

**County Health
Rankings & Roadmaps**

Building a Culture of Health, County by County

A Robert Wood Johnson Foundation program



HOUSING AS A FOUNDATION FOR GOOD HEALTH

May 21, 2019

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County Health Rankings & Roadmaps is a collaboration between the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation and the University of Wisconsin Population Health Institute.

countyhealthrankings.org



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YOUR PRESENTERS AND FACILITATORS



Rafael Mares

*Executive Director
The Neighborhood
Developers*



**Roseann
Bongiovanni**

*Executive Director
GreenRoots, Inc.*

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YOUR PRESENTERS AND FACILITATORS



Ali Havrilla

Action Learning Coach



Joe Hinton

Action Learning Coach



Sarah Norman

*Director of Healthy Homes
and Communities
NeighborWorks America*

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LEARNING OUTCOMES FOR TODAY



Describe the connection between housing and health



Explore with data the connection between housing and health.



Identify possible strategies to address the Drivers of Health

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JOIN US FOR MORE DISCUSSION – TODAY!

- ▶ **When:** Immediately following the webinar
- ▶ **What:** Interactive learning experience, opportunity to share ideas and ask questions
- ▶ **How:** Videoconference and/or phone via Zoom
- ▶ **Why:** Deepen the webinar learning, allow further exploration



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Menominee Nation 2015

WHY WE DO WHAT WE DO

Improve Health Outcomes

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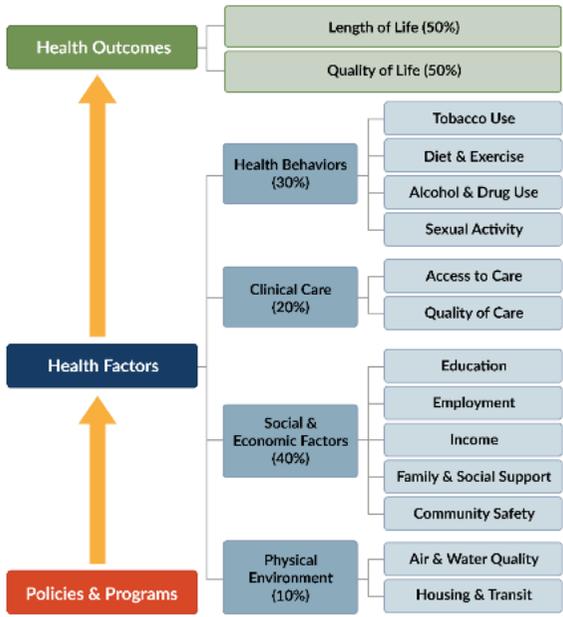


Durham, NC 2014

WHY WE DO WHAT WE DO

Increase Health Equity

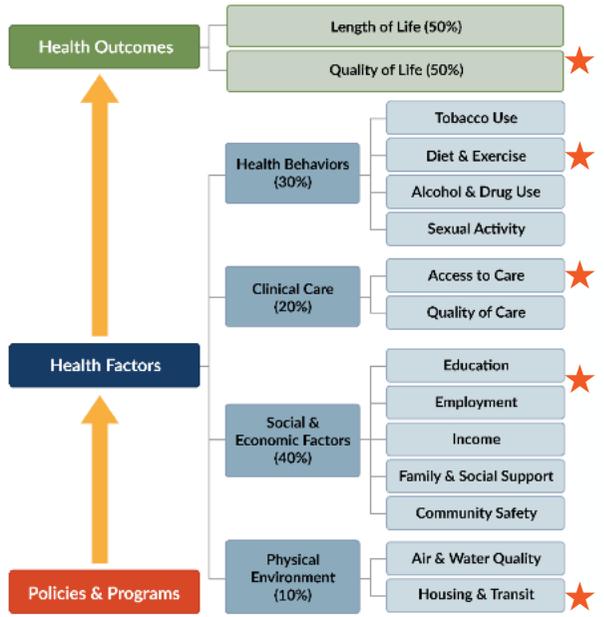
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County Health Rankings model © 2014 UWPII



Chelsea, MA 2017



County Health Rankings model © 2014 UWPII

2019 KEY FINDINGS REPORT

- ▶ Explores the link between housing and health
- ▶ Call to action to create opportunity and health for all
- ▶ Provides references to local data resources, evidence-informed strategies, and examples



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NeighborWorks America

Sarah Norman, Director
Healthy Homes & Communities



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Evidence of the influence of housing on health



- **Housing quality:** Substandard housing is associated with increased morbidity, including infectious diseases, chronic illnesses. Lead, mold, indoor air pollutants, and poor heat control directly negatively affect health.
- **Housing affordability/stability:** Eviction, foreclosure, and other causes of housing instability are all associated with adverse health outcomes (Arcaya *et al.* 2013).
- **Access to quality education, transportation, and social capital** is limited by where one lives (Diez Roux and Mair, 2010).
- **Neighborhood conditions:** cleaning/greening vacant lots associated with reduction in self-reported feelings of depression and worthlessness (South *et al.* 2018).
- Communities of color disproportionately live in neighborhoods with high concentrations of low-quality housing (JCHS 2016). This pattern is partly due to **historical disinvestment** from communities of color, causing **economic and racial segregation** and entrenched disparities (Shapiro *et al.* 2013).
- Neighborhood **social cohesion mediates the association between physical deterioration** and mental health (Kruger *et al.* 2008).

Literature review drawn from [Building Healthy Places: How are Community Development Organizations Contributing?](#) by Alina Schnake-Mahl and Sarah Norman, published at Cities and Health on June 8, 2017. ([View the previously-published working paper.](#))

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How are communities addressing the shortfall in healthy, affordable housing?

They are...

1. **Developing** dedicated affordable healthy housing units
2. **Preserving** and improving affordable housing stock
3. **Helping families access** healthy homes
4. **Protecting** against displacement and **improving housing quality**
5. **Improving neighborhood** conditions
6. **Leveraging housing as a platform** to build social cohesion and connect to resources and services

Informed by Local Housing Solutions, link [here](#); Affordable Housing and Health: City's Roles and Strategies for Progress, link [here](#).

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Health & housing partnerships often focus on:
1) a specific **population**, 2) a specific **place**, 3) a specific **housing type**, or 4) a specific **health concern**.



Rental

- Supportive housing, e.g. “Housing First” for persons experiencing homelessness
- Service-enriched housing for seniors
- Multi-family rental housing
- Landlord liaison or rental assistance

Home ownership

- “Doctor prescribed” home repair
- Place-based investments

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Neighborhood Housing Services of Willamette



- Leveraging rental housing to promote health by addressing **housing stability**, **food security**, **community engagement**, and health services navigation through a unified approach.
- InterCommunity Health Network Coordinated Care Organization (IHC-CCO) and Willamette NHS developed a **community health worker program**.



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Example #2: Place-based, with a focus on substance use disorder



Project Vision in Rutland, VT with NeighborWorks Western Vermont

- Collaboration of police, social service agencies, and housing/community development
- Designed to improve community safety, address substance use, and build health through holistic strategies
- Three prongs, one of which seeks to intentionally improve neighborhood conditions, community connectivity and housing
- Example: rehab of homes confiscated by the Federal Marshalls due to drug-related criminal activity

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Resources



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Find a NeighborWorks Network member near you

Our Network Directory is available online at:

<http://www.neighborworks.org/>

Our-Network/Network-Directory



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SHARE

What efforts are underway in your community at the intersection of housing and health?

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CHELSEA, MA

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CHELSEA HEALTH STARTS AT HOME



Health Resources in Action®
Advancing Public Health and Medical Research



The
Neighborhood
Developers



Roca 



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ENROLLMENT

- MGH enrolled 120 caregivers and children in the HSAH intervention.
- Eighty-four percent of the participants were Latino, 10% black, and 6% other race/ethnicity.
- Of these families, 64% spent more than half their income on housing, 36% were homeless in the prior year, and 29% moved two or more times in the prior year.

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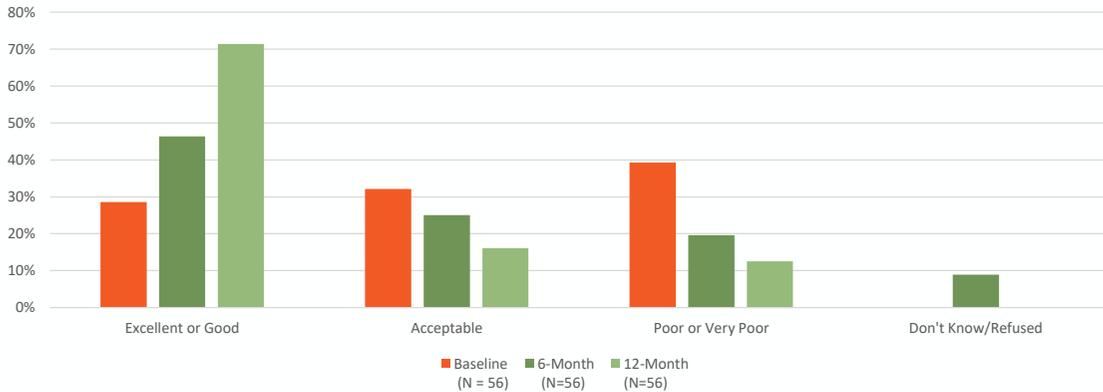
RESULTS

- From 2016-2018, food insecurity decreased and self-rated physical and mental health status improved.
- At baseline, 45% of caregivers reported food insecurity, which decreased to 14% at 12 months.
- At baseline, 3.6% of caregivers self-rated their health status as excellent or very good, which increased to 29% at 12 months..

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HOUSING INDICATOR: QUALITY OF HOUSING

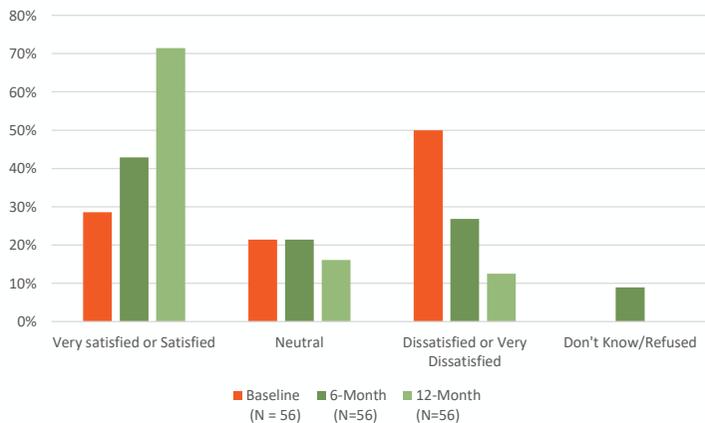
Chelsea, MA Quality of Current Housing, by Timepoint



Source: The Boston Foundation Health Starts at Home Initiative. Quarterly Evaluation Memo. November 30, 2018

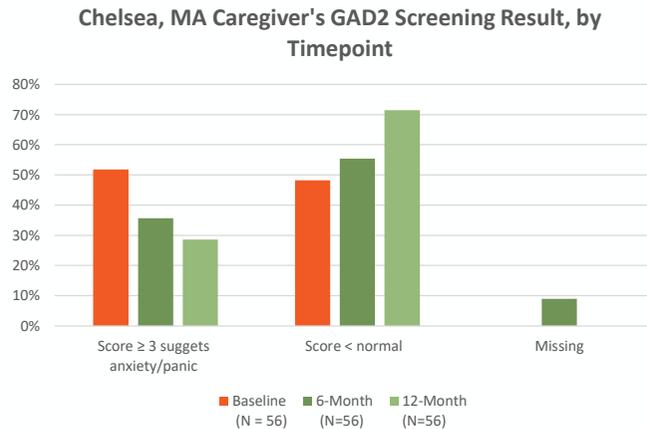
HOUSING INDICATOR: SATISFACTION WITH CURRENT HOUSING

Chelsea, MA Satisfaction with Current Housing, by Timepoint



Source: The Boston Foundation Health Starts at Home Initiative. Quarterly Evaluation Memo. November 30, 2018

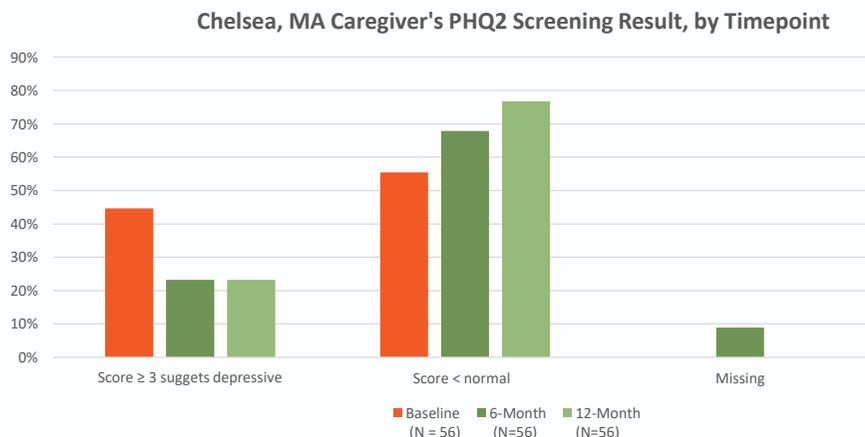
QUALITY OF LIFE INDICATOR: ANXIETY



Source: The Boston Foundation Health Starts at Home Initiative. Quarterly Evaluation Memo. November 30, 2018

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QUALITY OF LIFE INDICATOR: DEPRESSION



Source: The Boston Foundation Health Starts at Home Initiative. Quarterly Evaluation Memo. November 30, 2018

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“It was like I was in the middle of the Indian Ocean, like I was a solo captain facing a tsunami, because I couldn’t pay rent regularly, it was very, very tough. But three months ago, I enrolled in this program and I found an apartment.”

- Gabriel Querette, CONNECT Client

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CHELSEA, MA HOUSING AFFORDABILITY

- ▶ Proximity to Boston is a blessing and a curse
- ▶ Gentrification and rapid displacement are impacting and already overburdened community



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MULTI-PARTNER ANTI-DISPLACEMENT ROUNDTABLE

We can sit back and watch it happen, or we can organize, engage and empower our community to prevent wide-spread displacement



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CHELSEA ANTI-DISPLACEMENT ROUNDTABLE PRIORITIES

- ▶ Formalization of the Chelsea Community Land Trust to prevent properties from being swallowed up by greedy investors.
- ▶ Anti-displacement zoning for the neighborhoods abutting the Chelsea Creek
- ▶ Citywide advocacy for the creation of more affordable housing in Chelsea
- ▶ Opposition to dense market-rate and luxury housing units that are not affordable or appropriately sized for families



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CHELSEA ANTI-DISPLACEMENT ROUNDTABLE PRIORITIES

- ▶ Advocacy for Community Preservation Act funds be invested in affordable housing
- ▶ Creation of “development principles” by which every development in Chelsea should abide by/agree to, at the root of which will be about preserving neighborhoods and causing no further burdens or impacts, including displacement
- ▶ Local policies and ordinances for deeper affordability, preventing condo conversions and short-term rental



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EMPOWERMENT, SOCIAL CONNECTIVITY & HOUSING SECURITY ALL CONTRIBUTE TO HEALTHY NEIGHBORHOODS



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Allen County, KS 2017

DATA

Using data to reveal the factors that influence health



Vicksburg, MS 2017

HEALTH & HOUSING

A safe, secure, and affordable place to call home is a foundation for good health.

THE INTERSECTION OF POVERTY AND HOUSING

In 2017, in Massachusetts, more than 180,000 children lived in poverty

60% of Massachusetts's children in poverty were living in a household that spends more than ½ of its income on housing costs



Leaving little left over for other essentials like...



Healthy Food



Transportation



Medical Care

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Taos Pueblo, 2014

CHILDREN IN POVERTY

Percentage of people under age 18 in poverty.

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Everett, MA, 2015

SEVERE HOUSING COST BURDEN

Percentage of households that spend 50% or more of their household income on housing.

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Richmond, VA, 2017

HOMEOWNERSHIP

Percentage of occupied housing units that are owned.

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SOLUTIONS



Make communities more inclusive and connected

Inclusive Zoning • Youth Leadership Programs



Facilitate access to resources needed to secure affordable housing

Housing Trust Funds • Housing Choice Vouchers



Addressing capital resources needed to create and preserve affordable housing

Low-Income Housing Tax Credits • Land Banks

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KEY TAKE-AWAYS

- ▶ Opportunities for health vary by place and race
- ▶ Policy played a role in creating differences in opportunity
- ▶ Policy can play a role in undoing those differences



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Dorothy Richardson and supporters in front of a home that would be rehabbed instead of torn down

HIGHLIGHTED GUIDANCE: ACTION LEARNING GUIDES

- ▶ Self-directed learning on specific topics
- ▶ Blend guidance, tools, and activities for hands-on practice and reflection
- ▶ Topics include:
 - Introduction to Equity
 - Partnering With Residents
 - Getting Started With Policy Change

Action Learning Guides

Dig into specific topics with a blend of guidance, tools, and hands-on practice and reflection activities.



Introduction to Equity

Ready to learn more about equity and how it applies to your community? This Action Learning Guide includes guidance, tools, and examples to explain what equity is, why it matters, and how it relates to health. It will help you get started with understanding key terms and concepts and where to begin to take action.

[Read more](#)



Partnering With Residents

Engaging community members, especially people most often left out or unheard, is an essential part of improving health outcomes and advancing equity in communities. The guidance, tools, and examples here will help you engage and partner with community residents in a meaningful way.

[Read more](#)



Getting Started With Policy Change

Ready to be an agent of change in your community? This Action Learning Guide includes guidance, tools, and examples you'll find here will help you get started with policy change and ensure your efforts are grounded in equity.

[Read more](#)



24:1 Community, MO, 2016

WE WANT TO HEAR FROM YOU!

Click the link to answer a few questions about today's webinar

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Let's hear from you...

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NEIGHBORWORKS TRAINING INSTITUTE

New Orleans, Louisiana
August 19-23

#NolaNTI



Working Together for Strong Communities®

NeighborWorks America creates opportunities for people to live in affordable homes, improve their lives and strengthen their communities.

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DISCUSSION GROUP:

- ▶ **When:** Immediately following the webinar
- ▶ **What:** Interactive learning experience, opportunity to share ideas and ask questions
- ▶ **Why:** Deepen the webinar learning, allow further exploration
- ▶ **How:** videoconference
- ▶ **Who:** YOU! (Space is limited)



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POLL: WHAT DO YOU WANT TO LEARN MORE ABOUT?

- ▶ Elements of a comprehensive housing strategy
- ▶ Housing efforts without displacement
- ▶ What can public health offer housing partners and vice-versa?
- ▶ How can partnerships be built and sustained that focus on creating affordable housing?

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JOIN US FOR A DISCUSSION GROUP NOW!

[REGISTRATION LINK IN CHAT](#)

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THANK YOU!

Visit us at www.countyhealthrankings.org

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