



COMMUNITY CHOICES FACTS

Mission

A catalyst for a healthy livable Clark County

Elevator Statement

Community Choices is a catalyst for healthy communities.
We listen and use data. We engage and mobilize others.

Origin

- Organization formed in 1993, as result of community health assessment; originally an affiliate of Greater Vancouver Chamber of Commerce.
- Organization became a 501c3 in 2000.

Organization's Principles

- Community based, broadly supported, non-profit;
- Build awareness of overall health of community;
- Data driven organization;
- Objective convener of and collaborate with a diverse group of community partners;
- Evaluate policies and examine impact on environment, economy and social equity;
- Focus on early prevention strategies.

Strategic Goals

- Define a healthy livable Clark County
- Educate community on indicators for a healthy livable Clark County
- Advocate for a healthy livable Clark County

Strategic Objectives

- Complete Community Report Card every 3 years; integrate healthy community and social determinants of health indicators into Report Card; use Report Card to educate and guide Clark County to work towards a healthy livable community.
- Integrate Steps to a Healthier Clark County efforts into the healthy livable community framework.
- Facilitate and organize healthy livable community forums to serve as a vehicle for educating and connecting the community.
- Lead a community process to visualize a healthy livable Clark County in 2030.
- Strengthen infrastructure to sustain Community Choices.

Listen

- Published ,via community committees, 5 Community Report Cards over past 15 years.
- Collaborated with Clark County Tobacco Coalition to introduce smoke-free housing concepts into Clark County.
- Participate in city and county advisory committees and neighborhood associations, as requested.

Engage

- Partner with over 100 organizations and 400 individuals in community change efforts.
- Executed four successful Forums within 15 months, which resulted in community action to improve the health of Clark County.
- Communicated results of Community Report Cards to organizations, associations and citizen groups.
- Designed and implemented a Food System Council with 14 representatives from the local food system.
- Facilitated community effort to institutionalize healthy vending with 7 employers (over 12,000 employees) and developed toolkits for employers, schools, and community agencies to implement healthier food options in their organizations.

Mobilize

- Convened and facilitated the implementation of 11 Family Resource Centers in Clark County.
- Participated in state and national advocacy efforts that increased visibility of Community Choices and Clark County.
- Member of Washington State Childhood Obesity Coalition.
- Published and distributed the Clark County Walkaround Guide to 42,000 individuals.

Recognition/Awards

- Heroes of Health Award-2001 Washington Health Foundation
- Spirit of Health Award-2006 Clark County Family YMCA
- Model for Improving Community Health-2006 Centers for Disease Control
- Certificate of Recognition-2007 Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services

- Received 3 Qualified Federal Financial Audits with no recommendations – 2005, 2006 & 2007
- Washington Health Foundation Grant-2008-09 for Healthiest State Ambassador Initiative (\$5,000)
- Northwest Health Foundation Grant: 2008-09 for Pedestrian Advocacy (\$68,303)
- Proclamation for Governor, State of Washington-Steps to a Healthier Washington month, September 2008.
- Nominated for Spirit of Health Award-2008 Clark County Family YMCA

Steps to a Healthier Clark County Grant

- 5-year grant awarded to Community Choices (Sept 2003-Sept. 2008); 40 grants awarded nationally; Community Choices is only non-profit to receive grant
- Funding levels: Year 1: \$306,900
Year 2: \$555,905
Year 3: \$596,637
Year 4: \$577,312
Year 5: \$577,312

Organization Structure

- 16 member board of directors
- 3 board committees
 - Advancement (Fund raising, marketing, PR);
 - Development (Board member recruitment, development & education)
 - Finance (Financial oversight, budget development)
- 3 management committees
 - Benchmarks Committee (Report Card)
 - Steps Sustainability Committee
 - Active Transportation Committee
- 3 staff/contractors (2.2 ftes)