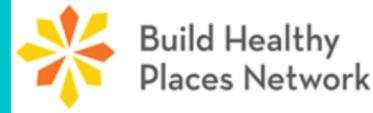


Creating Healthy Communities

Naomie Olivos

Health Policy Fellow



Background

Policymakers have been concerned about improving living conditions in the US. Debates about how to efficiently address the issue have emphasized the importance of direct investment in communities to improve conditions in troubled neighborhoods, while others have expanded on mobility strategies, facilitating the movement of the poor out of the worse areas and into “neighborhoods of opportunity” in other areas. However, research has shown the benefits of a person’s community and how it can influence one’s future. Furthermore, extensive research has demonstrated that poverty and its resultant, such as homelessness, lack of jobs, lack of a quality education, are barriers that prevent building a thriving community. Further, research reveals that individuals from low-income families who grow up in communities with adequate housing, community facilities, and job opportunities have improved economic outcomes.

Aim of Research

The aim of this project is to revitalize low-and moderate-income communities in the City of San Bernardino; Arrowhead Grove and Eastpointe, and aid residents and small business owners to help communities thrive.

Eastpointe & Arrowhead Grove



City of San Bernardino



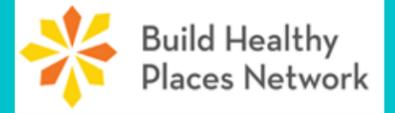
BHPN Mission

Our mission is to shift the way organizations work across the health, community development, and finance sectors to collectively advance equity, reduce poverty, and improve health in neighborhoods across the United States.

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Project Overview

1. Gather and assess existing reports, initiatives and key players in the City of San Bernardino
2. To help create a data-driven process that thinks about neighborhood stabilization & anticipates neighborhood change
3. Gather current data and demographics on the City of San Bernardino through various data sources and online mapping, such as PolicyMap.
4. Create a pipeline of potential projects for PRO Neighborhoods effort

Partnerships for Raising Opportunity in Neighborhoods

Build Healthy Places Network (BHPN) has been awarded the PRO Neighborhoods planning grant from JPMorgan Chase. This planning grant has allowed BHPN to work on revitalizing low-and moderate-income communities in the City of San Bernardino and aid residents and small business owners to help communities thrive.

Additionally, BHPN has partnered with Nonprofit Finance Fund (NFF) and National Community Renaissance (National CORE) to support locally driven solutions and address key drivers of inequality and increase investments in housing, community facilities, and small businesses.



Principles for Building Healthy and Prosperous Communities

- Principle 1: Collaborate with the community
- Principle 2: Embed equity
- Principle 3: Mobilize across sectors
- Principle 4: Increase prosperity to improve health
- Principle 5: Commit over the long term

Limitations

Lack of funding, rising land costs, zoning laws, neighborhood resistance, and legal issues which will hinder transitioning vacant land to permanent housing.

Findings/Outcomes

Increasing investments in housing, community facilities, and small businesses, will serve as key components to address persistent community development challenges, as an effective strategy to improve the health of San Bernardino residents in Eastpointe and Arrowhead Grove by providing them with housing stability and a thriving community.

