The Healthy By Design Coalition Monthly News

October 2021 — Featuring:

CHIP Update & Highlights
Announcing New Grant and Position
Celebrating Walktober in Billings
Upcoming Events & Opportunities
Recognition Opportunities

Community Health Improvement Plan (CHIP) Update & Project Highlights

2020-2023 CHIP Update

As we head into fall, here are the latest strategy working group updates. These groups meet semi-monthly and are always welcoming new members.

- The Healthy Neighborhoods strategy working group has been working with the Pioneer Park Neighborhood Task Force to create and promote a neighborhood survey. This goal of this survey is to identify barriers and opportunities for resident involvement and neighborhood improvement project. If you live in the Pioneer Park neighborhood, you can take the survey here: https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/PioneerParkPeople

- Winter is coming and the Healthy Connections strategy working group is looking forward to launching the Be A Good Neighbor winter shoveling project. Stay tuned for a business challenge, volunteer opportunities, and some fun!
The Healthy Investments strategy working group is finalizing a tool to help residents, organizations, and leaders alike invest in meaningful, high impact projects to improve health. The group will meet again this fall to align with two emerging projects - the COVID Response and Resilience effort through the CDC and Year of Walkability effort (details below).

If you would like to learn about how you can become involved, contact Melissa at melissa@hbdyc.org or 651.6569.

Read the CHIP Annual Progress Report

Healthy By Design Coalition Awarded a Grant from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC)

Exciting news! We've been awarded a grant from the CDC to conduct a COVID-19 Community Health Needs Assessment. Over the next three years, we will be partnering with partners across Yellowstone County to recruit Community Health Worker/Organizers (CHWs) to better understand and build our collective resilience to the immediate and secondary impacts of COVID-19 on diverse populations in our area, including in the clinical, community, and neighborhood setting. Thank you to everyone who helped with the application, including RiverStone Health, who has once again agreed to serve as our fiscal partner for this work.

We're Hiring a Grant Coordinator!

In order to make this project and its diverse partnerships a success, we are seeking a Grant Coordinator to keep us organized and on track with our deliverables. If you or someone you know is interested in learning more, please visit RiverStone Health’s website. Due to the quick turnaround on this project, initial application reviews will begin on Friday, October 8th.

For more information, please contact Melissa at melissa@hbdyc.org or 651.6569.
Project Highlight: Last Call for the Gardeners' Market

Come see us in South Park next Thursday, 10/7 for the final Gardeners' Market of 2021. We'll be enjoying the last of the summer's delicious produce and reminiscing on a great season. Thanks to our hardworking staff and vendors, and to all the customers who make the market a place where community can grow.

Project Highlight: hbdyc.org Gets a New Look

If you follow one of our links or otherwise check our website in the next week or two and things seem a little different, that's on purpose! We're redesigning and restructuring our website and e-newsletter to improve our ability to showcase our growing work and to better support the forthcoming launch of the Universal Community Planning Tool.

If you run into any issues with the website, such as a link not working or you can't find a specific resource, please contact us at info@hbdyc.org.

Community Highlight: Safe Routes to School Plan Update

Having conducted audits for the city's elementary schools, the Billings MPO is moving to the public input portion of the 2021/2022 Safe Routes to School Update. The study has four major tasks:

- Evaluate current walking, biking, and rolling conditions for students in the region
- Identify barriers or issues that might discourage students from walking, biking, and rolling
- Develop a list of prioritized projects that can be built to improve walking, biking, and rolling conditions for students
- Create walking route maps for all 22 public elementary schools in Billings

*Parents, guardians, and students in Billings Public Schools elementary schools, your experience and knowledge can take this plan from good to great.* Head to tinyurl.com/BillingsSRTS-plan to give your input on the project webmap. Share where you currently walk, where you think there...
Celebrating Walktober in Billings

Welcome to Walktober!

October was recently proclaimed as the month of “Walktober” in Billings by Mayor Cole. This proclamation brings awareness to the importance of walking and accessibility in our community, highlights noteworthy accomplishments, and encourages people to get out and walk. There are exciting things coming down the line for walkability this year – keep an eye out! Thank you to Mayor Cole and the City of Billings for proclaiming October to be the month of Walktober for the 2nd year in a row.

Stay tuned for information on a new **Year of Walkability** initiative launching later this month. This effort seeks to build momentum around walkability and mobility in Billings over the course of the coming year. Each quarter, residents can share experiences and explore walkability through fun activities and resources.

**Read the Proclamation**

Walk to School Day is October 6th

Yellowstone County is celebrating Walk to School Day next Wednesday, October 6th. Students can pledge to walk and/or submit a piece of art illustrating someone following the safety rules of the road while getting to school. Make the pledge at [https://tinyurl.com/w2school21](https://tinyurl.com/w2school21).

Walking to school encourages community engagement, physical activity and promotes safety in neighborhoods and around schools. Grab some friends and enjoy the walk!

**Upcoming Events & Opportunities**

**Fall All-Coalition Meeting, this Monday, October 4th**

Calling all strategy working group members and coalition partners! There's a meeting this Monday, October 4th. More information to follow.
still time to RSVP for Monday's meeting (you can do so here). Join us via Zoom from 12:00 to 1:30 pm on October 4th to hear and share cross-coalition updates and have an opportunity for networking. Already signed up? Those who registered by September 24th should receive their $10 lunch card yesterday or today. Email ruhiyyih@hbdyc.org if you haven't received your calendar invite and access link or have any other questions. We can't wait to "see" you!

Double SNAP Dollars Match Grows to $30 through 2022!

SNAP Benefits? There's still time to double those dollars on fresh, local, produce at the last Gardeners' Market of the season, next Thursday, October 7th.

We're pleased to share the National Center for Appropriate Technology in Butte, America has received a special COVID Response and Recovery grant, which will allow us to match SNAP benefits dollar for dollar up to $30 EACH WEEK. The Double SNAP Dollars program, which provides extra tokens to be used for fresh fruits and veggies, has been so popular at our market that we're literally running out of tokens. Tokens never expire, but if you haven't had a chance to use them yet, don't forget to stop on by!

Recognition Opportunities

Healthy Event and Food Truck Recognition

Want Healthy By Design to promote your event? Recognition from Healthy By Design tells your participants that you are committed to their safety and wellness. You are making the healthy choice, the easy choice for all attendees!

Healthy Event and Healthy Food Truck Recognition opportunities remain
Open year-round. Contact info@hbdyc.org to learn more and apply.

## Celebrate the 2021 Healthy Worksites

### Congratulations to the 2021 Healthy Worksites!

- Billings Chamber of Commerce • Billings Clinic
- Billings Planning and Community Services Division
- Computers Unlimited • Granite Health & Fitness
- HUB International • PacificSource Health Plans • RiverStone Health
- St. Vincent Healthcare • Well Pared • Yellowstone Naturopathic Clinic

**We commend you for making the healthy choice, the easy choice at your worksites!**

These 11 Yellowstone County businesses demonstrated their commitment to Healthy Eating, Active Living, Work-Life Balance, & Health Promotion. Worksite wellness initiatives like the ones these businesses employ can enhance productivity can improve recruitment and retention efforts. Our local toolkit is soon to be updated with new tips from these worksites. Stay tuned!

### Stay in Touch

*Wondering what's happening with other projects? We're now selecting a few highlights each month to make these easier on your inbox, but we're happy to answer your questions about any Coalition initiatives, such as:*

- The Gardeners' Market at South Park
- Active Transportation
- Healthy Recognition Opportunities
- Parks Rx
- The South Side Healthy Neighborhood Project

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