

CUYAHOGA COUNTY BOARD OF HEALTH

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CCBH to Receive CDC Grant Award of \$3.4 million over five years

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The Cuyahoga County Board of Health (CCBH) has been selected by The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) to receive a total of \$3.4 million in funding over a five-year period through its Racial and Ethnic Approaches to Community Health (REACH) program. \$539,256 has been awarded for the first year.

This REACH funding is dedicated to health improvement, chronic disease prevention, and reducing health disparities among our county's highest-need Black/African American and Hispanic/Latino populations living in under-resourced areas, as they bear the highest burden of chronic disease in our county.

"CDC is excited to announce this new REACH funding to 50 communities across 32 states and the District of Columbia," said Terry O'Toole, PhD, MDiv, program development and evaluation branch chief in CDC's Division of Nutrition, Physical Activity and Obesity. "With this funding, organizations will plan and carry out local, culturally-appropriate programs to address a wide range of health issues among racial and ethnic minority groups where health gaps remain. REACH intends to improve health where people live, learn, work, and play."

As one of the 50 recipients, CCBH will work in partnership with the Cuyahoga County Executive's Office, Bike Cleveland, the City of Cleveland, and the Case Western Reserve University Mary Ann Swetland Center for Environmental Health to implement proven public health strategies for the identified communities. Focus areas will include increasing access to healthier foods, creating safe and accessible spaces for physical activity, and improving nutrition, physical activity, and breastfeeding standards in early childhood education settings.

Dr. Rod Harris, CCBH Health Commissioner, views this work as essential.

"We know that heart disease, cancer and diabetes are leading causes of illness and death among people of color. This generous award allows us to continue to collaborate with community partners and organizations to provide equitable access and opportunity for our Black/African American and Hispanic/Latino communities so that they can achieve their best health outcomes."

Cuyahoga County Executive Chris Ronayne is committed to promoting a healthier and more equitable future for residents.

"The REACH funding represents a substantial investment to reduce health disparities and enhance health outcomes, especially among vulnerable populations. We look forward to this partnership and creating long-lasting positive impacts that resonate throughout our diverse region."

A complete list of CDC's REACH recipients and additional information can be [found here](#).

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