

Webinar Date: July 19, 2022

Making Social Connections for Community Health

County Health Rankings & Roadmaps Tools & Resources

- Check out [recordings and PDF of slides](#) for all CHR&R webinars.
- To learn more about the 2022 County Health Rankings, watch [Getting Ready for the 2022 County Health Rankings Release!](#)
- [Explore Health Rankings](#): The annual Rankings provide a revealing snapshot of how health is influenced by where we live, learn, work and play. Find and use your county data, read our reports, and learn more what and why we rank.
- [Take Action to Improve Health](#): Find strategies that we know work, guidance for setting a plan in motion, and resources to help you partner with others.
 - [Action Learning Guides](#): Dig into specific topics with a blend of guidance, tools, and hands-on activities.
 - [Partner Center](#): Find guidance and resources to help you identify and engage the right partners.
 - [Action Center](#): Explore step-by-step guidance and tools to help you move with data to action.
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Highlighted Guidance

In recent decades, people in the United States and around the world have experienced soaring rates of social isolation, with profound impacts on health and well-being. Far from being a personal choice, social isolation stems from community designs and systemic injustices that keep people and neighborhoods apart. The ***Socially Connected Communities: Solutions for Social Isolation*** report from Healthy Places by Design offers recommendations for creating socially connected communities through environments, policies and systems. Read the [full report](#) and a one page [visual overview](#).

The Systems approach Of Cross-sector Investigation and action across the Lifespan **(SOCIAL) Connection Framework** was created by the Foundation for Social Connection's Scientific Advisory Council. The Framework can help facilitate and accelerate multi-stakeholder actions to reduce social isolation and loneliness, and identify opportunities for impact and gaps for additional research and solutions.

Webinar Guest Resources

Edward Garcia, Founder and Executive Director, Foundation for Social Connection & Partner, Healthsperien

- From the Foundation for Social Connection:
 - [Connect+Conversations](#) is a speaker series that explores how different sectors can address the loneliness epidemic and promote social connection by convening researchers, community leaders, and individuals committed to a more connected society.
 - [Weekly Research Reports](#) is compiled by the Foundation for Social Connection's Social Isolation and Loneliness Workgroup. The report is produced to spark general discourse on the topic of social isolation and loneliness via a research and scholarly lens.
- The Coalition to End Social Isolation and Loneliness' [Federal Policy Agenda](#)
- The Global Initiative on Loneliness and Connection's [Position Statements on Social Isolation, Loneliness, and Social Connection](#)
- [Commit to Connect's Network of Champions](#) are a nationwide network of passionate leaders and innovators at the local, state and national level dedicated to ending social isolation and loneliness. Champions work together to increase awareness of social isolation and loneliness, connect people who are/or at risk of social isolation to social connection programs and technologies, and create more socially connected communities inclusive of all people including older adults, people with disabilities, and caregivers. This network of peers supports collaboration through shared learnings and open communication across sectors and perspectives.
- [Assessment of Social Isolation and Loneliness in Research](#) is the topic of Chapter 6 of the book *Social Isolation and Loneliness in Older Adults: Opportunities for the Health Care System*. The chapter includes a graphic and other information about assessment tools that have been validated.

Risa Wilkerson, Executive Director, Healthy Places by Design

- Efforts to create community-led change are more effective when residents have local government leader support (from multiple sectors) and investments (of resources and partnerships) from philanthropic organizations. To support this need, Healthy Places by Design developed Action Guides that local government leaders and grantmaking organizations can use as tailored supplements to the Socially Connected Communities report. [Action Guide for Philanthropic Leaders](#). [Action Guide for Local Government and Community Leaders](#).
- The Local Leaders for Socially Connected Communities Network aims to advance action that results in more socially connected and equitable communities. Join local government, community, and philanthropic leaders to explore concepts, ideas, and community-level strategies that reduce social isolation and strengthen social ties, especially for those who are most marginalized. Monthly Zoom meetings alternate between topic-based conversations and open space for peer networking. All calls take place on the fourth Tuesday of each month at 3:30 pm EST. Register for the peer [networking/affinity sessions](#) and for the [topic-based conversations](#).

Discussion Group Session Resources

- Assessment resources related to social connectedness:
 - [UCLA Loneliness Scale](#)
 - [Well-being Assessment \(Youth\)](#) – 100 Million Healthier Lives
 - The [Family Advocacy and Support Tool \(FAST\)](#) is designed to maximize communication about the needs and strengths of families. Interventions in the family system can be directed at that system or to address the individual needs of family members or dyadic relationships within the family.
- The mission of [Band of Brothers](#) is to aid men in the creation and maintenance of healthy social, spiritual and interpersonal skills, while strengthening the bonds of both family and friendship.
- The [Be Connected program](#) is a statewide initiative to strengthen access to support and resources for the 500,000+ service members, veterans and their families who call Arizona home. This [video](#) highlights the program’s upstream prevention approach.
- [Engaging People with Lived Experience of Inequity: Relationship Building](#) is a report from Community Commons that focuses on the way traditional community leaders and champions formed partnerships with one another. The report includes three resources, including a relationship building assessment tool and resource guide.
- [HOPE \(Healthy Outcomes from Positive Experiences\)](#) represents a paradigm shift in how we see and talk about the positive experiences that support children’s growth and development into healthy, resilient adults.
- [Loneliness and Social Connections: A National Survey of Adults 45 and Older](#) is a research brief from AARP.
- [The Social Bridging Project: Intergenerational Phone-Based Connections With Older Adults During the COVID-19 Pandemic.](#)
- Through its programs, services and resources, the national [Village to Village Network](#) empowers Villages in formation, energizes functioning Villages, serves as a Village commons to connect its members, and champions the Village model as a leading best practice for healthy and vibrant aging. Village members remain connected to their communities, with reduced isolation, increased independence and enhanced purpose of life.
- The [988 Suicide & Crisis Lifeline](#) webpage includes resources and information designed to help states, territories, tribes, mental health and substance use disorder professionals, and others looking for information on understanding the background, history, funding opportunities, and implementation resources for strengthening suicide prevention and mental health crisis services.

Healthy Places by Design Resources

- [Healthy Places by Design](#) facilitated the post-webinar discussion group session. Their [Community Action Model](#) was developed with insights from more than a dozen years of supporting successful community health initiatives and a deep understanding of the community change process.
- Follow Healthy Places by Design on Twitter [@HPlacesbyDesign](#)