



The Community Guide

Celebrating Over
Two Decades of
Achievements

 Community
Preventive Services
Task Force

 The Community Guide

The Community Guide: Celebrating Two Decades of Achievements

The **Community Guide** is an essential resource for everyone who wants to know what works to improve the public's health and health equity. It provides evidence-based recommendations from the Community Preventive Services Task Force about public health programs, services, and other interventions to improve health and promote safety.

The Community Preventive Services Task Force—an independent, nonfederal panel of public health and prevention experts established in 1996—bases its recommendations on rigorous systematic reviews of the scientific literature. With oversight from the Community Preventive Services Task Force, scientists, and subject matter experts from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) conduct these reviews in collaboration with a wide range of government, academic, policy, and practice-based partners. CDC's Community Guide Branch provides administrative, scientific, and technical support for the Community Preventive Services Task Force.

“In 23 years, The Community Guide has given us nearly 250 evidence-based recommendations and findings to improve the health and safety of our communities. This indispensable national resource has saved lives, improved health, reduced costs, and informed and supported the work of decision makers at national, state, and local levels. I want to thank all past and present Community Preventive Services Task Force members, liaisons, staff, partners, and friends of the Guide for your contributions and ongoing support.”

Dr. Jonathan Fielding
Chair, Community Preventive Services Task Force 

The Community Guide: By the Numbers

45+ **Community Preventive Services Task Force members** over the history of the Task Force, appointed by the CDC director

32 **liaisons** representing state and local health departments, the U.S. Armed Forces, federal agencies, health care professionals, and other national organizations invested in America's health

245+ **recommendations and findings issued** by the Community Preventive Services Task Force

21 **topic areas:** adolescent health; asthma; cancer; cardiovascular disease; diabetes; emergency preparedness; excessive alcohol consumption; health communication and health information technology; HIV/AIDS, STIs and pregnancy; mental health; motor vehicle injury; nutrition; obesity; oral health; physical activity; pregnancy health; tobacco; vaccination; violence; worksite health

335+ **publications** of Community Preventive Services Task Force recommendations, findings, and Community Guide methods

55,000+ **total volunteer hours donated** over the past 23 years, by members of the Community Preventive Services Task Force

Growth and Historic Milestones

1996: The U.S. Department of Health and Human Services establishes the Community Preventive Services Task Force to identify population health interventions that are scientifically proven to save lives, increase lifespans, and improve quality of life.

1999: The first 17 Community Preventive Services Task Force findings on vaccination interventions are published in the *Morbidity and Mortality Weekly Report (MMWR)*. Community Preventive Services Task Force findings complement those of the U.S. Preventive Services Task Force and the Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices.

2000: The Department of Transportation's Appropriations Act (HR4475) passes, requiring states to implement 0.08 percent blood alcohol concentration laws or forfeit federal highway construction funds. The Community Preventive Services Task Force's recommendation informs the evidence base for this legislation. All 50 states adopt the law, saving an estimated 500 lives each year.¹

2002: **The Community Preventive Services Task Force issues its 100th recommendation**, for skin cancer prevention interventions in healthcare settings.

2005: *The Guide to Community Preventive Services: What Works to Promote Health* is published in hard copy.

2008: **The Community Preventive Services Task Force issues its 200th recommendation**, for interventions that reduce structural barriers to colorectal cancer screening.

2010: The Community Preventive Services Task Force becomes codified in law through the Public Health Service Act, Section 399.

2011: The Community Preventive Services Task Force publishes its first annual report to Congress.

2016: The Community Guide redesigns its website using responsive design to offer more accessible, tailored user experiences.

2019: **The Community Preventive Services Task Force has conducted more than 350 reviews**—including over 160 economic reviews—resulting in 245 recommendations across 21 topic areas to inform evidence-based decision making for public health.

“The U.S. Department of Health and Human Services established The Community Guide in 1996, beginning with the appointment of an exceptional board of advisors, to complement the Guide to Clinical Preventive Services. Together, the resources offer invaluable, evidence-based tools for community decision makers.”

Dr. David Satcher
Former CDC Director, 1993–1998



“The Community Guide has addressed many important public health issues facing national, state, and local decision makers. CDC looks forward to continuing work with the Community Preventive Services Task Force, The Community Guide, and their partners to tackle the most pressing population health issues.”

Dr. Robert Redfield
CDC Director



¹Hingson, R, Heeren, T, Winterson, R. Effects of recent 0.08% legal blood alcohol limits on fatal crash involvement. *Injury Prevention*, 2000 6:109-114. <https://injuryprevention.bmj.com/content/6/2/109>



The Community Guide In Action

See more stories at www.thecommunityguide.org/content/the-community-guide-in-action



By employing evidence-based strategies promoted by The Community Guide, the Cancer Coalition of **South Georgia** has been able to maintain effective partnerships to increase cancer screenings in historically underserved populations.

Concerns of rising obesity rates led policymakers in **Illinois** to develop and implement an enhanced physical education program in schools based on evidence-based intervention strategies from The Community Guide.



To raise the use of child safety seats and seat belts in the Yurok tribe in **Northern California**, a tribal motor vehicle injury prevention program, Buckle Up Yurok, was created using evidence-based recommendations from the Community Preventive Services Task Force.

The Ayudando a las Mujeres con Información, Guía y Amor para su Salud (AMIGAS) program engaged community health workers to deliver a multi-component intervention based on Community Preventive Services Task Force recommendations and doubled the rate of cervical cancer screening among Mexican-American women in **Texas and Washington**.



Community Preventive Services Task Force recommendations are among the resources CityHealth considered in their selection of policy solutions. CityHealth, an initiative of the de Beaumont Foundation and Kaiser Permanente, provides leaders with a package of evidence-based solutions that helps millions of people **nationwide** live longer, better lives in vibrant, prosperous communities.