



Affordable Care Act: Prevention and Public Health

National Prevention, Health Promotion and Public Health Council

The National Prevention, Health Promotion and Public Health Council established by the Affordable Care Act is charged with developing a comprehensive national public health strategy in 2011. The law also establishes an Advisory Group on Prevention, Health Promotion, and Integrative and Public Health with up to 25 non-federal members appointed by the President to advise the council.

The initial July 2010 report of the National Prevention, Health Promotion and Public Health Council is available at: <http://www.hhs.gov/news/reports/nationalprevention2010report.pdf> and a copy of their draft framework is available at: http://www.healthcare.gov/center/councils/nphpphc/draftframework_.pdf. NACO's comments on the Council's draft framework are available here: <http://admin.naco.org/programs/csd/Documents/Health%20Reform%20Implementation/NACO%20Comments%20on%20Draft%20Framework%20for%20NPS.pdf>.

On 6/16/11, U.S. Surgeon General Regina Benjamin and members of the Council released the National Prevention Strategy called for through the ACA, available here: <http://www.healthcare.gov/center/councils/nphpphc/index.html>

For more information about the council, see:

http://www.healthcare.gov/center/councils/nphpphc/resources/1007_factsheet_0630.pdf. To provide input to the council, email prevention.council@hhs.gov.

Prevention and Public Health Fund

The Prevention and Public Health Fund created by the Affordable Care Act provides for an expanded and sustained national investment in prevention and public health programs. In FY2010, there is \$500 million in funding available, with gradual funding increases each year to reach \$2 billion in FY2015 and totaling to \$15 billion over 10 years. In June 2010, the Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) announced the allocation for FY2010:

\$250M for workforce development in primary care sector (For more information, go to:

<http://www.hhs.gov/news/press/2010pres/06/20100616a.html>)

- \$168M for training more than 500 new primary care physicians by 2015
- \$32M for supporting the development of more than 600 new physician assistants
- \$30M for encouraging over 600 nursing students to attend school full-time
- \$15M for the operation of 10 nurse-managed health clinics which provide comprehensive primary health care services to populations living in medically underserved communities
- \$5 million for states to plan and implement innovative strategies to expand their primary care workforce by 10 to 25 percent over ten years

\$250M for prevention and public health

(For more information, go to: <http://www.healthreform.gov/newsroom/acaprevention.html>)

- \$126M for Community and Clinical Prevention: To support federal, state and community prevention initiatives; the integration of primary care services into publicly funded community-based behavioral health settings; obesity prevention and fitness; and tobacco cessation
- \$70M for Public Health Infrastructure: To support state, local, and tribal public health infrastructure and build state and local capacity to prevent, detect, and respond to infectious disease outbreaks
- \$31M for Research and Tracking: For data collection and analysis; to strengthen CDC's Community Guide by supporting the Task Force on Community Preventive Services; and to improve transparency and public involvement in the Clinical Preventive Services Task Force
- \$23M for Public Health Training: To expand CDC's public health workforce programs and public health training centers

Recent Prevention and Public Health Fund Awards

- In September 2010, HHS awarded 27 public health training centers with \$16.8 million in grants for public health workforce training. For more information, see: <http://www.hhs.gov/news/press/2010pres/09/20100913a.html>
- In September 2010, HHS awarded \$31 million to ten communities for prevention and wellness activities, such as efforts to reduce obesity and tobacco use. The funding is part of the Communities Putting Prevention to Work Program. For more information, see: <http://www.hhs.gov/news/press/2010pres/09/20100914a.html>
- In September 2010, nearly \$100 million in grants were awarded by HHS to support state and local public health efforts to address obesity and tobacco use, increase HIV testing, expand mental health and substance abuse programs, and track, monitor and respond to disease outbreaks. For more information, see: <http://www.hhs.gov/news/press/2010pres/09/20100924a.html>
- In September 2010, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) awarded funding for 94 projects totaling \$42.5 million to state, tribal, local and territorial health departments to improve their ability to provide public health services. For more information, see: <http://www.hhs.gov/news/press/2010pres/09/20100920a.html>

Other Funding for Local Public Health Activities in the Affordable Care Act

In addition to the Prevention and Public Health Fund, there are other sources of potential funding for local public health activities provided through the Affordable Care Act.

Community Transformation Grants

- The health reform law authorizes the creation of competitive grants to support efforts that reduce chronic disease, address health disparities and build the evidence base for prevention programs
- State and local government agencies (including local health departments), community-based organizations and Indian tribes are eligible to apply for the Community Transformation Grants; rural and frontier areas are targeted for 20 percent of the grants
- Funding for these grants is authorized but not appropriated; funding will come from the Prevention and Public Health Fund or through regular annual Congressional appropriations
- The first round of funding became available in May 2011; for more information, please see NACo's information sheet: [www.naco.org/programs/csd/Documents/Health Reform Implementation/CTGs.pdf](http://www.naco.org/programs/csd/Documents/Health_Reform_Implementation/CTGs.pdf)

Community Health Center Funding

- The health reform law contains an \$11 billion increase in funding for community health centers over five years
- This funding may be an opportunity for counties that may want to explore opening or expanding primary healthcare services in underserved areas

Public Health Workforce Training

- The law creates a loan repayment program for individuals receiving public health training; \$195 million for FY2010 is authorized but not yet appropriated, as well as necessary sums for FY2011 through FY2015
- The law also establishes allied health recruitment and retention programs and mid-career training programs for public health professionals; \$60 million is authorized but not appropriated for FY2010 for both programs, as well as necessary sums for FY2011 through FY2015 for training for mid-career public and allied health professional

Epidemiology-Laboratory Capacity Grants

- The law establishes the Epidemiology and Laboratory Capacity Grant Program to award grants to eligible entities—such as state, local and tribal health departments—for efforts to improve surveillance for and response to infectious diseases and other conditions of public health importance
- \$190 million for each year of fiscal years 2010-2013 for these grants (authorized but not appropriated)

Healthy Aging, Living Well; Evaluation of Community-Based Prevention

- Competitive grants to state, local and tribal health departments to carry out five-year pilot programs to provide public health community interventions, screenings, and when necessary, clinical referrals for individuals who are between 55-64 years old
- Grantees must design a strategy to improve the health status of this population and include an evaluation component in their activities
- Funding for these grants is authorized but not appropriated

Grants to Promote Positive Health Behaviors and Outcomes

- Competitive grants offered through the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention to promote positive health behaviors and outcomes for populations in medically underserved communities through the use of community health workers
- Eligible entities include public or nonprofit private entities, including states or public subdivisions of a state, a public health department, a free health clinic, a hospital, or a federally-qualified health center (FQHC)
- Funding for these grants is authorized but not appropriated

National Diabetes Prevention Program

- National Diabetes Prevention Program targeted for adults at high risk for the disease to be established through the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention
- Eligible entities include state and local health departments, tribal organizations, national networks of community-based nonprofits focused on health and wellbeing, and academic institutions
- The program is authorized from FY2010 to FY2014 but funding is not appropriated