Active, Strive for a Healthy Weight, Limit Alcohol, Get Recommended Screening Tests & Immunizations, Manage Stress, and Be Safe*. In early 2011, the VA launched the Healthy Living Messages communications campaign to facilitate meaningful, patient-centered conversations between clinicians and veterans. The campaign’s multimedia communications include healthy living posters, handouts, brochures, tip cards, electronic bulletin boards, and articles for use and dissemination by VA clinicians at the local facilities. Learn more about the [Healthy Living Messages Communications Campaign](http://www.prevention.va.gov/) (<http://www.prevention.va.gov/>).

Empowered People

National Prevention Strategy Federal Actions

Use plain language in health information for the public in alignment with the Plain Writing Act.

Support research and evaluation studies that examine health literacy factors in the study of other issues (e.g., patient safety, emergency preparedness, health care costs).

Work to reduce false or misleading claims about the health benefits of products and services.

Support research and programs that help people make healthy choices (e.g., understand how choices should be presented).

National Prevention Council Department Actions

- DOL, HHS, and the Department of the Treasury issued regulatory guidance in February 2012 requiring group health plans and health insurance issuers to provide consumers and employers clear, understandable, and concise explanations of their health insurance benefits and coverage, including preventive services coverage which will allow people to make more informed decisions when choosing an insurance plan and coordinating care with their providers.
- DOL will continue to require worker training in a language the worker understands and to target high risk industries to enhance worksite safety.
- USDA will continue to engage in public education efforts regarding food safety by using web-based (FoodSafety.gov) and social media platforms to communicate food safety issues to the public. This engagement includes an improved alert system for consumers to receive food safety information, such as notification of food recalls.
- USDA will use consumer research to determine public understanding of product labeling and other health messages to enhance outreach and education programs in order to encourage healthier and safer food handling and ultimately contribute to preventing foodborne illness.
- FTC will monitor, identify, and act when it finds marketers making misleading health benefit claims for their products to prevent consumer deception and reduce consumers' reliance on unproven remedies.
- FTC will monitor and report on anticompetitive activity that delays or prevents market entry of low-cost generic drugs, to help ensure that consumers have access to competitive prescriptions.
- BIA's Families and Children's Education (FACE) will partner with HHS and USDA to develop resources and strategies for BIA-funded schools and parents to reduce obesity rates and improve the health of Indian youth and support the goals of the Let's Move! in Indian Country initiative.
- CNCS will continue to fund and support the Social Innovation Fund, AmeriCorps VISTA, and AmeriCorps State and National programs that will increase physical activity and improve nutrition in youth by increasing access to information and activities to reduce childhood obesity and enhance access to nutritious, affordable foods.
- DOT will provide consumer-friendly education materials on the DOT website to help consumers select particular child safety seats that have been shown to fit well in specific vehicles to reduce childhood deaths and injuries.

PROJECT HIGHLIGHT: Community-Focused Exposure and Risk Screening Tool

The Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) is developing the Community-Focused Exposure and Risk Screening Tool (C-FERST) to assist communities with identifying and prioritizing issues and making decisions about chemical and nonchemical exposures and risks. Communities and individuals want to understand their health risks and how to prevent them, but face many obstacles, including accessing, integrating, and interpreting data. C-FERST provides a user-friendly tool to promote collaboration and information sharing, allowing users to view maps and community reports, and supporting communities in making healthy choices. Learn more about the [Community-Focused Exposure and Risk Screening Tool](http://www.epa.gov/head/c-ferst/) (<http://www.epa.gov/head/c-ferst/>).

National Prevention Strategy Federal Actions

Support research and programs that help people make healthy choices (e.g., understand how choices should be presented). (cont.)

National Prevention Council Department Actions

- EPA will continue to conduct research to produce data, methods, and approaches that provide individuals, communities, and tribes with user-friendly tools and information that enable them to 1) more clearly identify issues and define problems associated with health equity and sustainability; 2) understand and communicate issues so they can create and implement effective policies and programs; and 3) increase their ability to make informed personal health choices for themselves and their children.
- FTC will maintain “Who Cares,” an online resource to help consumers find reliable sources of information on health care topics, to help consumers avoid scams, find relevant agencies and organizations, and find out whom to contact if a health care product or service does not live up to its promises.
- HHS is empowering consumers to make healthier choices through initiatives aimed at healthy eating (e.g., increasing access to healthy food through farmers’ markets), tobacco free living (e.g., the release of a public media campaign, increased promotion of cessation programs), physical activity (e.g., encouraging walking to school), and other healthy behaviors.
- HHS will continue comprehensive and integrated worksite wellness programming, such as the Affordable Care Act funded National Healthy Worksite™ program, to support employee wellness efforts and provide tools that can lower employee health risks.
- USDA will continue to support human nutrition research programs to continue building the evidence base on the role of nutrition and physical activity in preventing obesity and chronic disease in the United States.
- USDA and The Ad Council, in partnership with HHS, will continue to support a national multimedia campaign called Food Safe Families to raise awareness of the risks of food-related illnesses and motivate consumers to act to reduce their risk of food-related illnesses by learning about safer food handling.
- VA will implement a “Healthy Living” Communication Campaign for veterans with messages about eating wisely, being physically active, being tobacco free, being safe, limiting alcohol, getting recommended screening tests and immunizations, managing stress, striving for a healthy weight, and being involved in one’s health care to support veterans’ making healthy choices.
- VA will support home-based telehealth services for weight management through home telehealth devices and interactive voice response systems to improve access to care for those not easily able to be seen in clinic visits.

PROJECT HIGHLIGHT: Chronic Disease Self-Management Programs

The Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) supports evidence-based chronic disease self-management, empowering older adults with diabetes, arthritis, and other chronic illnesses to better control their symptoms and manage their care. Chronic disease self-management educates and empowers consumers to adopt healthy behaviors, improve communications with health care providers, and enhance quality of life. Education occurs through interactive workshops in community-based settings (such as senior centers, faith-based organizations, libraries, YMCAs, YWCAs, and senior housing programs). Learn more about [Chronic Disease Self-Management Programs](http://www.aoa.gov/AoARoot/AoA_Programs/HPW/ARRA/Index.aspx) (http://www.aoa.gov/AoARoot/AoA_Programs/HPW/ARRA/Index.aspx).

Elimination of Health Disparities

All Americans should have the opportunity to live long, healthy, independent, and productive lives, regardless of their race or ethnicity, religion, socioeconomic status, gender, age, mental health, cognitive, sensory, or physical disability, sexual orientation or gender identity, geographic location, or other characteristics. In the United States, health disparities are often closely linked with social, economic, or environmental disadvantage. Clear evidence exists that with appropriate focus and investment, health disparities can be eliminated while simultaneously improving the health of all Americans.

National Prevention Strategy Recommendations

1. Ensure a strategic focus on communities at greatest risk.
2. Reduce disparities in access to quality health care.
3. Increase the capacity of the prevention workforce to identify and address disparities.
4. Support research to identify effective strategies to eliminate health disparities.
5. Standardize and collect data to better identify and address disparities.

National Prevention Council Department Actions

Please refer to Appendix 1 for a list of National Prevention Council department abbreviations and descriptions.

National Prevention Strategy Federal Actions

Support and expand cross-sector activities to enhance access to high-quality education, jobs, economic opportunity, and opportunities for healthy living (e.g., access to parks, grocery stores, and safe neighborhoods).

Identify and map high-need areas that experience health disparities and align existing resources to meet these needs.

National Prevention Council Department Actions

- DOL and USDA are supporting the multi-agency Jobs and Innovation Accelerator Challenge grant competitions to advance approximately 40 high-growth industry clusters in economically disadvantaged rural and urban regions across the country reaching disparate populations to promote job creation and training, which improve economic security and promote access to health insurance coverage and prevention services.
- DOT will reach older adults who are at increased risk of injuries and fatalities by partnering with the private sector through programs such as the American Medical Association’s curriculum on assessing and counseling older drivers and the work by the American Occupational Therapy Association to engage occupational therapists on addressing safe driving.
- Consistent with the HHS Action Plan to Reduce Racial and Ethnic Health Disparities, HHS will identify high-density health disparity areas throughout the United States and will use this information to assess HHS policies and programs and inform efforts to reduce disparities.
- HUD, in collaboration with HHS, VA, and other agencies, will identify activities that increase access of persons living with HIV/AIDS to housing and other nonmedical support services (e.g., mental health, substance abuse, and support services) as part of its efforts to implement the National HIV/AIDS Strategy and improve coordination, leverage resources, and engage local partners.
- USDA will invest in rural health care facilities, providing discretionary state director and administrator priority scoring points to projects within persistent poverty areas, colonies, and tribal communities in order to help eliminate health disparities in the United States.

| National Prevention Strategy Federal Actions | National Prevention Council Department Actions |
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| <p>Increase the availability of de-identified national health data to better address the needs of underrepresented population groups.</p> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • HHS is implementing new standards to enhance data collection for race and ethnicity and has standardized data collection requirements for sex, primary language, and disability status where appropriate. New standards will improve data estimates on health outcomes in disparity and underrepresented populations. |
| <p>Develop and evaluate community-based interventions to reduce health disparities and health outcomes.</p> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • DOT has developed programs and activities, such as Parents Central, to reduce disparities in child passenger safety among high-risk populations, including low-income families and minorities to reduce childhood deaths and injuries. • HHS is implementing the first ever Action Plan to Reduce Racial and Ethnic Health Disparities, outlining specific goals and actions to advance health equity for racial and ethnic minorities. The action plan promotes integrated, evidence-based strategies to address health disparities such as state, tribal, territorial, and community-based projects that give special consideration to health equity, environmental justice, and health across the life stages and support the implementation of <i>Healthy People 2020</i>. • HHS supports community-led programs such as Community Transformation Grants and community engagement activities to promote participation in prevention, health education, and other efforts to reduce health disparities. |
| <p>Support policies to reduce exposure to environmental and occupational hazards, especially among those at greatest risk.</p> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • EPA will work with the agencies in the Federal Interagency Working Group on Environmental Justice to support implementing environmental justice strategies that seek to reduce exposures to environmental risks and increase access to positive environmental and health benefits. |
| <p>Support and expand training programs that bring new and diverse workers into the health care and public health workforce.</p> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • EPA will support efforts to expand the integration of children’s environmental health into health care provider education and practice. • DOL and HHS are linking community colleges and technical training organizations in rural communities to provide workforce training and other resources to expand the number of professionals trained in health information technology implementation. • HHS recruits health care providers in underserved areas through the National Health Service Corps and supports training programs through public health fellowship programs, such as the Epidemic Intelligence Service and Public Health Prevention Service, to increase the capacity of the health care and public health workforces. |

PROJECT HIGHLIGHT: Promise Neighborhoods

Promise Neighborhoods is part of the White House’s Neighborhood Revitalization initiative. This collaboration between the White House Domestic Policy Council, the White House Office of Urban Affairs, and the Departments of Education (ED), Health and Human Services (HHS), Housing and Urban Development (HUD), Justice (DOJ), and the Department of the Treasury aims to transform high-poverty neighborhoods. Led by ED, Promise Neighborhoods aims to address significant challenges faced by students and families living in distressed communities by providing resources to plan and implement a continuum of services from early learning to college and career with the goal of improving educational and developmental outcomes for children and youth. Services range from improving neighborhood health, safety, and stability to expanding access to learning technology and Internet connectivity, and boosting family engagement in student learning. By building capacity to revitalize underserved neighborhoods, the Promise Neighborhoods program helps eliminate health and educational disparities. Learn more about [Promise Neighborhoods](http://www2.ed.gov/programs/promiseneighborhoods/index.html) (<http://www2.ed.gov/programs/promiseneighborhoods/index.html>).

Elimination of Health Disparities

National Prevention Strategy Federal Actions

Support health center service delivery sites in medically underserved areas and place primary care providers in communities with shortages.

Increase dissemination and use of evidence-based health literacy practices and interventions.

National Prevention Council Department Actions

- CNCS, through HealthCorps a component of AmeriCorps, supports medically underserved communities by providing preventive health care programs that include health education and outreach.
- With funding from the Affordable Care Act, HHS will support health centers and National Health Service Corps providers to ensure access to primary care services in underserved areas.
- HHS will continue to support sharing and using evidence-based health literacy practices and interventions through programs (such as the Occupational Health Disparities program), websites (such as the CDC health literacy website), trainings, conferences, and activities to promote prevention and eliminate health disparities.

PROJECT HIGHLIGHT: Environmental Justice Strategies

In February 2012, the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) led 17 federal agencies and White House offices in releasing Environmental Justice Strategies and Annual Implementation Reports. These reports outline specific actions each department will take to protect communities at risk for environmental and health hazards, recognizing each agency's role in ensuring that all communities receive the health and environmental protections they deserve. The Environmental Justice Strategies are part of a coordinated federal effort to achieve communities in which everyone enjoys the same degree of protection from environmental and health hazards and equal access to the decision making process. Along with the strategies, departments are supporting innovative collaborations such as the Environmental Justice Showcase Communities, which brings together public and private partners to help alleviate the environmental and human health challenges facing American communities. Learn more about [Environmental Justice Strategies](http://www.epa.gov/environmentaljustice/interagency/) (<http://www.epa.gov/environmentaljustice/interagency/>).



Tobacco Free Living

Tobacco use is the leading cause of premature and preventable death in the United States. Living tobacco free reduces a person’s risk of developing heart disease, various cancers, chronic obstructive pulmonary disease, periodontal disease, asthma and other diseases, and of dying prematurely.²⁴ Tobacco free living means avoiding use of all types of tobacco products—such as cigarettes, cigars, smokeless tobacco, pipes, and hookahs—and also living free from secondhand smoke exposure.

National Prevention Strategy Recommendations

1. Support comprehensive tobacco free and other evidence-based tobacco control policies.
2. Support full implementation of the 2009 Family Smoking Prevention and Tobacco Control Act (“Tobacco Control Act”).
3. Expand use of tobacco cessation services.
4. Use media to educate and encourage people to live tobacco free.

National Prevention Council Department Actions

Please refer to Appendix 1 for a list of National Prevention Council department abbreviations and descriptions.

| National Prevention Strategy Federal Actions | National Prevention Council Department Actions |
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| Support states, tribes, and communities to implement tobacco control interventions and policies. | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • HHS will continue to enforce tobacco advertising and youth promotion restrictions as well as work with states to enforce age compliance checks. • HHS will continue to support states, tribes, and communities through the National Tobacco Control Program, which works to prevent initiation, promote quitting, eliminate disparities among population groups, and eliminate exposure to secondhand smoke through population-based community interventions, counter-marketing, and data collection. • HUD is partnering with HHS to encourage the adoption and implementation of smoke free multi-unit housing policies among Public Housing Agencies by developing toolkits with information about smoke free living and identifying and disseminating best practices in the creation of smoke free housing. |
| Promote comprehensive tobacco free work site, campus, and conference/meeting policies. | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • DOD will implement a comprehensive tobacco control program with special emphasis on environmental and primary prevention activities to promote health and mission readiness and to lead by example. • DOD is working to reduce tobacco use on DOD installations to promote health and mission readiness, help tobacco users to abstain/quit, and lead by example for all workplaces. |
| Promote utilization of smoking cessation benefits by federal employees, Medicare and Medicaid beneficiaries, and active duty and military retirees. | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • HHS will launch a tobacco website that provides users a single source of information on how to access available cessation resources to increase the use of such resources. |
| Make cessation services more accessible and available by implementing applicable provisions of the Affordable Care Act, including in government health care delivery sites. | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • HHS is working with partners to implement the expanded tobacco screening and cessation services now covered under the Affordable Care Act, including screening and cessation interventions for adults, expanded counseling for pregnant tobacco users, and full coverage for tobacco cessation services for pregnant women in states’ Medicaid programs. • HHS will continue to match 50 percent of the states’ cost of providing tobacco cessation telephone quitline services for Medicaid patients to support convenient delivery of such services and maximize successful tobacco cessation rates. • VA will support the delivery of evidence-based, effective tobacco cessation counseling to tobacco users through training health care providers, screening patients for tobacco use, offering a variety of cessation services, and monitoring tobacco cessation processes to encourage and support smoking cessation efforts of veterans who use tobacco products. |

Tobacco Free Living

| National Prevention Strategy Federal Actions | National Prevention Council Department Actions |
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| <p>Implement the warnings mandated to appear on cigarette packages and in cigarette advertisements to include new textual warning statements and color graphics depicting the negative health consequences of tobacco use, as required by the Tobacco Control Act.</p> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • HHS announced the final rules requiring larger, more prominent cigarette health warning labels with accompanying color graphics in June 2011. |
| <p>Research tobacco use and the effectiveness of tobacco control interventions.</p> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • DOD will consider how the availability of tobacco in military exchanges is contributing to tobacco consumption and how strategies outlined in the HHS Best Practices in Comprehensive Tobacco Control can improve the health of Military Health System beneficiaries and the civilian workforce. • HHS is supporting the Population Assessment of Tobacco and Health (PATH) Study, a large-scale national longitudinal cohort study examining the factors that make people susceptible to tobacco product use and evaluating use patterns and resulting health problems. |
| <p>Encourage clinicians and health care facilities to record smoking status (for patients age 13 years or older) and to report on the core clinical quality measure for smoking cessation counseling, in accordance with the Medicare and Medicaid Electronic Health Records Incentive Program.</p> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • HHS will continue to include measures in its quality reporting programs that promote the assessment and treatment of smoking in adolescents and adults. |

PROJECT HIGHLIGHT: “Tips From Former Smokers” National Tobacco Education Campaign

In March 2012, with support from the Affordable Care Act’s Prevention Fund, the Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) launched a new national education campaign on the dangers of tobacco use. This campaign, “Tips from Former Smokers,” profiles real people who are living with the significant adverse health effects of smoking-related diseases, such as heart attack, limb amputations, and paralysis from stroke. It promotes calling 800-QUIT-NOW or visiting [Smokefree.gov](http://smokefree.gov) (<http://smokefree.gov/>) for free help to quit smoking. The multimedia campaign includes advertisements broadcast nationally via television, radio, newspapers, magazines, the Internet, billboards, bus stops, and movie theaters. Learn more about “[Tips From Former Smokers” National Tobacco Education Campaign](http://www.cdc.gov/tobacco/campaign/tips/) (<http://www.cdc.gov/tobacco/campaign/tips/>).

Preventing Drug Abuse and Excessive Alcohol Use

Preventing drug abuse and excessive alcohol use increases people’s chances of living long, healthy, and productive lives. Excessive alcohol use includes binge drinking (i.e., five or more drinks during a single occasion for men, four or more drinks during a single occasion for women), underage drinking, drinking while pregnant, and alcohol impaired driving.²⁵ Drug abuse includes any inappropriate use of pharmaceuticals (both prescription and over-the counter drugs) and any use of illicit drugs.²⁶ Alcohol and other drug use can impede judgment and lead to harmful risk-taking behavior. Preventing drug abuse and excessive alcohol use improves quality of life, academic performance, workplace productivity, and military preparedness; reduces crime and criminal justice expenses; reduces motor vehicle crashes and fatalities; and lowers health care costs for acute and chronic conditions.²⁷

National Prevention Strategy Recommendations

1. Support state, tribal, local, and territorial implementation and enforcement of alcohol control policies.
2. Create environments that empower young people not to drink or use other drugs.
3. Identify alcohol and other drug abuse disorders early and provide brief intervention, referral, and treatment.
4. Reduce inappropriate access to and use of prescription drugs.

National Prevention Council Department Actions

Please refer to Appendix 1 for a list of National Prevention Council department abbreviations and descriptions.

| National Prevention Strategy Federal Actions | National Prevention Council Department Actions |
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| Foster development of a nationwide community-based prevention system involving state, tribal, local, and territorial governments and partners such as schools, health and social service systems, law enforcement, faith communities, local businesses, and neighborhood organizations. | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • BIA will partner with HHS and DOJ to communicate with tribes regarding alcohol and substance abuse prevention, sharing information about programs as well as available resources to help implement these programs. • ONDCP will continue to provide grants to local coalitions nationwide through its Drug Free Communities support program, a program developed to provide resources to community-based coalitions to develop data-driven strategic plans that increase community collaboration to reduce youth substance use. |
| Enhance linkages between drug prevention, substance abuse, mental health, and juvenile and criminal justice agencies to develop and disseminate effective models of prevention and care coordination. | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • DOL has implemented the Screening, Brief Intervention, and Referral to Treatment (SBIRT) tool at selected YouthBuild program sites and will provide ongoing training for using this tool to better identify and address substance abuse among youth in the program. • HHS is working with DOJ and community-based service providers through programs such as Drug Court programs, the 12 Cities HIV program, the Screening, Brief Intervention, and Referral to Treatment (SBIRT) program, and the Primary and Behavioral Health Care Integration program, all of which are intended to improve the integration of substance abuse and mental health screening in programs that serve high risk communities. |

PROJECT HIGHLIGHT: 2012 National Drug Control Strategy

The 2012 National Drug Control Strategy recognizes drug prevention as a part of overall health and specifically aligns drug prevention and control efforts with the National Prevention Strategy. The 2012 Drug Control Strategy serves as the nation’s blueprint for reducing drug use and its consequences and looks ahead to reform, rebalance, and renew our national drug control policy to address the public health and safety challenges of the 21st century. It employs a balance of evidence-based public health and safety reforms to support goals including strengthening efforts to prevent drug use in communities; supporting early intervention opportunities in health care; breaking the cycle of drug use, crime, delinquency, and incarceration; and improving information systems to better analyze, assess, and address drug use and its consequences. Learn more about the [2012 National Drug Control Strategy](http://www.whitehouse.gov/ondcp/2012-national-drug-control-strategy) (<http://www.whitehouse.gov/ondcp/2012-national-drug-control-strategy>).

Preventing Drug Abuse and Excessive Alcohol Use

| National Prevention Strategy Federal Actions | National Prevention Council Department Actions |
|---|---|
| <p>Educate health care professionals on proper opioid prescribing, Screening, Brief Intervention, and Referral to Treatment (SBIRT), and effective use of prescription drug monitoring programs.</p> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Through curricula development and programs such as those aimed at medical residency training, HHS will support increased use of Screening, Brief Intervention, and Referral to Treatment (SBIRT) for alcohol abuse and misuse to reduce excessive alcohol consumption and alcohol-related deaths. • HHS is educating health care providers about preventing prescription painkiller overdoses and is developing educational materials for prescribers and patients on the appropriate use and disposal of pain relievers through programs such as the Opioid Risk Evaluation and Mitigation Strategies program. • ONDCP will continue collaborating with HHS to issue and implement a Surgeon General’s Call to Action on Prescription Drug Abuse Among Youth as part of fulfillment of the National Drug Control Strategy. |
| <p>Educate and inform consumers regarding the risks and benefits of regulated products using strategies appropriate to culture, language, and literacy skills (e.g., prescription drug safety and side effects, public health alerts, general information about safe and appropriate medication use).</p> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • FTC will continue to expand awareness of the FTC tool “We Don’t Serve Teens” (WDST) among states, industry, schools, and law enforcement to encourage them to distribute WDST campaign materials, including free stickers and radio ads, in their communities to reduce underage drinking, including binge drinking. |
| <p>Conduct ongoing, independent, and brand-specific monitoring of youth exposure to alcohol marketing in order to ensure compliance with advertising standards.</p> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • FTC will continue to promote improvements in voluntary alcohol industry guidelines of the beer, wine, and spirits industries relating to the placement and content of alcohol advertising, to better protect youth under 21 from exposure to alcohol marketing. • FTC will continue to monitor and report on alcohol industry self-regulatory efforts by requiring companies to report on expenditures and promotional activities to assess any changes in marketing practices, provide data for researchers, and inform recommendations. |
| <p>Promote implementation of interoperable state prescription drug monitoring programs.</p> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • HHS is working to expand the interoperability of Prescription Drug Monitoring Programs and has completed recommendations for data content and vocabulary standards, information usability and presentation, and transport and architecture. |
| <p>Develop programs consistent with Drug Enforcement Agency regulations that provide easily accessible, environmentally responsible ways to properly dispose of medications.</p> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • DOJ, EPA, and HHS will increase awareness on methods of safe and effective drug return and disposal consistent with ONDCP’s National Prescription Drug Abuse Prevention Plan. |
| <p>Provide education, outreach, and training to address parity in employment-based group health plans and health insurance coverage for substance use disorders.</p> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • DOL and HHS will continue to provide information to consumers about the Mental Health Parity and Addiction Equity Act of 2008 through providing online resources and educating individuals on available mental health and substance use disorder resources. |
| <p>Further investigate and heighten attention to issues related to driving under the influence of illicit and prescription drugs.</p> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • ONDCP will work with HHS on developing testing standards to detect drug use among drivers to facilitate the enforcement of existing drugged driving laws. • ONDCP will collaborate with DOT on drugged driving data collection to understand and improve strategies to prevent drugged driving. |

PROJECT HIGHLIGHT: National Prevention Week

For the first time in May 2012, the Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration sponsored a National Prevention Week. The week’s theme, *We are the ones. How are you taking action?*, emphasized opportunities to prevent substance abuse and promote mental health. Each day had a unique focus, including Prevention of Underage Drinking, Prevention of Prescription Drug Abuse and Illicit Drug Use, and Prevention of Alcohol Abuse. A Prevention Pledge webpage links participants with resources and encourages using social media for delivering prevention messages. Learn more about [National Prevention Week](http://www.samhsa.gov/preventionweek/) (<http://www.samhsa.gov/preventionweek/>).

Healthy Eating

Eating healthy can help reduce people’s risk for heart disease, high blood pressure, diabetes, osteoporosis, and several types of cancer, as well as help them maintain a healthy body weight.²⁸ As described in the Dietary Guidelines for Americans, 2010, eating healthy means consuming a variety of nutritious foods and beverages, especially vegetables, fruits, low-fat and fat-free dairy products, and whole grains; limiting intake of saturated fats, added sugars, and sodium; keeping trans fat intake as low as possible; and balancing caloric intake with calories burned to manage body weight.²⁹ Safe eating means ensuring that food is free from harmful contaminants, such as bacteria and viruses.³⁰

National Prevention Strategy Recommendations

1. Increase access to healthy and affordable foods in communities.
2. Implement organizational and programmatic nutrition standards and policies.
3. Improve nutritional quality of the food supply.
4. Help people recognize and make healthy food and beverage choices.
5. Support policies and programs that promote breastfeeding.
6. Enhance food safety.

National Prevention Council Department Actions

Please refer to Appendix 1 for a list of National Prevention Council department abbreviations and descriptions.

| National Prevention Strategy Federal Actions | National Prevention Council Department Actions |
|---|---|
| Work to ensure that foods purchased, distributed, or served in federal programs and settings meet standards consistent with the Dietary Guidelines for Americans. | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • DOD will consider strategies for promoting healthy eating choices in food service operations on DOD installations, including menu guidelines, to promote mission readiness and health. • HHS is implementing the HHS/GSA Health and Sustainability Guidelines for Federal Concessions and Vending Operations as a means of empowering employees to make healthy choices. • USDA will work with states and local schools to align school meals to new nutrition standards in the National School Lunch Program and the School Breakfast Program, which were completed in January 2012 and based on the <i>Dietary Guidelines for Americans, 2010</i>. Doing so will ensure that the meals properly support good nutrition and a healthy weight for America’s school children. • VA is implementing a policy requiring food served in VA medical facilities, cafeterias, canteens, and vending machines to meet nutrition standards, such as providing nutritional information and labeling and appropriate portion sizes, and is supporting the development of teaching kitchens for veterans in order to support healthy eating practices. |
| Improve agricultural policies to better align with the nutrition goals of the Dietary Guidelines for Americans. | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • HHS and USDA will address the availability of healthy food in underserved communities through program strategies (e.g., farmers markets, farm stands, community gardens, and community supported agriculture) to help individuals meet nutritional goals outlined in the <i>Dietary Guidelines for Americans, 2010</i>. |
| Strengthen the nation’s comprehensive food safety system. | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • HHS will ensure a food safety system that includes rigorous standards for food safety, data collection and analysis for effective food safety inspections, and tools to help prevent or quickly identify and stop outbreaks. • USDA and HHS are developing methods to better document and attribute foodborne illnesses to regulated food products to improve agency understanding of the products that pose the greatest risk to the public’s health and identify ways to reduce that risk. |

Healthy Eating

| National Prevention Strategy Federal Actions | National Prevention Council Department Actions |
|---|--|
| Monitor marketing to children. | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • FTC will continue to monitor and report on the marketing of food to children (e.g., expenditures and promotional activities) to assess any changes in marketing practices, provide data for researchers, and inform recommendations. |
| Support initiatives to increase the availability of healthy and affordable foods in underserved urban, rural, and frontier communities. | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • USDA will improve access to healthy food from local and regional food systems by supporting school cafeterias, food banks and pantries, community kitchens, farmers markets, and community gardens to help Americans achieve a healthy diet. |
| Implement the menu labeling provisions of the Affordable Care Act to help provide consistent facts about food choices in chain restaurants. | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • HHS has issued proposed rules on the provisions of the Affordable Care Act on nutrition labeling in chain restaurants and vending machines to support consumer access to nutrition information on foods consumed outside the home. |
| Provide information, tools, and expertise to help Americans understand and apply the Dietary Guidelines for Americans (e.g., MyPlate). | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • DOD will implement a nutrition educational initiative across medical and community platforms to improve behaviors that can help prevent and reduce obesity among Military Health System beneficiaries and the civilian workforce. • USDA will implement effective evidence-based strategies through national outreach such as Cooperative Extension and Expanded Food and Nutrition Education programs to help those with limited resources acquire the knowledge and skills necessary for nutritionally sound diets. • USDA will work with HHS to implement and translate the <i>Dietary Guidelines for Americans, 2010</i> through tools and resources for nutrition educators, health professionals, and consumers to support healthy food choices and physical activity. |
| Support breastfeeding, including implementing the breastfeeding provisions in the Affordable Care Act. | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • DOD will implement initiatives in its medical facilities that encourage military beneficiaries to breastfeed infants through six months, as suggested by the Joint Commission’s Perinatal Care Core Measure on Exclusive Breast Milk Feeding, to promote infant health and improve maternal/infant bonding. • DOL, by administering section 7 of the Fair Labor Standards Act, ensures breastfeeding female employees of covered employers have reasonable break time and space (e.g., a place, other than a bathroom, shielded from view and free from intrusion from coworkers and the public) to express breast milk for their nursing children for one year after the child’s birth. • HHS is implementing policies and programs such as the Baby-Friendly Hospital initiative and the Breastfeeding Report Card to improve maternity care, support breastfeeding, and increase the number of Baby-Friendly Hospitals. |

PROJECT HIGHLIGHT: FoodCorps

The Corporation for National and Community Service (CNCS) supports FoodCorps, a program that recruits young adults for a yearlong term of public service in school food systems in communities of need. Service members build and tend school gardens, conduct nutrition education, and build farm to school supply chains. The program responds to evidence from Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) data indicating that school gardens and farm to school programs are powerful tools in the battle to overcome childhood obesity. Learn more about [FoodCorps](http://www.food-corps.org) (<http://www.food-corps.org>).

National Prevention Strategy Federal Actions

Implement programs and regulations to increase access to healthy food and eliminate food insecurity (e.g., Healthy, Hunger-Free Kids Act and USDA HealthierUS School Challenge).

Improve and expand the use of existing food and nutrition systems to track changes in eating patterns and conduct research to identify effective approaches.

National Prevention Council Department Actions

- DOD will standardize the assessment of nutritional environments in DOD facilities and incorporate findings to improve healthy eating options and promote nutritional fitness and healthy weight across military communities.
 - DOD will implement evidence-based strategies to promote healthy eating choices in commissaries and military exchanges to encourage patrons to consume healthy, wholesome, and nutritious food items.
 - USDA is working with schools across the nation to increase the number of schools certified under the HealthierUS School Challenge, a voluntary initiative recognizing schools that have created healthier school environments by promoting nutrition and physical activity, to help raise a healthier generation of kids.
-
- DOD will leverage existing surveys to better measure National Prevention Strategy key indicators.
 - DOD will standardize surveillance of obesity and weight to objectively measure obesity and overweight prevalence among Military Health System beneficiaries and the civilian workforce.
 - USDA will conduct the national nutrition dietary survey, i.e., "USDA's What We Eat in America/National Health and Nutrition Examination Survey (NHANES)," to evaluate food and nutrient consumption and eating patterns of Americans.

Active Living

Engaging in regular physical activity is one of the most important things that people of all ages can do to improve their health. Physical activity strengthens bones and muscles, reduces stress and depression, and makes it easier to maintain a healthy body weight or to reduce weight if overweight or obese.³¹ Even people who do not lose weight get substantial benefits from regular physical activity, including lower rates of high blood pressure, diabetes, and cancer.³² Healthy physical activity includes aerobic activity, muscle strengthening activities, and activities to increase balance and flexibility. As described by the Physical Activity Guidelines for Americans, adults should engage in at least 150 minutes of moderate-intensity activity each week, and children and teenagers should engage in at least one hour of activity each day.³³

National Prevention Strategy Recommendations

1. Encourage community design and development that supports physical activity.
2. Promote and strengthen school and early learning policies and programs that increase physical activity.
3. Facilitate access to safe, accessible, and affordable places for physical activity.
4. Support workplace policies and programs that increase physical activity.
5. Assess physical activity levels and provide education, counseling, and referrals.

National Prevention Council Department Actions

Please refer to Appendix 1 for a list of National Prevention Council department abbreviations and descriptions.

| National Prevention Strategy Federal Actions | National Prevention Council Department Actions |
|--|--|
| <p>Promote the development of transportation options and systems that encourage active transportation and accommodate diverse needs.</p> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • DOT will promote a pedestrian safety education program for state agencies to educate older adults on pedestrian safety to promote safe, active living among this population. • DOT will encourage communities to provide safe and convenient facilities for active modes of transportation, such as increased bike lanes, in order to support livable communities and increase transportation options. • DOT will educate health stakeholders including federal, state, and community leaders about the planning and decision making process of transportation in order to expand active transportation opportunities. • DOT will encourage states to develop comprehensive Safe Routes to School programs to encourage and increase the number of children, including those with disabilities, walking and biking to school. |
| <p>Support adoption of active living principles in community design, such as mixed land use, compact design, and inclusion of safe and accessible parks and green space.</p> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • USDA will engage diverse and underserved communities through programs such as “National Get Outdoors Day” and “National Public Lands Day” and plan to increase participation in healthful outdoor recreation activities and support active living. |

PROJECT HIGHLIGHT: Federal Interagency Council on Outdoor Recreation

The Federal Interagency Council on Outdoor Recreation (FICOR), created in 2011, supports and enhances outdoor recreation access and opportunities on federal public lands, waters, and shores. FICOR promotes coordination and collaboration among federal agencies whose missions or programs include providing outdoor recreation amenities or opportunities and conserving or managing natural and cultural resources used or visited for outdoor recreation. The Department of the Interior, Department of Health and Human Services (HHS), and Agriculture (USDA), and the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), among others are collaborators. FICOR supports the goals of the America’s Great Outdoors Initiative, which has created increased opportunities for physical activity and health integration into outdoor education and grant programs, including the USDA Forest Service’s More Kids in the Woods program. Learn more about [America’s Great Outdoors Initiative](http://americasgreatoutdoors.gov/) (<http://americasgreatoutdoors.gov/>).

National Prevention Strategy Federal Actions

Support coordinated, comprehensive, and multicomponent programs and policies to encourage physical activity and physical education, especially in schools and early learning centers.

Develop and disseminate clinical guidelines, best practices, and tools on increasing physical activity and reducing the number of overweight and obese individuals.

National Prevention Council Department Actions

- BIA will implement a standardized health and wellness policy across BIA-operated schools and inform Tribally Controlled Schools of the opportunity for adoption to improve health and wellness in the school environment and to support the goals of the Let's Move! in Indian Country initiative.
- ED proposes a streamlined Successful, Safe, and Healthy Students program to fund competitive grants to state educational agencies and high-need local educational agencies and their partners to develop and carry out programs and activities to improve school climate and students' physical health, mental health, and well-being so that students are able to focus on learning.
- HHS supports the President's Council on Fitness, Sports, and Nutrition by promoting the Presidential Active Lifestyle Award and supports *Healthy People 2020's* national objectives for early and middle childhood and physical activity.
- HHS will incorporate physical activity recommendations and opportunities into the program performance standards for Head Start and Early Head Start.
- HHS will disseminate tools and resources to promote the 2008 Physical Activity Guidelines for Americans and support parents, caregivers, and communities as part of the We Can! (Ways to Enhance Children's Activity & Nutrition) program to help children maintain a healthy weight.
- HHS will continue to bring together teams from primary care, public health, and community-based organizations to identify, test, and evaluate evidence-based program and policy changes to prevent and treat obesity and overweight.
- VA will implement the MOVE! Weight Management Program for Veterans for those who are obese or overweight through individual and group visits, telephone-based coaching, home telehealth, and web-based services to help veterans lose weight, keep it off, and improve their health.

PROJECT HIGHLIGHT: Let's Move! in Indian Country

Let's Move! in Indian Country was launched in May 2011 by the White House Council on Domestic Policy, the Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) Indian Health Services, the Departments of Interior, Education (ED), Agriculture (USDA), and the Corporation for National and Community Service (CNCS) as part of Let's Move!. That comprehensive initiative is dedicated to solving the problem of obesity within a generation so that children born today will grow up healthier. The initiative engages tribal leaders, schools, urban Indian centers and other community organizations and provides culturally appropriate health resources and training to promote physical activity, breastfeeding, and healthy eating. Learn more about [Let's Move! in Indian Country](http://www.doi.gov/letsmove/indiancountry/) (<http://www.doi.gov/letsmove/indiancountry/>).

Injury and Violence Free Living

Reducing injury and violence improves physical and emotional health. The leading causes of death from unintentional injury include motor vehicle-related injuries, unintended poisoning (addressed in the “Preventing Drug Abuse and Excessive Alcohol Use” chapter), and falls.³⁴ Witnessing or being a victim of violence (e.g., child maltreatment, youth violence, intimate partner and sexual violence, bullying, and elder abuse) are linked to lifelong negative physical, emotional, and social consequences.³⁵

National Prevention Strategy Recommendations

1. Implement and strengthen policies and programs to enhance transportation safety.
2. Support community and streetscape design that promotes safety and prevents injuries.
3. Promote and strengthen policies and programs to prevent falls, especially among older adults.
4. Promote and enhance policies and programs to increase safety and prevent injury in the workplace.
5. Strengthen policies and programs to prevent violence.
6. Provide individuals and families with the knowledge, skills, and tools to make safe choices that prevent violence and injuries.

National Prevention Council Department Actions

Please refer to Appendix 1 for a list of National Prevention Council department abbreviations and descriptions.

| National Prevention Strategy Federal Actions | National Prevention Council Department Actions |
|--|--|
| Support state, tribal, local, and territorial agencies in implementing, strengthening, and enforcing transportation safety policies and programs. | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • BIA will engage with partners in Safe Routes to School to communicate and plan methods to improve major school bus transportation routes for the safety of children and increase physical activity among students. • DOT will seek to increase seatbelt use by promoting high-visibility enforcement, nighttime enforcement, and programs targeting high-risk populations to reduce motor vehicle related fatalities and injuries. • DOT, in collaboration with HHS, is promoting increased use of ignition interlocks and close supervision of impaired driving offenders in order to prevent alcohol impaired driving crashes and related injuries and fatalities. • DOT will continue to provide a pedestrian and bicycle safety curriculum called “Walk and Bike Safely” for use by teachers and volunteers working with beginning English language learners to promote road safety. |
| Enhance enforcement of current safety regulations, provide training and technical assistance to improve worker safety, and empower workers to report health and safety concerns. | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • DHS is providing Medical Countermeasures to key personnel to carry out its mission while simultaneously protecting its key personnel in the event of a biological, chemical, or radiologic national security incident. • DOL is inspecting and responding to workplace violence to protect workers from workplace violence. • DOL will enhance enforcement of regulations, including designing outreach and education, to improve disease and injury prevention by focusing on mine operators’ responsibilities to anticipate, recognize, and control mining hazards. • DOL will reduce chronic lung diseases from mining exposures through improved enforcement, outreach, education, and stakeholder engagement. • VA will implement a program for safe patient handling, including staff protocols and tools, in all Veterans Health Administration facilities in order to decrease musculoskeletal injuries among employees. |

National Prevention Strategy Federal Actions

Develop and test innovative and promising strategies to prevent injuries and violence.

Educate adults and youth on actions they can take to prevent injury at home, work, and school, and in their communities.

National Prevention Council Department Actions

- DOT will continue to research the vehicular and human factors that lead to distracted driving, such as vehicle interfaces and portable devices, to build the evidence base on preventing injury and fatalities related to distracted driving.
 - DOT will continue to research strategies to improve motor vehicle safety through the Intelligent Transportation Systems program, which supports innovative vehicle safety research such as Vehicle to Vehicle (V2V) connectivity technologies.
 - DOT will conduct a multipronged effort to protect children from injuries that occur in and around passenger vehicles, including hyperthermia, driveway backovers, and trunk entrapments.
 - HHS is supporting evaluation and research of violence and injury prevention programs, including developing collaborative strategies to reduce falls in the older population, supporting evidence-based violence prevention initiatives, and evaluating state and local injury prevention programs.
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- BIA will coordinate with HHS to provide information and training on de-escalation techniques to schools to promote the safety and well-being of students and staff.
 - HHS has released the National Action Plan for Child Injury Prevention, which informs national and local efforts to reduce the burden of injury among children.
 - HHS will continue to support and improve outreach efforts in injury and violence prevention through efforts such as the “Protect the Ones You Love” and “Heads Up” initiatives.
 - DOL is working to ensure that youth enjoy positive work experiences that do not jeopardize their health, well-being, or education.
 - DOT will promote use of motorcycle and bicycle helmets by providing educational materials on the DOT website to help reduce the probability of death and serious injury among riders.

PROJECT HIGHLIGHT: National Forum on Youth Violence Prevention

In April 2012, the National Forum on Youth Violence Prevention unveiled a new online toolkit, which provides technical assistance to cities across the country that want to adopt the forum’s comprehensive approach. The forum is a network of communities and federal agencies, including Departments of Justice (DOJ), Education (ED), Health and Human Services (HHS), Housing and Urban Development (HUD), Labor (DOL), and the Office on National Drug Control Policy (ONDCP) that work together, share information and build local capacity to prevent and reduce youth violence. The new online toolkit is designed to help communities develop multidisciplinary partnerships and develop and implement strategic plans driven by local data, with a combination of prevention, intervention, enforcement, and reentry strategies. Learn more about the [National Forum on Youth Violence Prevention](http://www.findyouthinfo.gov/youth-topics/preventing-youth-violence) (<http://www.findyouthinfo.gov/youth-topics/preventing-youth-violence>).

Reproductive and Sexual Health

Healthy reproductive and sexual practices can play a critical role in enabling people to remain healthy and actively contribute to their community. Planning and having a healthy pregnancy is vital to the health of women, infants, and families and is especially important in preventing teen pregnancy and childbearing, which will help raise educational attainment, increase employment opportunities, and enhance financial stability.³⁶ Access to quality health services and support for safe practices can improve physical and emotional well-being and reduce teen and unintended pregnancies, HIV/AIDS, viral hepatitis, and other sexually transmitted infections (STIs).³⁷

National Prevention Strategy Recommendations

1. Increase use of preconception and prenatal care.
2. Support reproductive and sexual health services and support services for pregnant and parenting women.
3. Provide effective sexual health education, especially for adolescents.
4. Enhance early detection of HIV, viral hepatitis, and other STIs and improve linkage to care.

National Prevention Council Department Actions

Please refer to Appendix 1 for a list of National Prevention Council department abbreviations and descriptions.

| National Prevention Strategy Federal Actions | National Prevention Council Department Actions |
|---|---|
| Increase access to comprehensive preconception and prenatal care, especially for low-income and at-risk women. | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • DOL ensures that federal contractors and subcontractors are not discriminated against on the basis of pregnancy or medical conditions related to pregnancy and childbirth in employment decisions (e.g., hiring, firing, pay, benefits, job assignments, promotions, layoffs, job training, and recruitment). • HHS will continue to support the Maternal and Child Health Services Block Grant Program, the Health Center Program, and the Title X Family Planning program, which provide access to care (from preconception through postpartum) for low-income and at-risk women. • With the partnership of the VA/DOD Pregnancy Working Group, VA will continue to provide patient and evidence-based clinician education in support of quality preconception and prenatal care. |
| Research and disseminate ways to effectively prevent premature birth, birth defects, and Sudden Infant Death Syndrome (SIDS). | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • HHS, through the Strong Start initiative, is testing and evaluating enhanced prenatal care for low-income women at risk for having a preterm birth. • HHS will implement the Sudden Unexpected Infant Death (SUID) initiative, aimed at improving the investigation and reporting of Sudden Infant Death Syndrome (SIDS) and other SUID, to monitor trends and identify those at risk in order to prevent SUID. |
| Support states, tribes, and communities to implement evidence-based sexual health education. | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • HHS, through the Personal Responsibility and Education Program, will support state efforts to provide evidence-based sexual health education to reduce teen pregnancy rates. |

PROJECT HIGHLIGHT: Strong Start

The Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) launched the Strong Start initiative in February 2012 to help clinicians deliver evidence-based prenatal care, help women make healthy decisions during pregnancy, and ensure more babies are born healthy. The initiative has two parts—reducing elective deliveries (prior to 39 weeks) for pregnant women and testing enhanced prenatal care for women covered by Medicaid who are at risk for having a preterm birth. Strong Start will leverage public-private partnerships, disseminate best practice policies, and test innovative interventions to expand access to care, improve care coordination, and provide a broader array of health services. Learn more about the [Strong Start initiative](http://innovation.cms.gov/initiatives/Strong-Start/index.html) (<http://innovation.cms.gov/initiatives/Strong-Start/index.html>).

| National Prevention Strategy Federal Actions | National Prevention Council Department Actions |
|---|---|
| <p>Promote and disseminate national screening recommendations for HIV and other STIs.</p> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • HHS will promote HIV and STI screenings that follow evidence-based guidelines at federally supported health centers and through outreach campaigns (such as Testing Makes Us Stronger; One Test, Two Lives; Take Charge, Take the Test) to reduce risks among sexually active individuals. • HHS will continue to implement the Action Plan for the Prevention, Care, and Treatment of Viral Hepatitis, which focuses on preventing viral hepatitis, increasing the proportion of people who are aware of their infections, and improving access to care and treatment. • VA will promote screening for HIV, hepatitis, and other sexually transmitted infections through print, web-based, and in-person patient and clinician education to support testing and treatment of these conditions. |
| <p>Promote and disseminate best practices and tools to reduce behavioral risk factors (e.g., sexual violence, alcohol and other drug use) that contribute to high rates of HIV/STIs and teen pregnancy.</p> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • HHS will integrate HIV screening and prevention services into substance abuse treatment programs, as appropriate, to improve health outcomes. • HHS supports the replication of evidence-based models to reduce teen pregnancies, STIs, and sexual risk behaviors. |
| <p>Encourage HIV testing and treatment, align programs to better identify people living with HIV, and link those who test positive to care.</p> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • HHS will continue to implement the National HIV/AIDS Strategy, which focuses on reducing new HIV infections through screening and targeted prevention and on improving support for people living with HIV by increasing access to and retention in high-quality care. |
| <p>Research and disseminate effective methods to prevent intimate partner violence and sexual violence.</p> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • HHS will use data from the National Intimate Partner and Sexual Violence Survey to inform intimate partner and domestic violence prevention programs across the country. • HHS will promote interpersonal violence screening and counseling, as recommended under the Institute of Medicine Guidelines on Women's Preventive Services. |

Mental and Emotional Well-being

Mental and emotional well-being is essential to overall health. Positive mental health allows people to realize their full potential, cope with the stresses of life, work productively, and make meaningful contributions to their communities. Early childhood experiences have lasting, measurable consequences later in life; therefore, fostering emotional well-being from the earliest stages of life helps build a foundation for overall health and well-being. Anxiety, mood (e.g., depression), and impulse control disorders are associated with a higher probability of risk behaviors (e.g., tobacco, alcohol and other drug use, risky sexual behavior), intimate partner and family violence, many other chronic and acute conditions (e.g., obesity, diabetes, cardiovascular disease, HIV/STIs), and premature death.³⁸

National Prevention Strategy Recommendations

1. Promote positive early childhood development, including positive parenting and violence-free homes.
2. Facilitate social connectedness and community engagement across the lifespan.
3. Provide individuals and families with the support necessary to maintain positive mental well-being.
4. Promote early identification of mental health needs and access to quality services.

National Prevention Council Department Actions

Please refer to Appendix 1 for a list of National Prevention Council department abbreviations and descriptions.

| National Prevention Strategy Federal Actions | National Prevention Council Department Actions |
|--|--|
| <p>Improve access to high-quality mental health services and facilitate integration of mental health services into a range of clinical and community settings (e.g., Federally Qualified Health Centers, Bureau of Prisons, Department of Defense, and Veterans Affairs facilities).</p> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • HHS will work with states, territories, and tribal governments to integrate mental health services and promote the expansion of behavioral health services in clinics, communities, and health care settings, especially those that serve youth, tribal communities, and military families. • VA will continue to provide a best practice for suicide prevention through the National Veterans Crisis Line, a 24/7 telephone, text, and live chat service, to connect veterans in crisis and their families and friends with qualified, caring VA responders and decrease the incidence of intentional injuries. |
| <p>Support programs to ensure that employees have tools and resources needed to balance work and personal life and provide support and training to help them recognize co-workers in distress and respond accordingly.</p> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • DHS will implement the DHSTogether program, a department-wide program for employee and organizational resilience designed to promote the health and well-being of the entire DHS workforce and ensure that employees have the tools and resources for balancing work-life issues and thereby reducing sick leave, absenteeism, and stress. • DHS will work with its employee assistance programs to make available preventive health educational and clinical programs to improve the psychological and physical well-being of its workforce. • DOD will work to ensure its ability to identify and respond to DOD beneficiaries' mental health needs in order to promote mental and emotional well-being. |

National Prevention Strategy Federal Actions

Support programs to ensure that employees have tools and resources needed to balance work and personal life and provide support and training to help them recognize co-workers in distress and respond accordingly. (cont.)

Provide tools, guidance, and best practices to promote positive early childhood and youth development and prevent child abuse.

National Prevention Council Department Actions

- DOL, by administering the Family and Medical Leave Act, provides workplace flexibilities to eligible employees of covered employers. These flexibilities enable employees to balance work and personal life when certain family and medical care necessities arise (e.g., serious health condition of the employee, their parent, child, or spouse, or for certain military family leave reasons). They provide unpaid, job-protected leave, with continuation of health insurance coverage, under the same terms and conditions as if an employee had not taken leave.
- HHS is working with employers and partners to promote and implement the *Employer's Guide to Emotional Wellness* and the *Employer's Guide to Behavioral Health Services* to ensure that employees have access to tools and resources for balancing their work and personal lives.
- BIA will partner with HHS and Safe School specialists to provide information and on-site training on suicide prevention and bullying prevention for schools serving American Indian students.
- DOJ, through the Defending Childhood initiative, will continue to support comprehensive community-based projects to prevent and reduce the impact of exposure to violence on children and their families, schools, and communities.
- DOJ will support professionals working with vulnerable children by coordinating federal, state, local, and tribal efforts to protect drug-endangered children. DOJ will identify model protocols and promising practices and coordinate professional training programs to promote positive early childhood and youth development and prevent child abuse.
- ED will continue its Race to the Top Early Learning Challenge grant competition supporting state-based efforts to increase the number and percentage of low-income and disadvantaged children enrolled early in high-quality, integrated learning programs and services. Those program and services follow the recommendations of the National Research Council's reports on early childhood to improve early learning and development programs for young children.
- HHS will promote prevention programs for child and family service settings that support healthy development and reduce exposure to violence and risk factors for trauma, such as Project Launch, Safe Schools/Healthy Students, and Triple P—Positive Parenting Program®.
- HHS provides tools, such as *Preventing Child Maltreatment and Promoting Well-Being: A Network for Action 2012 Resource Guide*, to service providers working with parents, caregivers, and their children to strengthen families and prevent child abuse and neglect.

PROJECT HIGHLIGHT: StopBullying.gov

In March 2012, the Departments of Education (ED) and Health and Human Services (HHS) re-launched StopBullying.gov, a comprehensive, interactive website that provides detailed information, policies, interactive webisodes and videos for young people, practical strategies for schools and communities to ensure safe environments, and suggestions on how parents can talk about this sensitive subject with their children. The enhanced site responds to feedback from the March 2011 White House Conference on Bullying Prevention and the September 2011 Federal Partners in Bullying Prevention Summit that awareness alone will not prevent bullying. The site now gives concrete steps that students, parents, educators, and community members can take to prevent and stop bullying. Learn more about [StopBullying.gov](http://www.stopbullying.gov) (<http://www.stopbullying.gov>).

Mental and Emotional Well-being

National Prevention Strategy Federal Actions

Provide easy-to-use information about mental and emotional well-being for consumers, especially groups that experience unique stressors (e.g., U.S. Armed Forces, firefighters, police officers, and other emergency response workers).

Research policies and programs that enhance mental and emotional well-being, especially for potentially vulnerable populations.

National Prevention Council Department Actions

- DHS will conduct “Resilience Symposiums,” workshops on health and wellness on an annual or biannual basis to empower employees to take an active role and responsibility in their health and wellness.
- DOL will raise awareness among employers, group health plans, and issuers about benefits under the Mental Health Parity Act and Mental Health Parity and Addiction Equity Act through outreach and training to promote mental health and well-being in the workplace.
- HHS, through their Strategic Initiative on Public Awareness and Support, is disseminating evidence-based and emerging information and working with partners through the Outreach Partnership Program to address the mental health needs within high-risk populations.
- VA has implemented a mobile phone application called Post Traumatic Stress Disorder (PTSD) Coach that helps users learn about and manage symptoms that commonly occur after trauma. This application includes information on PTSD and treatments, tools for screening and tracking symptoms, information about easy-to-use skills to help people handle stress symptoms, and links to support and help, to provide interactive, reliable mental health resources for patients with PTSD.
- VA launched, in 2011, the web-based campaign, Make the Connection, that describes how veterans of all service eras, genders, and races successfully sought help for mental health services in an effort to encourage veterans to seek care.
- HHS supports translational and health services research to better prevent and treat mental illness and to promote dissemination and implementation of evidence-based interventions.



Moving Forward

The National Prevention Council Action Plan demonstrates how the National Prevention Council is working across sectors to implement the recommendations and actions of the National Prevention Strategy. Similar to the National Prevention Strategy, this action plan is dynamic and will evolve as the needs, interests, and priorities of the nation change.

As reflected in this action plan, the National Prevention Council is committed to improving the health and well-being of our nation. As federal leaders in prevention, the National Prevention Council departments will work together to achieve their commitments and continue to take actions that align to the Strategic Directions and Priorities of the National Prevention Strategy.

The National Prevention Council recognizes the importance of partners and their role as trusted members of the communities and populations they serve. The National Prevention Strategy encourages partnerships among federal, state, tribal, local, and territorial governments, business, industry, and other private sector partners, health care systems, insurers, and clinicians, early learning centers, schools, colleges, and universities, community, nonprofit, and faith-based organizations, and individual Americans to improve health through prevention.

Improvements in health are amplified when those working both within and outside of government consider opportunities to address prevention and wellness. Continued effective implementation of the National Prevention Strategy will require ongoing leadership, focus on the Strategic Directions and Priorities, and engagement of both public and private partners. Together, we can work to improve the health and quality of life for individuals, families, and communities and move the nation from a focus on sickness and disease to one based on prevention and wellness.

National Prevention Council Department Abbreviations and Descriptions

Abbreviations

| Abbreviation | National Prevention Council Member |
|--------------|--|
| BIA | Bureau of Indian Affairs |
| CNCS | Corporation for National and Community Service |
| DHS | Department of Homeland Security |
| DOD | Department of Defense |
| DOJ | Department of Justice |
| DOL | Department of Labor |
| DOT | Department of Transportation |
| DPC | Domestic Policy Council |
| ED | Department of Education |
| EPA | Environmental Protection Agency |
| FTC | Federal Trade Commission |
| HHS | Department of Health and Human Services |
| HUD | Department of Housing and Urban Development |
| OMB | Office of Management and Budget |
| ONDCP | Office of National Drug Control Policy |
| USDA | Department of Agriculture |
| VA | Department of Veterans Affairs |

Descriptions

| Department | Description |
|---|--|
| Bureau Indian Affairs (BIA) | The Bureau of Indian Affairs provides services to American Indians and Alaska Natives through contracts, grants, and compacts. Additionally, BIA is responsible for the management and administration of protected land held in trust by the United States for American Indians and Alaska Natives. |
| Corporation for National and Community Service (CNCS) | The Corporation for National and Community Service is a federal agency that engages more than five million Americans in service through Senior Corps, AmeriCorps, the Social Innovation Fund, and other programs and leads President Obama's national call to service initiative, United We Serve. To support the American culture of citizenship, service, and responsibility, CNCS manages grants that promote service and volunteering. |
| Department of Homeland Security (DHS) | The Department of Homeland Security aims to prevent, protect, and respond to domestic threats including terrorist attacks, natural disasters, and manmade accidents. Separate from the Department of Defense, DHS works in the civilian sphere to protect the United States within and outside its borders. |
| Department of Defense (DOD) | The Department of Defense coordinates and supervises all agencies and functions of the government concerned directly with national security and the United States armed forces. |
| Department of Justice (DOJ) | The Department of Justice enforces the law and defends the interests of the United States according to the law. DOJ ensures public safety against both foreign and domestic threats and provides federal leadership in preventing and controlling crime. In its role, DOJ seeks just punishment for those guilty of unlawful behavior and ensures fair and impartial administration of justice for all Americans. |
| Department of Labor (DOL) | The Department of Labor fosters, promotes, and develops the welfare of the wage earners, job seekers, and retirees of the United States. Through striving to improve working conditions, the DOL advances opportunities for profitable employment and assures work-related benefits and rights. |

| Department | Description |
|---|--|
| Department of Transportation (DOT) | The Department of Transportation oversees interstate travel in the United States. DOT works to provide a fast, safe, efficient, accessible, and convenient transportation system that meets the nation's needs and enhances the quality of life of the American people. |
| Domestic Policy Council (DPC) | The Domestic Policy Council coordinates the domestic policy-making process in the White House and offers advice to the President. DPC also supervises the execution of domestic policy and represents the President's priorities to Congress. |
| Department of Education (ED) | The Department of Education promotes student achievement and prepares students for global competitiveness by fostering educational excellence and ensuring equal access to education. ED establishes policies on federal financial aid for education. In addition, ED collects data on America's schools and disseminates research findings to the public. ED strives to achieve national support on key educational issues. |
| Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) | The Environmental Protection Agency serves to protect human health and reduce environmental risks by promoting conservation of natural resources and providing scientific guidance related to environmental issues. |
| Federal Trade Commission (FTC) | The Federal Trade Commission serves to prevent business practices that are anticompetitive, deceptive, or unfair to consumers and to enhance informed consumer choice and public understanding of the competitive process. |
| Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) | The Department of Health and Human Services is the United States government's principal agency for protecting the health of all Americans and providing essential human services, especially for those who are least able to help themselves. |
| Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) | The Department of Housing and Urban Development works to create strong, sustainable, inclusive communities and quality affordable homes for all. HUD realizes accessible housing is a platform for improving quality of life and strives to build inclusive and sustainable communities free from discrimination. |
| Office of Management and Budget (OMB) | The core mission of the Office of Management and Budget is to serve the President of the United States in implementing his vision across the Executive Branch and assist the President in overseeing the preparation of the federal budget. In helping to formulate the President's spending plans, the OMB evaluates the effectiveness of agency programs, policies, and procedures, assesses competing funding demands among agencies, and sets funding priorities. OMB also guides the federal procurement process, coordinates and reviews all significant federal regulations by executive agencies, and provides coordination to ensure consistency of agency legislative views and proposals with Presidential policy. |
| Office of National Drug Control Policy (ONDCP) | The Office of the National Drug Control Policy advises the President on drug-control issues, coordinates drug-control activities, and produces the annual National Drug Control Strategy, which outlines Administration efforts to reduce illicit drug use, manufacturing and trafficking, drug-related crime and violence, and drug-related health consequences. |
| Department of Agriculture (USDA) | The Department of Agriculture is responsible for developing and executing federal government policy on farming, agriculture, and food. The USDA works to meet the needs of farmers and ranchers, promote agricultural trade and production, assure food safety, protect natural resources, foster rural communities, and end hunger in the United States and abroad. |
| Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) | The Department of Veterans Affairs is responsible for administering programs of benefit to veterans, their families and survivors. Benefits provided by the VA include disability compensation, pension, education, home loans, life insurance, vocational rehabilitation, survivors' benefits, medical benefits, and burial benefits. The Veterans Health Administration is home to the United States' largest integrated health care system consisting of 152 medical centers, nearly 1,400 community-based outpatient clinics, community living centers, Vet Centers, and Domiciliaries. Together these health care facilities and the more than 53,000 independent licensed health care practitioners who work within them provide comprehensive care to more than 8.3 million veterans each year. |

Framework for National Prevention Council Commitments

The National Prevention Council identified commitments prioritized on the basis of its potential to improve health, engage multiple departments, and apply existing federal experience, models, and tools. The National Prevention Council commitments include the following:

- Identify opportunities to consider prevention and health within National Prevention Council departments and encourage partners to do so voluntarily as appropriate.
- Increase tobacco free environments within National Prevention Council departments and encourage partners to do so voluntarily as appropriate.
- Increase access to healthy, affordable food within National Prevention Council departments and encourage partners to do so voluntarily as appropriate.

The National Prevention Council developed a framework to provide its departments an actionable, standardized approach for advancing these commitments. The framework provides a short- and mid- to long-term approach to implementing these commitments and includes the following phases:

- Assess
- Communicate
- Educate
- Plan/Implement
- Monitor/Evaluate

This framework can guide National Prevention Council departments in establishing their own processes and goals. Specific actions taken to advance the commitments will vary across departments. Technical assistance and guidance will be available to help National Prevention Council departments meet their unique objectives within each commitment.

Overarching Framework for National Prevention Council Commitments

Short-Term (within Calendar Year 2012)

Assess:

- Assess your department’s status.

Communicate:

- Broadly communicate your executive leadership’s commitment.

Educate:

- Educate department leadership and decision makers.
- Educate department employees.
- Provide information and support.

Plan:

- Begin planning.
- Set target dates and milestones.

Mid- to Long-Term (1 to 3 years)

Communicate:

- Broadly communicate your department’s plan.
- Recognize the activities of departmental operating divisions, agencies, organizations, grantees, or partners.

Educate:

- Continue to educate and inform department employees about activities related to your commitments.
- Create opportunities for input and feedback.

Implement:

- Implement plans.
- Use models and resources.

Monitor and Evaluate:

- Monitor status and evaluate efforts.
- Use data for continuous improvement.

National Prevention Council Commitment: Identify opportunities to consider prevention and health within National Prevention Council departments and encourage partners to do so voluntarily as appropriate.

Short-Term (within Calendar Year 2012)

Assess:

- Identify opportunities where prevention, health, and cross-sector collaborations can be considered, as appropriate.
- Identify opportunities where it would be beneficial to offer staff and partners training in health and prevention.

Communicate:

- Broadly communicate your department's commitment to promoting health and prevention, including your department's role on the National Prevention Council.

Educate:

- Educate department leadership, employees, and partners on the "win-win" benefits to prevention and health education.
- Enhance department staff's knowledge about prevention and health (e.g., offering trainings, disseminating resources).

Plan:

- Develop a plan to identify opportunities to consider prevention and health in departmental activities.
- Develop a plan to train department staff and grantees about prevention and health.
- Identify opportunities to implement cross sector programs, training, research, or evaluation projects that advance prevention and health outcomes.
- Set milestones for identifying prevention and health opportunities.

Mid- to Long-Term (1 to 3 years)

Communicate:

- Broadly communicate your department's prevention and health efforts (e.g., commitment statement on website and integration into department observances and/or materials).
- Recognize departmental operating divisions, agencies, organizations, grantees, or partners' health and prevention efforts.

Educate:

- Enhance the capacity of department staff to consider prevention and health through training/cross-training.
- Enhance capacity of grantees to consider prevention and health by providing information and educational materials.
- Disseminate information resources or support joint conferences on prevention themes or with prevention tracks.

Implement:

- Implement your department's plan to identify prevention and health opportunities. Examples of strategies being used within one or more National Prevention Council departments include:
 - Encourage collaboration and coordinate across multiple sectors within programs, training, research, or evaluation projects.
 - Collect data on health outcomes from relevant programs where appropriate.

Monitor and Evaluate:

- Monitor activities and evaluate your department's efforts to consider prevention and health opportunities and to promote cross-sector collaboration.
- Use data for continuous improvement.

Framework for National Prevention Council Commitments

National Prevention Council Commitment: Increase tobacco free environments within National Prevention Council departments and encourage partners to do so voluntarily as appropriate.

Short-Term (within Calendar Year 2012)

Mid- to Long-Term (1 to 3 years)

Assess:

- Assess the current smoke free/tobacco free status of your department's workplaces.
- Identify opportunities to achieve tobacco free environments in your department's workplaces.

Communicate:

- Broadly communicate your department's executive leadership's commitment to achieving tobacco free environments.

Educate:

- Educate department leadership and employees about the health effects of smoking, secondhand smoke, tobacco use, and the benefits of tobacco free spaces.
- Educate employees about the Federal Employee Health Benefit insurance plans that offer 100 percent coverage for smoking and tobacco cessation.
- Provide information and support the use of tobacco cessation services using available materials, tools, and resources.

Plan:

- Begin planning to expand tobacco free environments as appropriate. (The Department of Health and Human Services [HHS] Tobacco Free Policy can serve as one model and technical assistance relative to operational considerations will be available.)
- Set a target with milestones for increasing tobacco free environments.

Communicate:

- Broadly communicate your department's plan to increase tobacco free environments as appropriate.
- Recognize departmental operating divisions, agencies, organizations, grantees, or partners that implement tobacco free strategies and environments.

Educate:

- Continue to educate employees about the health effects of smoking, secondhand smoke, tobacco use, and the benefits of tobacco free environments.
- Educate employees about the department's efforts to expand tobacco free environments.
- Continue to educate employees about federal employee health benefits and worksite tobacco use cessation services.

Implement:

- Implement your department's plan for expanding tobacco free environments. Examples of strategies being used within one or more National Prevention Council departments include:
 - Implement tobacco free environments across department campuses.
 - Offer tobacco cessation services on-site or permit use of quitline services within the workplace.

Monitor and Evaluate:

- Monitor your department's activities and evaluate tobacco free efforts.
- Use data for continuous improvement.

National Prevention Council Commitment: Increase access to healthy, affordable food within National Prevention Council departments and encourage partners to do so voluntarily as appropriate.

Short-Term (within Calendar Year 2012)

Assess:

- Assess your department's status in providing access to healthy affordable food, including food service and vending operations.
- Identify opportunities to achieve access to healthy, affordable food in your department's workplaces and encourage partners to do so voluntarily as appropriate.

Communicate:

- Broadly communicate the department's executive leadership's commitment to achieving access to healthy, affordable food.

Educate:

- Educate departmental leadership and employees about the positive health effects of healthy food and a healthy food environment.
- Educate employees on the nutritional quality of their food options at purchase points through educational materials.

Plan:

- Begin planning to improve access to healthy, affordable food. (The Department of Health and Human Services [HHS]/General Services Administration [GSA] Health and Sustainability Guidelines for Federal Concessions and Vending Operations is one model.)
- Set a target with milestones for increasing access to healthy, affordable food.

Mid- to Long-Term (1 to 3 years)

Communicate:

- Broadly communicate the department's commitment and plan to expand access to healthy, affordable food.
- Recognize departmental operating divisions, agencies, organizations, grantees, or partners that improve access to healthy, affordable food.

Educate:

- Continue to educate about the positive health effects of making healthy food choices.
- Educate departmental employees about plans or new initiatives for improving access to healthy, affordable food.

Implement:

- Implement your department's plan for expanding access to healthy, affordable food. Examples of strategies being used within one or more National Prevention Council departments include:
 - Support federal vendors and food service staff in incorporating healthy food into department food service and vending operations.
 - Expand access to fresh fruits and vegetables through on-site farmers markets.

Monitor and Evaluate:

- Monitor your department's activities and evaluate its efforts to achieve access to healthy, affordable food.
- Use data for continuous improvement.

Department Action Items (by National Prevention Council Department as listed in Appendix 1)

| Bureau of Indian Affairs | | |
|---|--|---|
| National Prevention Strategy Strategic Direction/Priority | National Prevention Strategy Federal Actions | National Prevention Council Department Actions |
| Healthy and Safe Community Environments | Enhance capacity of state, tribal, local, and territorial governments to create healthy, livable, and sustainable communities (e.g., increase access to healthy food and opportunities for physical activity, revitalize brownfields, enhance alternative transportation options, and develop green facilities and buildings). | BIA will work with USDA, ED, DOT, CNCS, and HHS to reinforce and improve upon the goals of the First Lady's Let's Move! in Indian Country initiative to connect communities, schools, and tribal leaders to resources, funding, opportunities, trainings, and programs that can support efforts to reduce high rates of obesity and improve the health of native youth by increasing access to healthy, affordable, and traditional foods, and opportunities for physical activity. |
| | Support standards to reduce pollution and environmental exposure to ensure that all communities are protected from environmental and health hazards. | BIA will engage with partners, such as EPA and ED, to improve access and infrastructure in BIA-funded schools to enhance efforts to improve air quality in schools, decrease greenhouse gas emissions, meet Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design (LEED) certification standards, recycle and clean up hazardous waste, and improve the health of the school environment. |
| | Support state, tribal, local, and territorial partners in strategic health security planning efforts for pandemics, biological and chemical attacks, incidents affecting food and agriculture, natural disasters, and other catastrophic events. | BIA will partner with DHS to prepare BIA-funded schools to respond to emergencies (e.g., manmade or natural disasters). |
| | Support effective public safety measures, such as community-based anti-crime and anti-gang initiatives to facilitate physical activity and prevent injury and violence. | BIA will ensure that BIA-funded schools provide a safe and secure environment for students and staff by conducting site visits to ensure that current safety measures are being used and by training staff in preventing suicide, bullying, and violence. |
| Clinical and Community Preventive Services | Support delivery of clinical preventive services in various health care and out-of-home care settings, including Federally Qualified Health Centers; Bureau of Prisons, Department of Defense, and Veterans Affairs facilities; and among Medicare providers. | BIA will partner with HHS and USDA to strengthen linkages for medical, dental, nutrition, and mental health, and other health services for school-age children in BIA-funded schools to develop a comprehensive approach to addressing health and wellness in the school environment and to improve the health and academic outcomes of American Indian/Alaska Native students. |
| Empowered People | Support research and programs that help people make healthy choices (e.g., understand how choices should be presented). | BIA's Families and Children's Education (FACE) will partner with HHS and USDA to develop resources and strategies for BIA-funded schools and parents to reduce obesity rates and improve the health of Indian youth and support the goals of the Let's Move! in Indian Country initiative. |

| Bureau of Indian Affairs | | |
|---|---|---|
| National Prevention Strategy Strategic Direction/Priority | National Prevention Strategy Federal Actions | National Prevention Council Department Actions |
| Preventing Drug Abuse and Excessive Alcohol Use | Foster development of a nationwide community-based prevention system involving state, tribal, local, and territorial governments and partners such as schools, health and social service systems, law enforcement, faith communities, local businesses, and neighborhood organizations. | BIA will partner with HHS and DOJ to communicate with tribes regarding alcohol and substance abuse prevention, sharing information about programs as well as available resources to help implement these programs. |
| Active Living | Support coordinated, comprehensive, and multicomponent programs and policies to encourage physical activity and physical education, especially in schools and early learning centers. | BIA will implement a standardized health and wellness policy across BIA-operated schools and inform Tribally Controlled Schools of the opportunity for adoption to improve health and wellness in the school environment and to support the goals of the Let's Move! in Indian Country initiative. |
| Injury and Violence Free Living | Support state, tribal, local, and territorial agencies in implementing, strengthening, and enforcing transportation safety policies and programs. | BIA will engage with partners in Safe Routes to Schools to communicate and plan methods to improve major school bus transportation routes for the safety of children and increase physical activity among students. |
| | Educate adults and youth on actions they can take to prevent injury at home, work, and school and in their communities. | BIA will coordinate with HHS to provide information and training on de-escalation techniques to schools to promote the safety and well-being of students and staff. |
| Mental and Emotional Well-being | Provide tools, guidance, and best practices to promote positive early childhood and youth development and prevent child abuse. | BIA will partner with HHS and Safe School specialists to provide information and on-site training on suicide prevention and bullying Prevention for schools serving American Indian students. |
| Corporation for National and Community Service | | |
| National Prevention Strategy Strategic Direction/Priority | National Prevention Strategy Federal Actions | National Prevention Council Department Actions |
| Healthy and Safe Community Environments | Coordinate investments in transportation, housing, environmental protection, and community infrastructure to promote sustainable and healthy communities. | <p>CNCS will continue to fund and support programs such as Retired Senior Volunteer Program (RSVP), Senior Companions, and AmeriCorps that increase seniors' ability to remain in their own homes with the same or improved quality of life for as long as possible. These programs will increase social ties and social support among homebound or older adults and individuals with disabilities, promoting mental health.</p> <p>CNCS will continue to fund and support grant activities with the Social Innovation Fund, AmeriCorps VISTA, and AmeriCorps State and National that help economically disadvantaged people transition into or remain in safe, healthy, affordable housing and provide opportunities for communities to address housing transition and affordable housing resources.</p> |

Department Action Items (by National Prevention Council Department as listed in Appendix 1)

| Corporation for National and Community Service | | |
|---|---|---|
| National Prevention Strategy Strategic Direction/Priority | National Prevention Strategy Federal Actions | National Prevention Council Department Actions |
| Empowered People | Support research and programs that help people make healthy choices (e.g., understand how choices should be presented). | CNCS will continue to fund and support the Social Innovation Fund, AmeriCorps VISTA, and AmeriCorps State and National programs that will increase physical activity and improve nutrition in youth by increasing access to information and activities to reduce childhood obesity and enhance access to nutritious, affordable foods. |
| Elimination of Health Disparities | Support health center service delivery sites in medically underserved areas and place primary care providers in communities with shortages. | CNCS, through HealthCorps a component of AmeriCorps, supports medically underserved communities by providing preventive health care programs that include health education and outreach. |
| Department of Homeland Security | | |
| National Prevention Strategy Strategic Direction/Priority | National Prevention Strategy Federal Actions | National Prevention Council Department Actions |
| Clinical and Community Preventive Services | Support delivery of clinical preventive services in various health care and out-of-home care settings, including Federally Qualified Health Centers; Bureau of Prisons, Department of Defense, and Veterans Affairs facilities; and among Medicare providers. | DHS will develop and disseminate a “Health & Wellness Management Directive and Instruction” guide to make supervisors and managers aware of tools and support available to their employees to help them lead healthier and more productive lives. DHS will develop and implement a Medical Quality Management (MQM) and Credentialing Program department-wide, and provide guidance for the department’s First Responder, Emergency Medical Responder, and clinical staff to raise the quality of care, standardize the quality of care, and eliminate any disparities in care delivery, including the provision of appropriate preventive services. |
| Injury and Violence Free Living | Enhance enforcement of current safety regulations, provide training and technical assistance to improve worker safety, and empower workers to report health and safety concerns. | DHS is providing Medical Countermeasures to key personnel to carry out its mission while simultaneously protecting its key personnel in the event of a biological, chemical, or radiologic national security incident. |

Department of Homeland Security

| National Prevention Strategy Strategic Direction/Priority | National Prevention Strategy Federal Actions | National Prevention Council Department Actions |
|---|---|---|
| Mental and Emotional Well-being | Support programs to ensure that employees have tools and resources needed to balance work and personal life and provide support and training to help them recognize co-workers in distress and respond accordingly. | DHS will implement the DHSTogether program, a department-wide program for employee and organizational resilience designed to promote the health and well-being of the entire DHS workforce and ensure that employees have the tools and resources for balancing work-life issues and thereby reducing sick leave, absenteeism, and stress. |
| | Provide easy-to-use information about mental and emotional well-being for consumers, especially groups that experience unique stressors (e.g., U.S. Armed Forces, firefighters, police officers, and other emergency response workers). | DHS will work with its employee assistance programs to make available preventive health educational and clinical programs to improve the psychological and physical well-being of its workforce. DHS will conduct “Resilience Symposiums,” workshops on health and wellness on an annual or bi-annual basis to empower employees to take an active role and responsibility in their health and wellness. |

Department of Defense

| National Prevention Strategy Strategic Direction/Priority | National Prevention Strategy Federal Actions | National Prevention Council Department Actions |
|---|--|---|
| Empowered People | Identify and address barriers to the dissemination and use of reliable health information. | DOD will conduct data collection and assessment of health-related behaviors, such as nutrition and tobacco, to achieve health objectives identified in the National Prevention Strategy. |
| Tobacco Free Living | Promote comprehensive tobacco free work site, campus, and conference/meeting policies. | DOD will implement a comprehensive tobacco control program with special emphasis on environmental and primary prevention activities to promote health and mission readiness and to lead by example. DOD is working to reduce tobacco use on DOD installations to promote health and mission readiness; help tobacco users to abstain/quit; and lead by example for all workplaces. |
| | Research tobacco use and the effectiveness of tobacco control interventions. | DOD will consider how the availability of tobacco in military exchanges is contributing to tobacco consumption and how strategies outlined in the HHS Best Practices in Comprehensive Tobacco Control can improve the health of Military Health System beneficiaries and the civilian workforce. |

Department Action Items (by National Prevention Council Department as listed in Appendix 1)

| Department of Defense | | |
|---|---|---|
| National Prevention Strategy Strategic Direction/Priority | National Prevention Strategy Federal Actions | National Prevention Council Department Actions |
| Healthy Eating | Work to ensure that foods purchased, distributed, or served in federal programs and settings meet standards consistent with the Dietary Guidelines for Americans. | DOD will consider strategies for promoting healthy eating choices in food service operations on DOD installations, including menu guidelines, to promote mission readiness and health. |
| | Provide information, tools, and expertise to help Americans understand and apply the Dietary Guidelines for Americans (e.g., MyPlate). | DOD will implement a nutrition educational initiative across medical and community platforms to improve behaviors that can help prevent and reduce obesity among Military Health System beneficiaries and the civilian workforce. |
| | Support breastfeeding, including implementing the breastfeeding provisions in the Affordable Care Act. | DOD will implement initiatives in its medical facilities that encourage military beneficiaries to breastfeed infants through six months, as suggested by the Joint Commission's Perinatal Care Core Measure on Exclusive Breast Milk Feeding, to promote infant health and improve maternal/infant bonding. |
| | Implement programs and regulations to increase access to healthy food and eliminate food insecurity (e.g., Healthy, Hunger-Free Kids Act and USDA HealthierUS School Challenge). | DOD will standardize the assessment of nutritional environments in DOD facilities and incorporate findings to improve healthy eating options and promote nutritional fitness and healthy weight across military communities. |
| | | DOD will implement evidence-based strategies to promote healthy eating choices in commissaries and military exchanges to encourage patrons to consume healthy, wholesome, and nutritious food items. |
| | Improve and expand the use of existing food and nutrition systems to track changes in eating patterns and conduct research to identify effective approaches. | DOD will leverage existing surveys to better measure National Prevention Strategy key indicators. DOD will standardize surveillance of obesity and weight to objectively measure obesity and overweight prevalence among Military Health System beneficiaries and the civilian workforce. |
| Mental and Emotional Well-being | Support programs to ensure that employees have tools and resources needed to balance work and personal life and provide support and training to help them recognize co-workers in distress and respond accordingly. | DOD will work to ensure its ability to identify and respond to DOD beneficiaries' mental health needs in order to promote mental and emotional well-being. |
| Department of Justice | | |
| National Prevention Strategy Strategic Direction/Priority | National Prevention Strategy Federal Actions | National Prevention Council Department Actions |
| Healthy and Safe Community Environments | Support effective public safety measures, such as community-based anti-crime and anti-gang initiatives to facilitate physical activity and prevent injury and violence. | DOJ, in collaboration with HUD, HHS, ONDCP, and ED through the National Forum on Youth Violence Prevention, will assist and collaborate with cities on best practices for preventing youth and gang violence, to support effective public safety measures to prevent injury and violence, such as community-based anti-crime and anti-gang initiatives. |

| Department of Justice | | |
|---|---|---|
| National Prevention Strategy Strategic Direction/Priority | National Prevention Strategy Federal Actions | National Prevention Council Department Actions |
| Preventing Drug Abuse and Excessive Alcohol Use | Develop programs consistent with Drug Enforcement Agency regulations that provide easily accessible, environmentally responsible ways to properly dispose of medications. | DOJ, EPA, and HHS will increase awareness on methods of safe and effective drug return and disposal consistent with ONDCP's National Prescription Drug Abuse Prevention Plan. |
| Mental and Emotional Well-being | Provide tools, guidance, and best practices to promote positive early childhood and youth development and prevent child abuse. | <p>DOJ, through the Defending Childhood initiative, will continue to support comprehensive community-based projects to prevent and reduce the impact of exposure to violence on children and their families, schools, and communities.</p> <p>DOJ will support professionals working with vulnerable children by coordinating federal, state, local, and tribal efforts to protect drug-endangered children. DOJ will identify model protocols and promising practices and coordinate professional training programs to promote positive early childhood and youth development and prevent child abuse.</p> |

| Department of Labor | | |
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| National Prevention Strategy Strategic Direction/Priority | National Prevention Strategy Federal Actions | National Prevention Council Department Actions |
| Empowered People | Use plain language in health information for the public in alignment with the Plain Writing Act. | <p>DOL, HHS, and the Department of the Treasury issued regulatory guidance in February 2012 requiring group health plans and health insurance issuers to provide consumers and employers clear, understandable, and concise explanations of their health insurance benefits and coverage, including preventive services coverage which will allow people to make more informed decisions when choosing an insurance plan and coordinating care with their providers.</p> <p>DOL will continue to require worker training in a language the worker understands and to target high risk industries to enhance worksite safety.</p> |
| Elimination of Health Disparities | <p>Support and expand cross-sector activities to enhance access to high-quality education, jobs, economic opportunity, and opportunities for healthy living (e.g., access to parks, grocery stores, and safe neighborhoods).</p> <p>Support and expand training programs that bring new and diverse workers into the health care and public health workforce.</p> | <p>DOL and USDA are supporting the multi-agency Jobs and Innovation Accelerator Challenge grant competitions to advance approximately 40 high-growth industry clusters in economically disadvantaged rural and urban regions across the country reaching disparate populations to promote job creation and training, which improve economic security and promote access to health insurance coverage and prevention services.</p> <p>DOL and HHS are linking community colleges and technical training organizations in rural communities to provide workforce training and other resources to expand the number of professionals trained in health information technology implementation.</p> |

Department Action Items (by National Prevention Council Department as listed in Appendix 1)

| Department of Labor | | |
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| National Prevention Strategy Strategic Direction/Priority | National Prevention Strategy Federal Actions | National Prevention Council Department Actions |
| Preventing Drug Abuse and Excessive Alcohol Use | Enhance linkages between drug prevention, substance abuse, mental health, and juvenile and criminal justice agencies to develop and disseminate effective models of prevention and care coordination. | DOL has implemented the Screening, Brief Intervention, and Referral to Treatment (SBIRT) tool at selected YouthBuild program sites and will provide ongoing training for using this tool to better identify and address substance abuse among youth in the program. |
| | Provide education, outreach, and training to address parity in employment-based group health plans and health insurance coverage for substance use disorders. | DOL and HHS will continue to provide information to consumers about the Mental Health Parity and Addiction Equity Act of 2008 through providing online resources and educating individuals on available mental health and substance use disorder resources. |
| Healthy Eating | Support breastfeeding, including implementing the breastfeeding provisions in the Affordable Care Act. | DOL, by administering section 7 of the Fair Labor Standards Act, ensures breastfeeding female employees of covered employers have reasonable break time and space (e.g., a place, other than a bathroom, shielded from view and free from intrusion from coworkers and the public) to express breast milk for their nursing children for one year after the child's birth. |
| Injury and Violence Free Living | Enhance enforcement of current safety regulations, provide training and technical assistance to improve worker safety, and empower workers to report health and safety concerns. | DOL is inspecting and responding to workplace violence to protect workers from workplace violence. |
| | | DOL will enhance enforcement of regulations, including designing outreach and education, to improve disease and injury prevention by focusing on mine operators' responsibilities to anticipate, recognize, and control mining hazards. |
| | DOL will reduce chronic lung diseases from mining exposures through improved enforcement, outreach, education, and stakeholder engagement. | |
| | Educate adults and youth on actions they can take to prevent injury at home, work, and school and in their communities. | DOL is working to ensure that youth enjoy positive work experiences that do not jeopardize their health, well-being, or education. |
| Reproductive and Sexual Health | Increase access to comprehensive preconception and prenatal care, especially for low-income and at-risk women. | DOL ensures that federal contractors and subcontractors are not discriminated against on the basis of pregnancy or medical conditions related to pregnancy and childbirth in employment decisions (e.g., hiring, firing, pay, benefits, job assignments, promotions, layoffs, job training, and recruitment). |

| Department of Labor | | |
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| National Prevention Strategy Strategic Direction/Priority | National Prevention Strategy Federal Actions | National Prevention Council Department Actions |
| Mental and Emotional Well-being | Support programs to ensure that employees have tools and resources needed to balance work and personal life and provide support and training to help them recognize co-workers in distress and respond accordingly. | DOL, by administering the Family and Medical Leave Act, provides workplace flexibilities to eligible employees of covered employers. These flexibilities enable employees to balance work and personal life when certain family and medical care necessities arise (e.g., serious health condition of the employee, their parent, child, or spouse, or for certain military family leave reasons). They provide unpaid, job-protected leave, with continuation of health insurance coverage, under the same terms and conditions as if an employee had not taken leave. |
| | Provide easy-to-use information about mental and emotional well-being for consumers, especially groups that experience unique stressors (e.g., U.S. Armed Forces, firefighters, police officers, and other emergency response workers). | DOL will raise awareness among employers, group health plans, and issuers about benefits under the Mental Health Parity Act and Mental Health Parity and Addiction Equity Act through outreach and training to promote mental health and well-being in the workplace. |

| Department of Transportation | | |
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| National Prevention Strategy Strategic Direction/Priority | National Prevention Strategy Federal Actions | National Prevention Council Department Actions |
| Empowered People | Support research and programs that help people make healthy choices (e.g., understand how choices should be presented). | DOT will provide consumer-friendly education materials on the DOT website to help consumers select particular child safety seats that have been shown to fit well in specific vehicles to reduce childhood deaths and injuries. |
| | Identify and map high-need areas that experience health disparities and align existing resources to meet these needs. | DOT will reach older adults who are at increased risk of injuries and fatalities by partnering with the private sector through programs such as the American Medical Association's curriculum on assessing and counseling older drivers and the work by the American Occupational Therapy Association to engage occupational therapists on addressing safe driving. |
| Elimination of Health Disparities | Develop and evaluate community-based interventions to reduce health disparities and health outcomes. | DOT has developed programs and activities, such as Parents Central, to reduce disparities in child passenger safety among high-risk populations, including low-income families and minorities to reduce childhood deaths and injuries. |

Department Action Items (by National Prevention Council Department as listed in Appendix 1)

| Department of Transportation | | |
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| National Prevention Strategy Strategic Direction/Priority | National Prevention Strategy Federal Actions | National Prevention Council Department Actions |
| Active Living | Promote the development of transportation options and systems that encourage active transportation and accommodate diverse needs. | DOT will promote a pedestrian safety education program for state agencies to educate older adults on pedestrian safety to promote safe, active living among this population. |
| | | DOT will encourage communities to provide safe and convenient facilities for active modes of transportation, such as increased bike lanes, in order to support livable communities and increase transportation options. |
| | | DOT will educate health stakeholders including federal, state, and community leaders about the planning and decision making process of transportation in order to expand active transportation opportunities. |
| | | DOT will encourage states to develop comprehensive Safe Routes to School programs to encourage and increase the number of children, including those with disabilities, walking and biking to school. |
| Injury and Violence Free Living | Support state, tribal, local, and territorial agencies in implementing, strengthening, and enforcing transportation safety policies and programs. | DOT will seek to increase seatbelt use by promoting high-visibility enforcement, nighttime enforcement, and programs targeting high-risk populations to reduce motor vehicle related fatalities and injuries. |
| | | DOT, in collaboration with HHS, is promoting increased use of ignition interlocks and close supervision of impaired driving offenders in order to prevent alcohol impaired driving crashes and related injuries and fatalities. |
| | | DOT will continue to provide a pedestrian and bicycle safety curriculum called “Walk and Bike Safely” for use by teachers and volunteers working with beginning English language learners to promote road safety. |
| | | DOT will continue to research the vehicular and human factors that lead to distracted driving, such as vehicle interfaces and portable devices, to build the evidence base on preventing injury and fatalities related to distracted driving. |
| | | DOT will continue to research strategies to improve motor vehicle safety through the Intelligent Transportation Systems program, which supports innovative vehicle safety research such as Vehicle to Vehicle (V2V) connectivity technologies. |
| Develop and test innovative and promising strategies to prevent injuries and violence. | Educate adults and youth on actions they can take to prevent injury at home, work, and school and in their communities. | DOT will conduct a multipronged effort to protect children from injuries that occur in and around passenger vehicles, including hyperthermia, driveway backovers, and trunk entrapments. |
| | | DOT will promote use of motorcycle and bicycle helmets by providing educational materials on the DOT website to help reduce the probability of death and serious injury among riders. |

| Department of Education | | |
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| National Prevention Strategy Strategic Direction/Priority | National Prevention Strategy Federal Actions | National Prevention Council Department Actions |
| Healthy and Safe Community Environments | Coordinate investments in transportation, housing, environmental protection, and community infrastructure to promote sustainable and healthy communities. | ED is supporting Promise Neighborhoods to combat the effects of poverty and provide high-quality opportunities to improve educational outcomes, ensuring children are healthy and have safe places to live, learn, and play. |
| | Enhance capacity of state, tribal, local, and territorial governments to create healthy, livable, and sustainable communities (e.g., increase access to healthy food and opportunities for physical activity, revitalize brownfields, enhance alternative transportation options, and develop green facilities and buildings). | ED will continue the ED-Green Ribbon Schools initiative to recognize exemplary achievement in schools that save energy, reduce costs, feature environmentally sustainable learning spaces, protect health, foster wellness, and offer environmental education. DOD and the Bureau of Indian Education are working with ED to recognize schools that exemplify achievement in reduced environmental impact, energy efficiency, healthy school environments and practices, and effective environmental and sustainability education that teaches science, technology, engineering, and math (STEM) and civic skills. |
| Active Living | Support coordinated, comprehensive, and multicomponent programs and policies to encourage physical activity and physical education, especially in schools and early learning centers. | ED proposes a streamlined Successful, Safe, and Healthy Students program to fund competitive grants to state educational agencies and high-need local educational agencies and their partners to develop and carry out programs and activities to improve school climate and students' physical health, mental health, and well-being so that students are able to focus on learning. |
| Mental and Emotional Well-being | Provide tools, guidance, and best practices to promote positive early childhood and youth development and prevent child abuse. | ED will continue its Race to the Top Early Learning Challenge grant competition supporting state-based efforts to increase the number and percentage of low-income and disadvantaged children enrolled early in high-quality, integrated learning programs and services. Those program and services follow the recommendations of the National Research Council's reports on early childhood to improve early learning and development programs for young children. |
| Environmental Protection Agency | | |
| National Prevention Strategy Strategic Direction/Priority | National Prevention Strategy Federal Actions | National Prevention Council Department Actions |
| Healthy and Safe Community Environments | Coordinate investments in transportation, housing, environmental protection, and community infrastructure to promote sustainable and healthy communities. | The HUD-DOT-EPA Partnership for Sustainable Communities is working to improve access to affordable housing, increase transportation options, and lower transportation costs while protecting the environment in communities nationwide. |
| Clinical and Community Preventive Services | Identify, pilot, and support strategies to reduce cardiovascular disease, including improving screening and treatment for high blood pressure and cholesterol. | EPA will create and conduct continuing education programs for health professionals on the health effects of air pollution on heart disease and stroke as part of the multi-agency Million Hearts™ initiative. |

Department Action Items (by National Prevention Council Department as listed in Appendix 1)

| Environmental Protection Agency | | |
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| National Prevention Strategy Strategic Direction/Priority | National Prevention Strategy Federal Actions | National Prevention Council Department Actions |
| Empowered People | Support research and programs that help people make healthy choices (e.g., understand how choices should be presented). | EPA will continue to conduct research to produce data, methods, and approaches that provide individuals, communities, and tribes with user-friendly tools and information that enable them to 1) more clearly identify issues and define problems associated with health equity and sustainability; 2) understand and communicate issues so they can create and implement effective policies and programs; and 3) increase their ability to make informed personal health choices for themselves and their children. |
| Elimination of Health Disparities | Support policies to reduce exposure to environmental and occupational hazards, especially among those at greatest risk. | EPA will work with the agencies in the Federal Interagency Working Group on Environmental Justice to support implementing environmental justice strategies that seek to reduce exposures to environmental risks and increase access to positive environmental and health benefits. |
| | Support and expand training programs that bring new and diverse workers into the health care and public health workforce. | EPA will support efforts to expand the integration of children's environmental health into health care provider education and practice. |
| Federal Trade Commission | | |
| National Prevention Strategy Strategic Direction/Priority | National Prevention Strategy Federal Actions | National Prevention Council Department Actions |
| Empowered People | Work to reduce false or misleading claims about the health benefits of products and services. | FTC will monitor, identify, and act when it finds marketers making misleading health benefit claims for their products to prevent consumer deception and reduce consumers' reliance on unproven remedies. |
| | Support research and programs that help people make healthy choices (e.g., understand how choices should be presented). | FTC will monitor and report on anticompetitive activity that delays or prevents market entry of low-cost generic drugs, to help ensure that consumers have access to competitive prescriptions. |
| | Support research and programs that help people make healthy choices (e.g., understand how choices should be presented). | FTC will maintain "Who Cares," an online resource to help consumers find reliable sources of information on health care topics, to help consumers avoid scams, find relevant agencies and organizations, and find out whom to contact if a health care product or service does not live up to its promises. |

Federal Trade Commission

| National Prevention Strategy Strategic Direction/Priority | National Prevention Strategy Federal Actions | National Prevention Council Department Actions |
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| Preventing Drug Abuse and Excessive Alcohol Use | Educate and inform consumers regarding the risks and benefits of regulated products using strategies appropriate to culture, language, and literacy skills (e.g., prescription drug safety and side effects, public health alerts, general information about safe and appropriate medication use). | FTC will continue to expand awareness of the FTC tool “We Don’t Serve Teens” (WDST) among states, industry, schools, and law enforcement to encourage them to distribute WDST campaign materials, including free stickers and radio ads, in their communities to reduce underage drinking, including binge drinking. |
| | Conduct ongoing, independent, and brand-specific monitoring of youth exposure to alcohol marketing in order to ensure compliance with advertising standards. | FTC will continue to promote improvements in voluntary alcohol industry guidelines of the beer, wine, and spirits industries relating to the placement and content of alcohol advertising, to better protect youth under 21 from exposure to alcohol marketing. |
| | | FTC will continue to monitor and report on alcohol industry self-regulatory efforts by requiring companies to report on expenditures and promotional activities to assess any changes in marketing practices, provide data for researchers, and inform recommendations. |
| Healthy Eating | Monitor marketing to children. | FTC will continue to monitor and report on the marketing of food to children (e.g., expenditures and promotional activities) to assess any changes in marketing practices, provide data for researchers, and inform recommendations. |

Department Action Items (by National Prevention Council Department as listed in Appendix 1)

| Department of Health and Human Services | | |
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| National Prevention Strategy Strategic Direction/Priority | National Prevention Strategy Federal Actions | National Prevention Council Department Actions |
| Healthy and Safe Community Environments | Increase availability and use of prevention research to identify effective environmental, policy, and systems that reduce chronic diseases, promote safety, and eliminate health disparities. | HHS is supporting and disseminating the results of evidence-based research through programs such as the Community Guide, the Prevention Research Centers, and Partnerships for Environmental Public Health and is increasing the use of evidence-based prevention research through programs such as the evidence-based Healthy Aging Program and Community Transformation Grants. |
| | Support state, tribal, local, and territorial partners to enhance epidemiology and laboratory capacity, health information technology, and performance improvement. | HHS will continue to enhance epidemiology and laboratory capacity to detect and respond to infectious disease outbreaks through the Epidemiology and Laboratory Capacity for Infectious Disease and the Emerging Infections Program Cooperative Agreements. |
| | | HHS is improving health information systems and accelerating national implementation of Electronic Laboratory Reporting (ELR) to improve the use and functionality of health information technology, resulting in more accurate data and measurement of health impact. |
| | | HHS will work with Regional Extension Centers and Quality Improvement Organizations to increase the number of meaningful users of health information technology to support prevention efforts and improve the quality of health data through systemwide process improvements at the community level. |
| | Support state, tribal, local, and territorial partners in strategic health security planning efforts for pandemics, biological and chemical attacks, incidents affecting food and agriculture, natural disasters, and other catastrophic events. | HHS will implement the National Health Security Strategy to improve public health and health care preparedness to promote a resilient nation that can prevent, protect, mitigate, respond to, and recover from all health threats. |
| | | HHS, in collaboration with USDA, is developing the National Voluntary Environmental Assessment Information System to identify factors contributing to foodborne outbreaks and help determine how to reduce the risk of foodborne illnesses associated with food-service establishments. |
| | | HHS, USDA, and other partners will maintain and enhance the national surveillance networks for foodborne diseases (e.g., Foodborne Diseases Active Surveillance Network [FoodNet], PulseNet, CaliciNet National Notifiable Diseases) to share information and address incidents of unsafe food released in commerce. |

Department of Health and Human Services

| National Prevention Strategy Strategic Direction/Priority | National Prevention Strategy Federal Actions | National Prevention Council Department Actions |
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| Clinical and Community Preventive Services | Support delivery of clinical preventive services in various health care and out-of-home care settings, including Federally Qualified Health Centers; Bureau of Prisons, Department of Defense, and Veterans Affairs facilities; and among Medicare providers. | HHS will continue to identify Medicare and Medicaid payment and delivery system models that promote access to and delivery of preventive services through Center for Medicare and Medicaid Innovation programs (e.g., the Federally Qualified Health Center Advanced Primary Care Practice Demonstration, Pioneer Accountable Care Organizations, and Comprehensive Primary Care Initiative), and evaluate the outcomes. |
| | Improve monitoring capacity for quality and performance of recommended clinical preventive services. | HHS will implement the National Quality Strategy, catalyzing national, state, and local efforts to improve health care quality focused on common aims, priorities, and goals to ensure that all patients receive the right care including recommended clinical preventive services, at the right time, in the right setting, every time. |
| | Identify, pilot, and support strategies to reduce cardiovascular disease, including improving screening and treatment for high blood pressure and cholesterol. | HHS will continue to support the Million Hearts™ initiative, which aims to reduce tobacco use, promote healthy eating, and improve medication adherence to prevent 1 million heart attacks and strokes by December 2017. |
| | Encourage older adults to seek a free annual Medicare wellness visit, a new benefit provided by the Affordable Care Act. | HHS is promoting the Medicare annual wellness visit through consumer education and outreach events with partners (such as a wellness bus tour), as well as by building awareness of the annual wellness visit among providers. |
| | Educate clinicians, federal employees, and the public (especially those in underserved populations) about coverage improvements and elimination of cost-sharing for clinical preventive services as set forth in the Affordable Care Act. | <p>HHS is continuing to develop materials for HealthCare.gov, which provides easy-to-use information for consumers in both English and Spanish, to improve consumers' understanding of new coverage options and consumer benefits made available through the Affordable Care Act.</p> <p>HHS is working to inform clinicians and providers about the preventive service provisions of the Affordable Care Act through educational materials and other outreach to promote the available benefits. These efforts include a media campaign to generate broad awareness of preventive benefits and encourage people to use them for better health.</p> |

Department Action Items (by National Prevention Council Department as listed in Appendix 1)

| Department of Health and Human Services | | |
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| National Prevention Strategy Strategic Direction/Priority | National Prevention Strategy Federal Actions | National Prevention Council Department Actions |
| Clinical and Community Preventive Services (cont.) | Encourage adoption of certified electronic health record technology that meets Meaningful Use criteria, particularly those that use clinical decision supports and registry functionality, send reminders to patients for preventive and follow-up care, provide patients with timely access to their health information (e.g., lab results, discharge instructions), identify resources available to patients, and incorporate privacy and security functions (e.g., encrypting health information to keep it secure, generating audit logs to record actions). | <p>HHS, through the Health Information Exchange program, supports the aim of seamless data interchange between clinical providers, laboratories, and public health officials by providing the infrastructure needed to implement and enable data exchange.</p> <p>HHS will continue to use the Standards and Interoperability Framework, which enables data exchange by defining data standards to ensure high-quality patient care, including providing clinical preventive services.</p> |
| | Improve use of patient-centered medical homes and community health teams, which are supported by the Affordable Care Act. | HHS will expand the use of patient-centered medical homes by supporting innovative care models (such as the Comprehensive Primary Care Initiative, the Federally Qualified Health Center [FQHC], Advanced Primary Care Practice Demonstration, and Medicaid Home Health) designed to improve care planning, coordination, and delivery. |
| | Promote and expand research efforts to identify high-priority clinical and community preventive services and test innovative strategies to support delivery of these services. | HHS continues to educate Americans about evidence-based clinical and community preventive programs, services, and policies supported by the U.S. Preventive Services Task Force and the Community Preventive Services Task Force through websites such as HealthCare.gov and healthfinder.gov. |
| | | To identify high-priority preventive services and support the delivery of preventive services, HHS will conduct research through initiatives such as the Health Care Innovation Challenge and Centers for Excellence in Clinical Preventive Services and support evaluation strategies through efforts such as the Community Transformation Grants. |
| | Develop new and improved vaccines, enhance understanding of the safety of vaccines and vaccination practices, support informed vaccine decision making, and improve access to and better use of recommended vaccines. | HHS will implement the National Vaccine Plan, a comprehensive strategy to enhance all aspects of vaccines and vaccination including research and development, supply, financing, distribution, safety, informed decision making by consumers and health care providers, surveillance of vaccine-preventable diseases, monitoring of vaccine effectiveness and use, and global cooperation. |
| | Research complementary and alternative medicine strategies to determine effectiveness and how they can be better integrated into clinical preventive care. | HHS is supporting basic, translational, efficacy, and effectiveness research on complementary interventions and approaches to advance the science and practice of symptom management, as well as enable better evidence-based decision making regarding the use of complementary approaches and their integration into clinical preventive care. |

| Department of Health and Human Services | | |
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| National Prevention Strategy Strategic Direction/Priority | National Prevention Strategy Federal Actions | National Prevention Council Department Actions |
| Empowered People | Identify and address barriers to the dissemination and use of reliable health information. | HHS will implement the National Action Plan to Improve Health Literacy, promoting and encouraging departmental activities to identify and address barriers to sharing and using reliable health information. An example is providing Americans information about Alzheimer’s disease by creating a new website, alzheimers.gov, a one-stop resource for patients and families. |
| | Support research and programs that help people make healthy choices (e.g., understand how choices should be presented). | HHS is empowering consumers to make healthier choices through initiatives aimed at healthy eating (e.g., increasing access to healthy food through farmers’ markets), tobacco free living (e.g., the release of a public media campaign, increased promotion of cessation programs), physical activity (e.g., encouraging walking to school), and other healthy behaviors. |
| | | HHS will continue comprehensive and integrated worksite wellness programming, such as the Affordable Care Act funded National Healthy Worksite™ program, to support employee wellness efforts and provide tools that can lower employee health risks. |
| Elimination of Health Disparities | Identify and map high-need areas that experience health disparities and align existing resources to meet these needs. | Consistent with the HHS Action Plan to Reduce Racial and Ethnic Health Disparities, HHS will identify high-density health disparity areas throughout the United States and will use this information to assess HHS policies and programs and inform efforts to reduce disparities. |
| | Increase the availability of de-identified national health data to better address the needs of underrepresented population groups. | HHS is implementing new standards to enhance data collection for race and ethnicity and has standardized data collection requirements for sex, primary language, and disability status where appropriate. New standards will improve data estimates on health outcomes in disparity and underrepresented populations. |
| | Develop and evaluate community-based interventions to reduce health disparities and health outcomes. | HHS is implementing the first ever Action Plan to Reduce Racial and Ethnic Health Disparities, outlining specific goals and actions to advance health equity for racial and ethnic minorities. The action plan promotes integrated, evidence-based strategies to address health disparities such as state, tribal, territorial, and community-based projects that give special consideration to health equity, environmental justice, and health across the life stages and support the implementation of <i>Healthy People 2020</i> . |
| | | HHS supports community-led programs such as Community Transformation Grants and community engagement activities to promote participation in prevention, health education, and other efforts to reduce health disparities. |

Department Action Items (by National Prevention Council Department as listed in Appendix 1)

| Department of Health and Human Services | | |
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| National Prevention Strategy Strategic Direction/Priority | National Prevention Strategy Federal Actions | National Prevention Council Department Actions |
| Elimination of Health Disparities (cont.) | Support and expand training programs that bring new and diverse workers into the health care and public health workforce. | HHS recruits health care providers in underserved areas through the National Health Service Corps and supports training programs through public health fellowship programs, such as the Epidemic Intelligence Service and Public Health Prevention Service, to increase the capacity of the health care and public health workforces. |
| | Support health center service delivery sites in medically underserved areas and place primary care providers in communities with shortages. | With funding from the Affordable Care Act, HHS will support health centers and National Health Service Corps providers to ensure access to primary care services in underserved areas. |
| | Increase dissemination and use of evidence-based health literacy practices and interventions. | HHS will continue to support sharing and using evidence-based health literacy practices and interventions through programs (such as the Occupational Health Disparities program), websites (such as the CDC health literacy website), trainings, conferences, and activities to promote prevention and eliminate health disparities. |
| Tobacco Free Living | Support states, tribes, and communities to implement tobacco control interventions and policies. | HHS will continue to enforce tobacco advertising and youth promotion restrictions as well as work with states to enforce age compliance checks. HHS will continue to support states, tribes, and communities through the National Tobacco Control Program, which works to prevent initiation, promote quitting, eliminate disparities among population groups, and eliminate exposure to secondhand smoke through population-based community interventions, counter-marketing, and data collection. |
| | Promote utilization of smoking cessation benefits by federal employees, Medicare and Medicaid beneficiaries, and active duty and military retirees. | HHS will launch a tobacco website that provides users a single source of information on how to access available cessation resources to increase the use of such resources. |
| | Make cessation services more accessible and available by implementing applicable provisions of the Affordable Care Act, including in government health care delivery sites. | HHS is working with partners to implement the expanded tobacco screening and cessation services now covered under the Affordable Care Act, including screening and cessation interventions for adults, expanded counseling for pregnant tobacco users, and full coverage for tobacco cessation services for pregnant women in states' Medicaid programs. |
| | | HHS will continue to match 50 percent of the states' cost of providing tobacco cessation telephone quitline services for Medicaid patients to support convenient delivery of such services and maximize successful tobacco cessation rates. |

| Department of Health and Human Services | | |
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| National Prevention Strategy Strategic Direction/Priority | National Prevention Strategy Federal Actions | National Prevention Council Department Actions |
| Tobacco Free Living (cont.) | Implement the warnings mandated to appear on cigarette packages and in cigarette advertisements to include new textual warning statements and color graphics depicting the negative health consequences of tobacco use, as required by the Tobacco Control Act. | HHS announced the final rules requiring larger, more prominent cigarette health warning labels with accompanying color graphics in June 2011. |
| | Research tobacco use and the effectiveness of tobacco control interventions. | HHS is supporting the Population Assessment of Tobacco and Health (PATH) Study, a large-scale national longitudinal cohort study examining the factors that make people susceptible to tobacco product use and evaluating use patterns and resulting health problems. |
| | Encourage clinicians and health care facilities to record smoking status (for patients age 13 years or older) and to report on the core clinical quality measure for smoking cessation counseling, in accordance with the Medicare and Medicaid Electronic Health Records Incentive Program. | HHS will continue to include measures in its quality reporting programs that promote the assessment and treatment of smoking in adolescents and adults. |
| Preventing Drug Abuse and Excessive Alcohol Use | Enhance linkages between drug prevention, substance abuse, mental health, and juvenile and criminal justice agencies to develop and disseminate effective models of prevention and care coordination. | HHS is working with DOJ and community-based service providers through programs such as Drug Court programs, the 12 Cities HIV Program, the Screening, Brief Intervention, and Referral to Treatment (SBIRT) program, and the Primary and Behavioral Health Care Integration program, all of which are intended to improve the integration of substance abuse and mental health screening in programs that serve high risk communities. |
| | Educate health care professionals on proper opioid prescribing, Screening, Brief Intervention, and Referral to Treatment (SBIRT), and effective use of prescription drug monitoring programs. | Through curricula development and programs such as those aimed at medical residency training, HHS will support increased use of Screening, Brief Intervention, and Referral to Treatment (SBIRT) for alcohol abuse and misuse to reduce excessive alcohol consumption and alcohol-related deaths. HHS is educating health care providers about preventing prescription painkiller overdoses and is developing educational materials for prescribers and patients on the appropriate use and disposal of pain relievers through programs such as the Opioid Risk Evaluation and Mitigation Strategies program. |
| | Promote implementation of interoperable state prescription drug monitoring programs. | HHS is working to expand the interoperability of Prescription Drug Monitoring Programs and has completed recommendations for data content and vocabulary standards, information usability and presentation, and transport and architecture. |

Department Action Items (by National Prevention Council Department as listed in Appendix 1)

| Department of Health and Human Services | | |
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| National Prevention Strategy Strategic Direction/Priority | National Prevention Strategy Federal Actions | National Prevention Council Department Actions |
| Healthy Eating | Work to ensure that foods purchased, distributed, or served in federal programs and settings meet standards consistent with the Dietary Guidelines for Americans. | HHS is implementing the HHS/GSA Health and Sustainability Guidelines for Federal Concessions and Vending Operations as a means of empowering employees to make healthy choices. |
| | Improve agricultural policies to better align with the nutrition goals of the Dietary Guidelines for Americans. | HHS and USDA will address the availability of healthy food in underserved communities through program strategies (e.g., farmers markets, farm stands, community gardens, and community supported agriculture) to help individuals meet nutritional goals outlined in the <i>Dietary Guidelines for Americans, 2010</i> . |
| | Strengthen the nation's comprehensive food safety system. | HHS will ensure a food safety system that includes rigorous standards for food safety, data collection and analysis for effective food safety inspections, and tools to help prevent or quickly identify and stop outbreaks. |
| | Implement the menu labeling provisions of the Affordable Care Act to help provide consistent facts about food choices in chain restaurants. | HHS has issued proposed rules on the provisions of the Affordable Care Act on nutrition labeling in chain restaurants and vending machines to support consumer access to nutrition information on foods consumed outside the home. |
| | Support breastfeeding, including implementing the breastfeeding provisions in the Affordable Care Act. | HHS is implementing policies and programs such as the Baby-Friendly Hospital initiative and the Breastfeeding Report Card to improve maternity care, support breastfeeding, and increase the number of Baby-Friendly Hospitals. |
| Active Living | Support coordinated, comprehensive, and multicomponent programs and policies to encourage physical activity and physical education, especially in schools and early learning centers. | HHS supports the President's Council on Fitness, Sports, and Nutrition by promoting the Presidential Active Lifestyle Award and supports <i>Healthy People 2020's</i> national objectives for early and middle childhood and physical activity. HHS will incorporate physical activity recommendations and opportunities into the program performance standards for Head Start and Early Head Start. |
| | Develop and disseminate clinical guidelines, best practices, and tools on increasing physical activity and reducing the number of overweight and obese individuals. | HHS will disseminate tools and resources to promote the 2008 Physical Activity Guidelines for Americans and support parents, caregivers, and communities as part of the We Can! (Ways to Enhance Children's Activity & Nutrition) program to help children maintain a healthy weight. HHS will continue to bring together teams from primary care, public health, and community-based organizations to identify, test, and evaluate evidence-based program and policy changes to prevent and treat obesity and overweight. |
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| Department of Health and Human Services | | |
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| National Prevention Strategy Strategic Direction/Priority | National Prevention Strategy Federal Actions | National Prevention Council Department Actions |
| Injury and Violence Free Living | Develop and test innovative and promising strategies to prevent injuries and violence. | HHS is supporting evaluation and research of violence and injury prevention programs, including developing collaborative strategies to reduce falls in the older population, supporting evidence-based violence prevention initiatives, and evaluating state and local injury prevention programs. |
| | Educate adults and youth on actions they can take to prevent injury at home, work, and school and in their communities. | HHS has released the National Action Plan for Child Injury Prevention, which informs national and local efforts to reduce the burden of injury among children. HHS will continue to support and improve outreach efforts in injury and violence prevention through efforts such as the “Protect the Ones You Love” and “Heads Up” initiatives. |
| Reproductive and Sexual Health | Increase access to comprehensive preconception and prenatal care, especially for low-income and at-risk women. | HHS will continue to support the Maternal and Child Health Services Block Grant Program, the Health Center Program, and the Title X Family Planning program, which provide access to care (from preconception through postpartum) for low-income and at-risk women. |
| | Research and disseminate ways to effectively prevent premature birth, birth defects, and Sudden Infant Death Syndrome (SIDS). | HHS, through the Strong Start initiative, is testing and evaluating enhanced prenatal care for low-income women at risk for having a preterm birth. HHS will implement the Sudden Unexpected Infant Death (SUID) initiative, aimed at improving the investigation and reporting of Sudden Infant Death Syndrome (SIDS) and other SUID, to monitor trends and identify those at risk in order to prevent SUID. |
| | Support states, tribes, and communities to implement evidence-based sexual health education. | HHS, through the Personal Responsibility and Education Program, will support state efforts to provide evidence-based sexual health education to reduce teen pregnancy rates. |
| | Promote and disseminate national screening recommendations for HIV and other STIs. | HHS will continue to implement the Action Plan for the Prevention, Care, and Treatment of Viral Hepatitis, which focuses on preventing viral hepatitis, increasing the proportion of people who are aware of their infections, and improving access to care and treatment. HHS will promote HIV and STI screenings that follow evidence-based guidelines at federally supported health centers and through outreach campaigns (such as Testing Makes Us Stronger; One Test, Two Lives; Take Charge, Take the Test) to reduce risks among sexually active individuals. |
| | Promote and disseminate best practices and tools to reduce behavioral risk factors (e.g., sexual violence, alcohol and other drug use) that contribute to high rates of HIV/STIs and teen pregnancy. | HHS will integrate HIV screening and prevention services into substance abuse treatment programs as appropriate to improve health outcomes. HHS supports the replication of evidence-based models to reduce teen pregnancies, STIs, and sexual risk behaviors. |

Department Action Items (by National Prevention Council Department as listed in Appendix 1)

| Department of Health and Human Services | | |
|---|---|--|
| National Prevention Strategy Strategic Direction/Priority | National Prevention Strategy Federal Actions | National Prevention Council Department Actions |
| Reproductive and Sexual Health (cont.) | Encourage HIV testing and treatment, align programs to better identify people living with HIV, and link those who test positive to care. | HHS will continue to implement the National HIV/AIDS Strategy, which focuses on reducing new HIV infections through screening and targeted prevention and on improving support for people living with HIV by increasing access to and retention in high-quality care. |
| | Research and disseminate effective methods to prevent intimate partner violence and sexual violence. | HHS will use data from the National Intimate Partner and Sexual Violence Survey to inform intimate partner and domestic violence prevention programs across the country. HHS will promote interpersonal violence screening and counseling, as recommended under the Institute of Medicine Guidelines on Women's Preventive Services. |
| Mental and Emotional Well-being | Improve access to high-quality mental health services and facilitate integration of mental health services into a range of clinical and community settings (e.g., Federally Qualified Health Centers, Bureau of Prisons, Department of Defense, and Veterans Affairs facilities). | HHS will work with states, territories, and tribal governments to integrate mental health services and promote the expansion of behavioral health services in clinics, communities and health care settings, especially those that serve youth, tribal communities, and military families. |
| | Support programs to ensure that employees have tools and resources needed to balance work and personal life and provide support and training to help them recognize co-workers in distress and respond accordingly. | HHS is working with employers and partners to promote and implement the <i>Employer's Guide to Emotional Wellness</i> and the <i>Employer's Guide to Behavioral Health Services</i> to ensure that employees have access to tools and resources for balancing their work and personal lives. |
| | Provide tools, guidance, and best practices to promote positive early childhood and youth development and prevent child abuse. | HHS will promote prevention programs for child and family service settings that support healthy development and reduce exposure to violence and risk factors for trauma, such as Project Launch, Safe Schools/Healthy Students, and Triple P–Positive Parenting Program®. HHS provides tools, such as <i>Preventing Child Maltreatment and Promoting Well-Being: A Network for Action 2012 Resource Guide</i> , to service providers working with parents, caregivers, and their children to strengthen families and prevent child abuse and neglect. |
| | Provide easy-to-use information about mental and emotional well-being for consumers, especially groups that experience unique stressors (e.g., U.S. Armed Forces, firefighters, police officers, and other emergency response workers). | HHS, through their Strategic Initiative on Public Awareness and Support, is disseminating evidence-based and emerging information and working with partners through the Outreach Partnership Program to address the mental health needs within high-risk populations. |
| | Research policies and programs that enhance mental and emotional well-being, especially for potentially vulnerable populations. | HHS supports translational and health services research to better prevent and treat mental illness and to promote dissemination and implementation of evidence-based interventions. |
| | | |

Department of Housing and Urban Development

| National Prevention Strategy Strategic Direction/Priority | National Prevention Strategy Federal Actions | National Prevention Council Department Actions |
|--|---|--|
| Healthy and Safe Community Environments | Coordinate investments in transportation, housing, environmental protection, and community infrastructure to promote sustainable and healthy communities. | HUD will encourage recipients of Sustainable Communities Regional Planning Grants and Community Challenge Grants to evaluate planning and development investments for potential to promote access to affordable communities and active and healthy living. |
| | Support healthy housing while addressing unsafe housing conditions and health-related hazards, including injury hazards, asthma triggers, and lead-based paint hazards. | HUD addresses residential health hazards, including unsafe conditions that may result in injury, asthma triggers, and lead-based paint hazards, through housing intervention grants awarded under its Lead Hazard Control and Healthy Homes Production grant programs. |
| | Use housing development subsidies to promote mixed-income neighborhoods and access to safe and healthy housing. | HUD will encourage Choice Neighborhoods grantees to focus on health in their communities by incorporating health-related metrics in their evaluations and will encourage HUD grantees to collaborate with local public health agencies to implement neighborhood revitalization plans. |
| | | HUD is working with HHS to implement initiatives, such as Section 811 Supportive Housing for Persons with Disabilities program, that help older adults and persons with disabilities live in healthy and safe community settings or transition from institutions to independent living in community settings that prevent injuries and support positive physical and mental health. |
| | | HUD and HHS will continue to coordinate the provision of appropriate housing and services to people experiencing homelessness or at risk of homelessness by 1) aligning resources to ensure that persons who become homeless can be quickly rehoused and receive necessary resources; 2) using administrative data sources to better understand the intersection between homelessness and health and human service program usage; 3) conducting joint research to better understand the value of housing and services; and 4) developing and testing homelessness prevention initiatives that can be linked to existing programs designed to serve low-income populations with an increased risk of homelessness (e.g., Temporary Assistance for Needy Families, child welfare) to reduce housing instability and improve health and quality of life for individuals and families experiencing homelessness or at risk for homelessness. |

Department Action Items (by National Prevention Council Department as listed in Appendix 1)

| Department of Housing and Urban Development | | |
|---|--|---|
| National Prevention Strategy Strategic Direction/Priority | National Prevention Strategy Federal Actions | National Prevention Council Department Actions |
| Clinical and Community Preventive Services | Promote and expand research efforts to identify high-priority clinical and community preventive services and test innovative strategies to support delivery of these services. | <p>HUD will support research and program evaluations that provide evidence linking HUD investments in housing remediation, neighborhood revitalization, and housing assistance programs to health promotion and disease prevention including studies of 1) home interventions to reduce asthma symptoms and injuries and improve outcomes for vulnerable populations; 2) neighborhood revitalization investments such as Choice Neighborhoods; 3) the effect of housing and related household decisions on childhood development; and 4) housing assistance for homeless and older adult populations in order to produce evidence showing how HUD investments in housing remediation, neighborhood revitalization, and housing assistance programs promote health and prevent disease.</p> <p>HUD will collaborate with HHS to develop health profiles of HUD-assisted households to identify effective combinations of programs and services to improve the health and quality of life of residents.</p> |
| Elimination of Health Disparities | Identify and map high-need areas that experience health disparities and align existing resources to meet these needs. | HUD, in collaboration with HHS, VA, and other agencies, will identify activities that increase access of persons living with HIV/AIDS to housing and other nonmedical support services (e.g., mental health, substance abuse, and support services) as part of its efforts to implement the National HIV/AIDS Strategy and improve coordination, leverage resources, and engage local partners. |
| Tobacco Free Living | Support states, tribes, and communities to implement tobacco control interventions and policies. | HUD is partnering with HHS to encourage the adoption and implementation of smoke free multi-unit housing policies among Public Housing Agencies by developing toolkits with information about smoke free living and identifying and disseminating best practices in the creation of smoke free housing. |

Office of National Drug Control Policy

| National Prevention Strategy Strategic Direction/Priority | National Prevention Strategy Federal Actions | National Prevention Council Department Actions |
|---|---|---|
| Clinical and Community Preventive Services | Support delivery of clinical preventive services in various health care and out-of-home care settings, including Federally Qualified Health Centers; Bureau of Prisons, Department of Defense, and Veterans Affairs facilities; and among Medicare providers. | ONDCP will collaborate with HHS to support the integration of the Screening, Brief Intervention, and Referral to Treatment (SBIRT) program into health care settings, disseminate information about SBIRT to a wide variety of health care settings, highlight model programs that are using SBIRT, and encourage training opportunities for the allied health professions. |
| Preventing Drug Abuse and Excessive Alcohol Use | Foster development of a nationwide community-based prevention system involving state, tribal, local, and territorial governments and partners such as schools, health and social service systems, law enforcement, faith communities, local businesses, and neighborhood organizations. | ONDCP will continue to provide grants to local coalitions nationwide through its Drug Free Communities support program, a program developed to provide resources to community-based coalitions to develop data-driven strategic plans that increase community collaboration to reduce youth substance use. |
| | Educate health care professionals on proper opioid prescribing, SBIRT, and effective use of prescription drug monitoring programs. | ONDCP will continue collaborating with HHS to issue and implement a Surgeon General's Call to Action on Prescription Drug Abuse Among Youth as part of fulfillment of the National Drug Control Strategy. |
| | Further investigate and heighten attention to issues related to driving under the influence of illicit and prescription drugs. | ONDCP will work with HHS on developing testing standards to detect drug use among drivers to facilitate the enforcement of existing drugged driving laws. ONDCP will collaborate with DOT on drugged driving data collection to understand and improve strategies to prevent drugged driving. |

Department of Agriculture

| National Prevention Strategy Strategic Direction/Priority | National Prevention Strategy Federal Actions | National Prevention Council Department Actions |
|---|--|---|
| Healthy and Safe Community Environments | Support state, tribal, local, and territorial partners to enhance epidemiology and laboratory capacity, health information technology, and performance improvement. | USDA will continue to collaborate with HHS to address foodborne illnesses, linking state and local governments, and facilitate communication and decision making in emergency outbreaks. USDA, in collaboration with the Food Emergency Response Network (co-chaired by USDA and HHS), will disseminate information regarding standards for federal, state, local, and industry laboratory testing and results to promote consistency and strengthen the food safety system. |
| | Support state, tribal, local, and territorial partners in strategic health security planning efforts for pandemics, biological and chemical attacks, incidents affecting food and agriculture, natural disasters, and other catastrophic events. | USDA, along with HHS, will train health specialists to better assess foodborne outbreak response and will also provide technical assistance to organizations in support of their food safety training efforts. |
| | | USDA and HHS have developed high-level priority goals to reduce the rate of illnesses from certain high-risk pathogens in the population, especially salmonella. |

Department Action Items (by National Prevention Council Department as listed in Appendix 1)

| Department of Agriculture | | |
|---|--|--|
| National Prevention Strategy Strategic Direction/Priority | National Prevention Strategy Federal Actions | National Prevention Council Department Actions |
| Empowered People | Identify and address barriers to the dissemination and use of reliable health information. | USDA is collaborating with states to improve health information by conducting outreach and education at retail sites on contamination of meat and poultry to help prevent foodborne illnesses at the retail level. |
| | Use plain language in health information for the public in alignment with the Plain Writing Act. | USDA will continue to engage in public education efforts regarding food safety by using web-based (FoodSafety.gov) and social media platforms to communicate food safety issues to the public. This engagement includes an improved alert system for consumers to receive food safety information, such as notification of food recalls. |
| | Support research and evaluation studies that examine health literacy factors in the study of other issues (e.g., patient safety, emergency preparedness, health care costs). | USDA will use consumer research to determine public understanding of product labeling and other health messages to enhance outreach and education programs in order to encourage healthier and safer food handling and ultimately contribute to preventing foodborne illness. |
| | Support research and programs that help people make healthy choices (e.g., understand how choices should be presented). | USDA will continue to support human nutrition research programs to continue building the evidence base on the role of nutrition and physical activity in preventing obesity and chronic disease in the United States. |
| | | USDA and The Ad Council, in partnership with HHS, will continue to support a national multimedia campaign called Food Safe Families, to raise awareness of the risks of food-related illnesses and motivate consumers to act to reduce their risk of food-related illnesses by learning about safer food handling. |
| Elimination of Health Disparities | Identify and map high-need areas that experience health disparities and align existing resources to meet these needs. | USDA will invest in rural health care facilities, providing discretionary state director and administrator priority scoring points to projects within persistent poverty areas, colonies, and tribal communities in order to help eliminate health disparities in the United States. |

| Department of Agriculture | | |
|---|---|--|
| National Prevention Strategy Strategic Direction/Priority | National Prevention Strategy Federal Actions | National Prevention Council Department Actions |
| Healthy Eating | Work to ensure that foods purchased, distributed, or served in federal programs and settings meet standards consistent with the Dietary Guidelines for Americans. | USDA will work with states and local schools to align school meals to new nutrition standards in the National School Lunch Program and the School Breakfast Program, which were completed in January 2012 and based on the <i>Dietary Guidelines for Americans, 2010</i> . Doing so will ensure that the meals properly support good nutrition and a healthy weight for America's school children. |
| | Strengthen the nation's comprehensive food safety system. | USDA and HHS are developing methods to better document and attribute foodborne illnesses to regulated food products to improve agency understanding of the products that pose the greatest risk to the public's health and identify ways to reduce that risk. |
| | Support initiatives to increase the availability of healthy and affordable foods in underserved urban, rural, and frontier communities. | USDA will improve access to healthy food from local and regional food systems by supporting school cafeterias, food banks and pantries, community kitchens, farmers markets, and community gardens to help Americans achieve a healthy diet. |
| | Provide information, tools, and expertise to help Americans understand and apply the Dietary Guidelines for Americans (e.g., MyPlate). | USDA will implement effective evidence-based strategies through national outreach such as Cooperative Extension and Expanded Food and Nutrition Education programs to help those with limited resources acquire the knowledge and skills, necessary for nutritionally sound diets. |
| | | USDA will work with HHS to implement and translate the <i>Dietary Guidelines for Americans, 2010</i> through tools and resources for nutrition educators, health professionals, and consumers to support healthy food choices and physical activity. |
| | Implement programs and regulations to increase access to healthy food and eliminate food insecurity (e.g., Healthy Hunger-Free Kids Act and USDA HealthierUS School Challenge). | USDA is working with schools across the nation to increase the number of schools certified under the HealthierUS School Challenge, a voluntary initiative recognizing schools that have created healthier school environments by promoting nutrition and physical activity, to help raise a healthier generation of kids. |
| | Improve and expand the use of existing food and nutrition systems to track changes in eating patterns and conduct research to identify effective approaches. | USDA will conduct the national nutrition dietary survey, i.e. "USDA's What We Eat in America/National Health and Nutrition Examination Survey (NHANES)," to evaluate food and nutrient consumption and eating patterns of Americans. |
| Active Living | Support adoption of active living principles in community design, such as mixed land use, compact design, and inclusion of safe and accessible parks and green space. | USDA will engage diverse and underserved communities through programs such as "National Get Outdoors Day" and "National Public Lands Day" and plan to increase participation in healthful outdoor recreation activities and support active living. |

Department Action Items (by National Prevention Council Department as listed in Appendix 1)

| Department of Veterans Affairs | | |
|---|--|--|
| National Prevention Strategy Strategic Direction/Priority | National Prevention Strategy Federal Actions | National Prevention Council Department Actions |
| Healthy and Safe Community Environments | Use housing development subsidies to promote mixed-income neighborhoods and access to safe and healthy housing. | VA, in collaboration with HUD, will provide permanent housing and ongoing case management treatment services through the Supportive Housing initiative (HUD-VASH) to support homeless veterans. |
| | Support delivery of clinical preventive services in various health care and out-of-home care settings, including Federally Qualified Health Centers; Bureau of Prisons, Department of Defense, and Veterans Affairs facilities; and among Medicare providers. | VA will implement Clinical Preventive Services Guidance Statements with recommendations for screening, counseling, immunizations, and preventive medications to support the delivery of clinical preventive services to veterans. |
| Clinical and Community Preventive Services | Improve monitoring capacity for quality and performance of recommended clinical preventive services. | VA will continue to monitor many clinical preventive services, report results on a monthly basis to medical facility leadership, and address issues related to these services as needed. |
| | Encourage adoption of certified electronic health record technology that meets Meaningful Use criteria, particularly those that use clinical decision supports and registry functionality, send reminders to patients for preventive and follow-up care, provide patients with timely access to their health information (e.g., lab results, discharge instructions), identify resources available to patients, and incorporate privacy and security functions (e.g., encrypting health information to keep it secure, generating audit logs to record actions). | VA will provide veterans (whose identity has been verified) with access to their lab results, wellness reminders, and other health information in their medical records securely within the veteran web portal called My HealtheVet. This portal will provide veterans access to key portions of their electronic medical information. |
| | Improve use of patient-centered medical homes and community health teams, which are supported by the Affordable Care Act. | VA will implement a model of patient-centered medical homes, called Patient Aligned Care Teams (PACT), throughout the VA health care system in order to provide accessible, coordinated, comprehensive, patient-centered care for veterans. |
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| Department of Veterans Affairs | | |
|---|--|--|
| National Prevention Strategy Strategic Direction/Priority | National Prevention Strategy Federal Actions | National Prevention Council Department Actions |
| Empowered People | Identify and address barriers to the dissemination and use of reliable health information. | VA will implement an online Veterans Health Library within the My HealtheVet web portal, which will include veteran-focused information on a range of health topics that has been vetted by VA subject matter experts, to provide veterans with evidence-based, reliable, useful health information. |
| | Support research and programs that help people make healthy choices (e.g., understand how choices should be presented). | VA will implement a “Healthy Living” Communication Campaign for veterans with messages about eating wisely, being physically active, being tobacco free, being safe, limiting alcohol, getting recommended screening tests and immunizations, managing stress, striving for a healthy weight, and being involved in one’s health care to support veterans’ making healthy choices. |
| | | VA will support home-based telehealth services for weight management through home telehealth devices and interactive voice response systems to improve access to care for those not easily able to be seen in clinic visits. |
| Tobacco Free Living | Make cessation services more accessible and available by implementing applicable provisions of the Affordable Care Act, including in government health care delivery sites. | VA will support the delivery of evidence-based, effective tobacco cessation counseling to tobacco users through training of health care providers, screening patients for tobacco use, offering a variety of cessation services, and monitoring tobacco cessation processes to encourage and support smoking cessation efforts of veterans who use tobacco products. |
| Healthy Eating | Work to ensure that foods purchased, distributed, or served in federal programs and settings meet standards consistent with the Dietary Guidelines for Americans. | VA is implementing a policy requiring food served in VA medical facilities, cafeterias, canteens, and vending machines to meet nutrition standards, such as providing nutritional information and labeling and appropriate portion sizes, and is supporting the development of teaching kitchens for veterans in order to support healthy eating practices. |
| Active Living | Develop and disseminate clinical guidelines, best practices, and tools on increasing physical activity and reducing the number of overweight and obese individuals. | VA will implement the MOVE! Weight Management Program for Veterans for those who are obese or overweight through individual and group visits, telephone-based coaching, home telehealth, and web-based services to help veterans lose weight, keep it off, and improve their health. |
| Injury and Violence Free Living | Enhance enforcement of current safety regulations, provide training and technical assistance to improve worker safety, and empower workers to report health and safety concerns. | VA will implement a program for safe patient handling, including staff protocols and tools, in all Veterans Health Administration facilities in order to decrease musculoskeletal injuries among employees. |

Department Action Items (by National Prevention Council Department as listed in Appendix 1)

| Department of Veterans Affairs | | |
|---|---|--|
| National Prevention Strategy Strategic Direction/Priority | National Prevention Strategy Federal Actions | National Prevention Council Department Actions |
| Reproductive and Sexual Health | Increase access to comprehensive preconception and prenatal care, especially for low-income and at-risk women. | With the partnership of the VA/DOD Pregnancy Working Group, VA will continue to provide patient and evidence-based clinician education in support of quality preconception and prenatal care. |
| | Promote and disseminate national screening recommendations for HIV and other STIs. | VA will promote screening for HIV, hepatitis, and other sexually transmitted infections through print, web-based, and in-person patient and clinician education to support testing and treatment of these conditions. |
| Mental and Emotional Well-being | Improve access to high-quality mental health services and facilitate integration of mental health services into a range of clinical and community settings (e.g., Federally Qualified Health Centers, Bureau of Prisons, Department of Defense, and Veterans Affairs facilities). | VA will continue to provide a best practice for suicide prevention through the National Veterans Crisis Line, a 24/7 telephone, text, and live chat service, to connect veterans in crisis and their families and friends with qualified, caring VA responders and decrease the incidence of intentional injuries. |
| | Provide easy-to-use information about mental and emotional well-being for consumers, especially groups that experience unique stressors (e.g., U.S. Armed Forces, firefighters, police officers, and other emergency response workers). | VA has implemented a mobile phone application called Post Traumatic Stress Disorder (PTSD) Coach that helps users learn about and manage symptoms that commonly occur after trauma. This application includes information on PTSD and treatments, tools for screening and tracking symptoms, information about easy-to-use skills to help people handle stress symptoms, and links to support and help, to provide interactive, reliable mental health resources for patients with PTSD. |
| | | VA launched, in 2011, the web-based campaign Make the Connection that describes how veterans of all service eras, genders, and races successfully sought help for mental health services in an effort to encourage veterans to seek care. |

Additional Information about Programs/Initiatives

The information included in this Appendix is current as of June 2012 and is subject to change.

| Healthy and Safe Community Environments | |
|--|---|
| Name of Program/Initiative | Additional Information |
| AmeriCorps | http://www.americorps.gov/ |
| Choice Neighborhoods | http://portal.hud.gov/hudportal/HUD?src=/program_offices/public_indian_housing/programs/ph/cn |
| Community Challenge Grants | http://portal.hud.gov/hudportal/HUD?src=/program_offices/sustainable_housing_communities/HUD-DOT_Community_Challenge_Grants |
| Community Transformation Grants | http://www.cdc.gov/communitytransformation/ |
| Electronic Laboratory Reporting | http://www.cdc.gov/ehrmeaningfuluse/elr.html |
| Emerging Infections Program | http://www.cdc.gov/nceid/dpei/eip/index.html |
| Epidemiology and Laboratory Capacity for Infectious Disease | http://www.cdc.gov/nceid/dpei/epidemiology-laboratory-capacity.html |
| Healthy Aging Program | http://www.ncoa.org/improve-health/center-for-healthy-aging/ |
| First Lady's Let's Move! In Indian Country | http://www.doi.gov/letsmove/indiancountry/index.cfm |
| Food Emergency Response Network | http://www.fermlab.org/ |
| Foodborne Diseases Active Surveillance Network (FoodNet) | http://www.cdc.gov/foodnet/ |
| ED-Green Ribbon Schools | http://www2.ed.gov/programs/green-ribbon-schools/index.html |
| The Healthy Homes Program | http://portal.hud.gov/hudportal/HUD?src=/program_offices/healthy_homes/hhi |
| National Forum on Youth Violence Prevention | http://www.FindYouthInfo.gov/youthviolence |
| National Health Security Strategy | http://www.phe.gov/Preparedness/planning/authority/nhss/strategy/Pages/default.aspx |
| National Voluntary Environmental Assessment Information System | http://www.cdc.gov/nceh/ehs/EHSNet/resources/nveais.htm |
| Partnership for Sustainable Communities | http://www.sustainablecommunities.gov/ |
| Partnerships for Environmental Public Health | http://www.niehs.nih.gov/research/supported/programs/peph/index.cfm |
| Prevention Research Centers | http://www.cdc.gov/prc/ |
| Promise Neighborhoods | http://www2.ed.gov/programs/promiseneighborhoods/index.html |
| PulseNet | http://www.cdc.gov/pulsenet/ |
| Quality Improvement Organizations | http://www.cms.gov/Medicare/Quality-Initiatives-Patient-Assessment-Instruments/QualityImprovementOrgs/index.html?redirect=/QualityImprovementOrgs/ |
| Regional Extension Centers | http://healthit.hhs.gov/portal/server.pt?open=512&objID=1495&mode=2 |
| Retired Senior Volunteer Program | http://www.seniorcorps.gov/about/programs/rsvp.asp |
| Section 811 Supportive Housing for Persons with Disabilities Program | http://portal.hud.gov/hudportal/HUD?src=/program_offices/housing/mfh/grants/section811ptl |

Additional Information about Programs/Initiatives

Healthy and Safe Community Environments

| Name of Program/Initiative | Additional Information |
|---|---|
| Senior Companions | http://www.seniorcorps.gov/about/programs/sc.asp |
| Social Innovation Fund | http://www.nationalservice.gov/about/programs/innovation.asp |
| The HUD-VA Supportive Housing (HUD-VASH) Program to support homeless Veterans | http://portal.hud.gov/hudportal/HUD?src=/program_offices/public_indian_housing/programs/hcv/vash |
| The Community Guide | http://www.thecommunityguide.org/index.html |

Clinical and Community Preventive Services

| Name of Program/Initiative | Additional Information |
|--|---|
| Center for Medicare and Medicaid Innovation | http://www.innovation.cms.gov/ |
| Clinical Preventive Services Guidance Statements | http://www.prevention.va.gov |
| Community Transformation Grants | http://www.cdc.gov/communitytransformation/ |
| Comprehensive Primary Care Initiative | http://innovation.cms.gov/initiatives/Comprehensive-Primary-Care-Initiative/index.html |
| Federally Qualified Health Centers | https://www.cms.gov/Center/Provider-Type/Federally-Qualified-Health-Centers-FQHC-Center.html?redirect=/center/fqhc.asp |
| Health Information Exchange Program | http://healthit.hhs.gov/portal/server.pt/community/state_health_information_exchange_cooperative_agreement_program/1336/home/16375 |
| HealthCare.gov | http://www.healthcare.gov/ |
| Medicaid Home Health Agency Center | https://www.cms.gov/Center/Provider-Type/Home-Health-Agency-HHA-Center.html?redirect=/center/hha.asp |
| Medical Quality Management and Credentialing Program | http://www.dhs.gov/xlibrary/assets/privacy/privacy_pia_dhs_oha-medical%20credentials.pdf |
| Million Hearts™ | http://millionhearts.hhs.gov/index.html |
| My HealtheVet | https://www.myhealth.va.gov/index.html |
| National Quality Strategy | http://www.ahrq.gov/workingforquality/nqs/ |
| National Vaccine Plan | http://www.hhs.gov/nvpo/vacc_plan/ |
| Patient Aligned Care Teams (PACT) | http://www.va.gov/primarycare/pact/ |
| Pioneer Accountable Care Organizations | http://innovations.cms.gov/initiatives/ACO/Pioneer/index.html |
| Screening, Brief Intervention, and Referral to Treatment (SBIRT) Program | http://www.samhsa.gov/prevention/sbirt/ |
| Standards and Interoperability Framework | http://www.siframework.org/index.html |
| The Community Preventive Services Task Force | http://www.thecommunityguide.org/about/task-force-members.html |
| U.S. Preventive Services Task Force | http://www.uspreventiveservicestaskforce.org/ |

Empowered People

| Name of Program/Initiative | Additional Information |
|--|--|
| Families and Children's Education | http://www.bie.edu/Programs/FACE/index.htm |
| FoodSafety.gov | http://www.foodsafety.gov |
| Healthy Living Communications Campaign | http://www.prevention.va.gov/nine_healthy_living_messages.asp |
| National Plan to Improve Health Literacy | http://www.health.gov/communication/hlactionplan/ |
| Plain Writing Act | http://www.plainlanguage.gov/ |
| Veterans Health Library | http://www.veteranshealthlibrary.org/ |
| Who Cares | http://www.ftc.gov/bcp/edu/microsites/whocares/index.shtm http://www.ftc.gov/bcp/edu/microsites/whocares/espanol/index.shtml |

Elimination of Health Disparities

| Name of Program/Initiative | Additional Information |
|--|---|
| Action Plan to Reduce Racial and Ethnic Health Disparities | http://minorityhealth.hhs.gov/npa/templates/content.aspx?lvl=1&lvlid=33&ID=285 |
| Community Transformation Grants | http://www.cdc.gov/communitytransformation/ |
| Epidemic Intelligence Service | http://www.cdc.gov/eis/index.html |
| Federal Interagency Working Group on Environmental Justice | http://www.epa.gov/environmentaljustice/interagency/ |
| <i>Healthy People 2020</i> | http://www.healthypeople.gov/2020/default.aspx |
| HealthCorps | http://www.healthcorps.org/ |
| National Health Service Corps | http://nhsc.hrsa.gov/ |
| National HIV/AIDS Strategy | http://www.whitehouse.gov/administration/eop/onap/nhas |
| Occupational Health Disparities Program | http://www.cdc.gov/niosh/programs/ohd/ |
| Parents Central | http://www.safercar.gov/parents/index.htm |
| Public Health Prevention Service | http://www.cdc.gov/PHPS/ |

Tobacco Free Living

| Name of Program/Initiative | Additional Information |
|---|---|
| National Tobacco Control Program | http://www.cdc.gov/tobacco/tobacco_control_programs/ntcp/index.htm |
| Population Assessment on Tobacco and Health Study | http://www.fda.gov/ForConsumers/ConsumerUpdates/ucm292894.htm |

Additional Information about Programs/Initiatives

Preventing Drug Abuse and Excessive Alcohol Use

| Name of Program/Initiative | Additional Information |
|---|---|
| 12 Cities HIV Program | http://blog.aids.gov/downloads/NHAS-HHS-12.pdf |
| 2010 National Drug Control Strategy | http://www.whitehouse.gov/ondcp/2012-national-drug-control-strategy |
| Drug Court programs | http://www.nij.gov/topics/courts/drug-courts/welcome.htm |
| Drug Free Communities Support Program | http://www.cadca.org/policyadvocacy/priorities/drug-free-communities-dfc-program |
| National Youth Anti-Drug Media Campaign | http://www.whitehouse.gov/ondcp/anti-drug-media-campaign |
| Enhancing Access to Prescription Drug Monitoring Programs Initiative | http://healthit.hhs.gov/portal/server.pt?open=512&mode=2&objID=3870 |
| Opioid Risk Evaluation and Mitigation Strategies Program | http://www.fda.gov/drugs/drugsafety/informationbydrugclass/ucm163647.htm |
| Screening, Brief Intervention and Referral to Treatment (SBIRT) Program | http://www.samhsa.gov/prevention/sbirt/ |
| "We Don't Serve Teens" | http://www.DontServeTeens.gov |

Healthy Eating

| Name of Program/Initiative | Additional Information |
|--|---|
| Baby-Friendly Hospital Initiative | http://www.babyfriendlyusa.org/ |
| Breastfeeding Report Card | http://www.cdc.gov/breastfeeding/data/reportcard.htm |
| <i>Dietary Guidelines for Americans, 2010</i> | http://www.cnpp.usda.gov/dgas2010-policydocument.htm |
| Expanded Food and Nutrition Education programs | http://www.csrees.usda.gov/nea/food/efnep/efnep.html |
| HealthierUS School Challenge | http://www.fns.usda.gov/tn/healthierus/index.html |
| National School Lunch Program | http://www.fns.usda.gov/cnd/lunch/ |
| School Breakfast Program | http://www.fns.usda.gov/cnd/breakfast/ |
| What We Eat in America/ NHANES Dietary Survey | http://www.ars.usda.gov/foodsurvey |

Active Living

| Name of Program/Initiative | Additional Information |
|---|---|
| National Get Outdoors Day | http://www.nationalgetoutdoorsday.org/ |
| National Public Lands Day | http://www.publiclandsday.org/ |
| President's Council on Fitness, Sports, and Nutrition | http://www.fitness.gov/ |
| Program Performance Standards for Head Start and Early Head Start | http://eclkc.ohs.acf.hhs.gov/hslc/standards/Head%20Start%20Requirements |

Active Living

| Name of Program/Initiative | Additional Information |
|--|---|
| Healthy People 2020's national objectives for Early and Middle Childhood and Physical Activity | http://www.healthypeople.gov/2020/topicsobjectives2020/overview.aspx?topicid=10 |
| Presidential Active Lifestyle Award | http://www.fitness.gov/presidents-challenge/presidential-active-lifestyle-award/ |
| 2008 Physical Activity Guidelines for Americans | http://www.health.gov/paguidelines/ |
| We Can! (Ways to Enhance Children's Activity & Nutrition) Program | http://www.nhlbi.nih.gov/health/public/heart/obesity/wecan/ |
| MOVE! Weight Management Program for Veterans | http://www.move.va.gov/ |

Injury and Violence Free Living

| Name of Program/Initiative | Additional Information |
|--|---|
| "Heads Up" Initiative | http://www.cdc.gov/concussion/HeadsUp/youth.html |
| National Action Plan for Child Injury Prevention | http://www.cdc.gov/safechild/nap/ |
| "Protect the Ones you Love" Initiative | http://www.cdc.gov/safechild/ |
| Safe Routes to School | http://www.saferoutesinfo.org/ |
| "Walk and Bike Safely" Curriculum | http://www.nhtsa.gov/WalkBikeSafely |

Reproductive and Sexual Health

| Name of Program/Initiative | Additional Information |
|--|--|
| Action Plan for the Prevention, Care, and Treatment of Viral Hepatitis | http://www.hhs.gov/ash/initiatives/hepatitis/ |
| Family and Medical Leave Act Health Center Program | http://www.dol.gov/compliance/laws/comp-fmla.htm http://bphc.hrsa.gov/ |
| Institute of Medicine Guidelines on Women's Preventive Services | http://www.hrsa.gov/womensguidelines/ |
| Maternal and Child Health Services Block Grant Program | http://mchb.hrsa.gov/programs/titlevgrants/index.html |
| National HIV/AIDS Strategy | http://www.whitehouse.gov/administration/eop/onap/nhas |
| National Intimate Partner and Sexual Violence Survey | http://www.cdc.gov/violenceprevention/nisvs/ |
| One Test, Two Lives | http://www.actagainstaids.org/provider/ottl/index.html |
| Personal Responsibility and Education Program | http://www.acf.hhs.gov/ebrochure2011/ACYF_FYSBPage10.htm |
| Strong Start Initiative | http://innovations.cms.gov/initiatives/strong-start/ |

Additional Information about Programs/Initiatives

Reproductive and Sexual Health

| Name of Program/Initiative | Additional Information |
|--|---|
| Sudden Unexpected Infant Death Initiatives | http://www.cdc.gov/sids/SUIDAbout.htm |
| Take Charge, Take the Test | http://www.actagainstaids.org/promote/takecharge/tatc.html |
| Teen Pregnancy Prevention Program | http://www.cdc.gov/TeenPregnancy/PreventTeenPreg.htm |
| Testing Makes Us Stronger | http://www.hivtest.org/stronger/ |
| Title X Family Planning Program | http://www.hhs.gov/opa/title-x-family-planning/ |

Mental and Emotional Well-being

| Name of Program/Initiative | Additional Information |
|--|---|
| Defending Childhood Initiative | http://www.justice.gov/defendingchildhood/ |
| Make the Connection | http://www.maketheconnection.net |
| Mental Health Parity and Addiction Equity Act | http://www.samhsa.gov/healthreform/parity/ |
| National Network to Eliminate Disparities in Behavioral Health | http://www.nned.net/ |
| National Veterans Crisis Line | http://www.veteranscrisisline.net/ |
| Outreach Partnership Program | http://www.nimh.nih.gov/outreach/partnership-program/index.shtml |
| Preventing Child Maltreatment and Promoting Well-Being: A Network for Action 2012 Resource Guide | http://www.childwelfare.gov/preventing/preventionmonth/guide2012/ |
| Project Launch | http://projectlaunch.promoteprevent.org/ |
| Race to the Top Learning Challenge | http://www2.ed.gov/programs/racetothetop-earlylearningchallenge/index.html |
| Resilience Symposiums | http://www.dhs.gov/xabout/2011-dhs-accomplishments-ensuring-resilience-to-disasters.shtm |
| Strategic Initiative on Public Awareness and Support | http://store.samhsa.gov/shin/content/SMA11-4629/10-PublicAwarenessAndSupport.pdf |
| Triple P–Positive Parenting Program® | http://www.triplep.net/ |

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