Healthy By Design Coalition Updates

Healthy By Design Annual Meeting & Celebration
This event was a huge success! Attendees enjoyed a creative placemaking activity, shared Community Health Improvement Plan (CHIP) project updates, learned about the next Community Health Needs Assessment (CHNA) cycle, and celebrated local Healthy Worksites and School Wellness Champions.

Thank you to our members and community for your continued support and engagement! 2019 is going to be an amazing year full of opportunities to improve the health of Yellowstone County.

Community Health Needs Assessment - Coming 2019!
The next Community Health Needs Assessment (CHNA) cycle will begin in 2019. The Alliance (Billings Clinic, RiverStone Health, and St. Vincent Healthcare), Healthy By Design staff, and other Coalition members will spend the better part of this year hard at work on this important undertaking. Stay tuned for input opportunities in the next year.

2017-2020 Community Health Improvement Plan (CHIP) Updates
The 18-Month CHIP Progress Report has been published! Click here to view this report and read about the great work our Coalition members have been doing to implement the CHIP.

Creative Placemaking
In 2019, Coalition members will explore creative placemaking concepts as part of a larger Safe Routes to Schools effort, which encourages physical activity among school children. Opportunities related to this will be discussed at our next Healthy Weight Steering Committee meeting:

**Tuesday, February 19th, 11:30 am - 1 pm**

What is creative placemaking? There are many definitions, with these examples from the [Project for Public Space](https://www.pps.org):

"...the art and science of making your community a great place to live."

"... a way to improve the 'ground floor' of a community - streets, sidewalks, parks, buildings and other public spaces... to invite greater interaction between people and foster healthier, more social and more economically viable communities."

Stay tuned for more on creative placemaking. If you would like to get involved with this or other task groups, contact Melissa Henderson, Community Health Improvement Manager at info@hbdyc.org or by calling 651.6431.

**Healthy Worksite Recognition - Announcing 13 Local Healthy Worksites!**

We are pleased to recognize the following local businesses as 2019 Healthy By Design Healthy Worksites:
Congratulations to these amazing businesses! They provided some truly innovative examples of worksite wellness, which will be captured in a local worksite wellness toolkit to inspire other businesses to make the healthy choice, the easy choice for Yellowstone County employees.

**Healthy Communities Initiative - Association of Chamber of Commerce Executives (ACCE)**

Jennifer Reiser of the Billings Area Chamber of Commerce and Melissa Henderson of the Healthy By Design Coalition will attend workshop #2 of the Healthy Communities Initiative next week. During this workshop, they will work with representatives from the ACCE and 9 other communities to develop an action plan for a healthy community initiative.

While planning is underway, we need your help! We are seeking:

- Local examples of creative placemaking in the workplace;
- Businesses or organizations interested in participating in an emerging *activators of health* learning lab that will focus on creative placemaking as a tool to attract and retain a qualified workforce;
- Examples of employee engagement surveys or measurement tools you are using!

Contact Jennifer jennifer@billingschamber.com or Melissa info@hbdyc.org.
Coalition Member Capacity/CHIP Support Grant
The Coalition received a grant in September 2018 to bolster member capacity to lead CHIP initiatives. Members were surveyed to find out where and how Healthy By Design staff can best support the Coalition, which includes training and tools to improve member involvement and ownership.

External training options are being explored, and potential partnerships with other community organizations are being identified. Coalition members can look forward to training and leadership development, and will assist allocating grant funds via a participatory budgeting process, among other opportunities.

More to come! Contact Hannah at info@hbdyc.org for more information.

Healthy Neighborhood Project: South Side
Current initiatives include: grocery store, neighborhood garden, gardening resources, box wraps, entryway signage, and the South Side Stories project with Western Heritage Center.

- A neighborhood resident meeting was held on Thursday, January 24th at the South Side Senior Center. Attendees enjoyed a meal together and provided input for their dream grocery store!

- The South Side Stories task group is busy transcribing all the amazing interviews gathered in 2018. What a rich history! Our next step is to create a walking route based on themes and places identified in the interviews.

- The Bright Side of the Tracks task group is in the beginning stages of planning for a community mural or art piece and more box wraps.
Did you know the Healthy Neighborhood Project has its very own quarterly newsletter? To learn more, visit [www.hbdyc.org/healthy-neighborhood-project](http://www.hbdyc.org/healthy-neighborhood-project) for more information on this project or email [info@hbdyc.org](mailto:info@hbdyc.org) to be added to the project-specific newsletter or to join a task group.

**Healthy By Design Gardeners' Market - 2018 Summary & Direct SEED Grant Update**

This Gardeners' Market task group is conducting senior focus groups on the following dates and locations:

- 2/6 - Pleasantview Apartments
- 2/8 - South Side Senior Center
- 2/14 - Mission Ridge Active Senior Living Community

Feedback gathered at these focus group will inform a marketing campaign to increase senior engagement at the Gardeners' Market. Call 651.6403 if you would like more information or to attend a focus group.

If you have general questions about the Gardeners' Market, you can email [market@healthybydesignyellowstone.org](mailto:market@healthybydesignyellowstone.org) or you can visit [www.hbdyc.org/market](http://www.hbdyc.org/market).

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**Healthy Food Retail - Healthy Food Truck Recognition**

Applications are now available! For the first year of this initiative, applications will be accepted on a rolling deadline and will be reviewed monthly by the project team. To access the application, [click here](#). Start looking for Healthy By Design recognized food trucks in 2019!

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**Parks Rx**

The Parks Rx task group is currently working on a plan to distribute maps and 5-2-1-0 swag in the spring to spread the word about this awesome project and get our community connected to our local parks.

**Task groups are always accepting new members!**

To learn more about what task groups are working on, or to have your questions answered, please email [info@hbdyc.org](mailto:info@hbdyc.org), call 247.3394, or consider attending a Healthy Weight Steering Committee.

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**Healthy By Design in the News**

**Billings Gazette**

Healthy By Design Calendar
Calling all events! Do you have an event coming up and would like some additional promotion? Did you know our website, www.hbdyc.org, has a new events page where you can add content? Head over to the website and submit your event by clicking "Add an Event" at the top of the events page.

Upcoming Coalition Member Events, Announcements, & Calls to Action

More Bike Parking Coming to Downtown Billings
Billings received a Montana Tourism Grant to fund 30 new bike racks downtown. The racks will have a laser-cut plate in the middle with the community logo "Billings, Montana's Trailhead." Kudos to Billings TrailNet, Downtown Billings Alliance, Pedal United, and Visit Billings for providing the required local match for this grant. This would not have happened without you! Downtown businesses will be able to apply for these racks outside their business for only $50. This money goes to maintaining the racks and to providing a match for future grants or purchasing additional racks. To learn more about getting a rack outside your business, email monate@ci.billings.mt.us.

Kids In Motion (KIM) Needs Your Help
KIM was selected to be a Lucky's Market Bags for Change Partner. From February 3 - May 25, shop at Lucky's Market and bring your own bags. When you check out, be sure to ask the cashier for one wooden dime for each reusable bag you use. On your way out, simply drop your wooden dimes in the slot for KIM! Visit KIM's website for more information on this group and how they promote physical activity in our community!

Announcement - Urban Area Long Range Transportation Plan Available
The 2018 Billings Urban Area Long Range Transportation Plan is final and can be viewed along with other information regarding the Transportation Plan and the planning process here: www.billingslrtp.com
Help Plan the Next Commuter Challenge
The Billings Commuter Challenge encourages residents to walk, bike, bus, or roll to work, school and errands by logging trips online. The challenge is a month long (usually in May or June) and includes incentives from local businesses, drawings for prizes, and fun social events!

The planning team for the Commuter Challenge is looking for interested organizations to help make this year’s challenge fun and engaging. If you or your organization is interested in being a part of planning, email commuterchallengebillings@gmail.com or call 247.3276. You can also attend the first meeting on February 19th from 3-4 pm at RiverStone Health.

Photo Contest! - MT School Eats
There is a chance to win $500 for school nutrition programs. All it takes is a photo of school food submitted by February 28, 2019. Photo submissions must feature a school meal made by nutrition staff in either "Breakfast Foods" or "Local Foods" categories. Top 2 photos in each category will win a cash prize. This contest is open to all in Montana students, parents, teachers, administration, or nutrition staff. To learn more, visit montanaschooleats.com.

Find us on Facebook
Want to learn how to apply for event recognition? Click here.

Interested in adding content to our newsletter?
Contact Us

Healthy By Design
info@hbdyc.org

Mission: To collaborate with partners across sectors of the community to promote and improve health.

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