



FROM VISION TO IMPACT:

10 Years of Building Together

10
YEARS | The **BUILD**
HEALTH
Challenge®

About Us

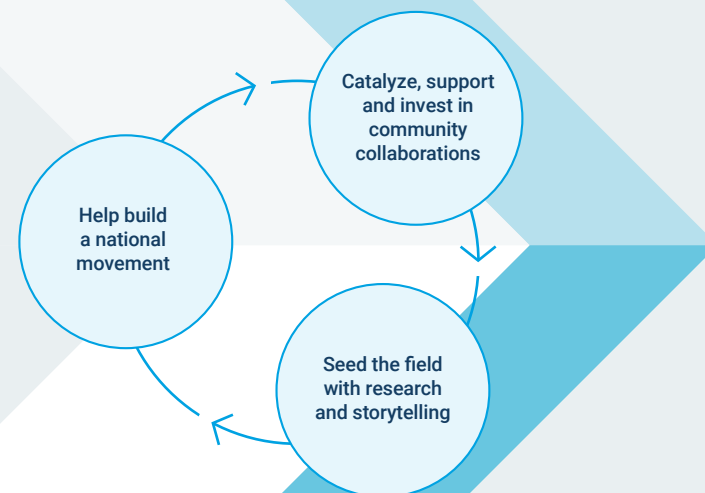
Our Mission

The BUILD Health Challenge® (BUILD) invests in multi-sector, community-centered partnerships that transform systems and elevate community power to advance health and racial justice. Through learning, connecting, and amplifying these local initiatives, BUILD champions the national movement for health equity and moves attention, resources, and action upstream to support vital community conditions for health and well-being across the United States.



Our Strategy

BUILD uses interlocking strategies to achieve change. We are working to equip more communities across the United States to achieve and sustain health, equity, and racial justice in ways that work for them.



Our Model

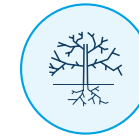
BUILD's model is designed to support community-driven collaborations working to identify a local health issue and address its root causes together, making lasting improvements to the community's health.

Each collaboration embodies the **BUILD** principles in their own way.



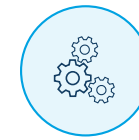
Bold

Drive fundamental shifts in policy and sustainability, creating systems-level changes through a lens of justice, equity, diversity, and inclusivity.



Upstream

Focus on the social, environmental, and economic factors that have the greatest influence on the health of a community, rather than on access or care delivery.



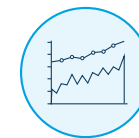
Integrated

Align the practices and perspectives of cross-sector partners under a shared vision, establishing new roles while continuing to draw upon the strengths of each partner.



Local

Prioritize the diverse lived experiences, voices, and leadership of neighborhood residents and community members throughout all stages of planning, implementation, and evaluation.



Data-Driven

Use varied forms of data from both clinical and community sources as tools to identify key needs, measure meaningful change, and facilitate transparency amongst stakeholders in order to generate actionable insights.



Key Community Impacts

Through The BUILD Health Challenge over the last 10 years, more than **20 funders** have invested **over \$30 million** to support cross-sector partnership in **68 communities** across **27 states** and **Washington, DC**.

The **BUILD award** is an investment of up to **\$300,000** over **three years**, which is provided to the lead community-based organization in each collaboration to support the partnership. The work is further catalyzed by a matching investment from a healthcare partner in the community.

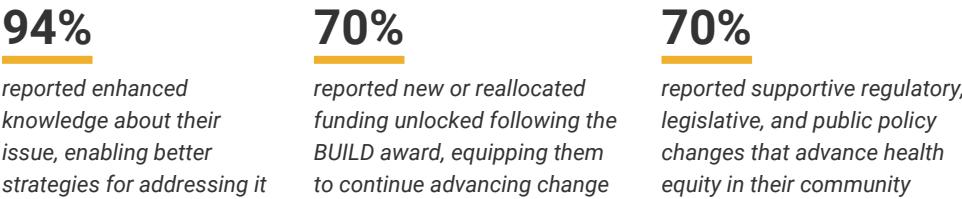


Activating Community-Led Change

Since BUILD is a catalyzing award, BUILD tracks system-level outcomes as well as short-term outcomes — early signs of progress and change that lay the foundation for broader change.

For example, among BUILD’s most recently completed cohort, 100% of collaboratives reported strengthened relationships among key community leaders and partners, positioning them to drive changes in their community.

Key outcomes among collaboratives include:



We’ve found that **three key changes** continue in communities after receiving a BUILD award:

- 1 BUILD partnerships evolve into dynamic networks of residents, cross-sector partners, and decision makers.
- 2 Communities better understand the social determinants of health and embrace advancing systems-level approaches to improve them.
- 3 Programs scale and access to resources expands for those most impacted by inequities.

BUILD Communities in Action

Preventing Pediatric Asthma in Des Moines, IA

●● BUILD 1.0 & 2.0 | 2015-2019

Healthy Homes Des Moines worked to mitigate housing's effects on children with asthma. Deteriorating structures, below standard indoor air systems, and pests caused poor indoor air quality in many Des Moines homes. The collaborative's goal was to address environmental factors that make asthma control harder and traditional treatments less effective. The project also built institutional support for ensuring healthy living environments for children with asthma

elsewhere in Iowa by using data to make the case for the cost effectiveness of upstream interventions, securing third-party funding, adding legal resources for tenants, and involving family support professionals in household environment improvement. Later, home inspection and remediation services were expanded to include additional health hazards such as radon gas, and the program continues today.



“One cool thing [about] our collaboration is that we have been able to generate this brand new conversation from people who have never talked about health...and who maybe haven't thought before about how they could be investing in the community.”

— **CLAIRE RICHMOND**
Polk County Housing
Trust Fund

Creating a Community Hub for Resources in Kerrville, TX

● BUILD 3.0 | 2019-2022

The Hope for Health Collaborative is a community-driven initiative focused on revitalizing the Doyle community, a historically segregated Black and Hispanic neighborhood in Kerrville, Texas. Community leaders, faith leaders, state and local government officials, and health system leaders came together, united by a deep commitment to the families that live in Doyle. This multi-faceted project focused on reconciliation and repairing the social and economic conditions resulting from community divestment and a century of structural racism. The collaborative began by fulfilling core needs of Doyle residents, including increasing food security, and providing vocational training, GED attainment courses, legal support, and transportation assistance to and from critical appointments. Today, the Doyle Community Center serves as a hub for community celebration and social support, bringing new life to the former Doyle School for Colored Children.



“Because of BUILD, we had opportunities to address disparities on a broader level. There were people in the community that were willing to have the conversations. The work we did together will change the entire trajectory of who Kerrville will be 50 years from now.”

— **REV. ALLAN NOAH**
Barnett Chapel United Methodist Church



GREENVILLE, SOUTH CAROLINA

In Greenville, Greater Trust Leads to Greater Health

● BUILD 3.0 | 2019-2022

Understanding Elevated Rates Of Chronic Disease

Through the BUILD award, local organizations and residents in Greenville, South Carolina developed new ways of working together, leading to stronger relationships and improved resources for community health.

Outside the city center of Greenville is the White Horse Road Corridor, a 12-mile stretch of highway where many of Greenville's Hispanic residents live. For many, the Hispanic groceries, markets, and clubs in the area are comforting reminders of home.

But the White Horse Road Corridor experiences pervasive racial segregation, and the significant lack of resources has contributed to elevated rates of chronic disease in the area, including obesity, especially among Hispanic male youth. Seeking to better understand and address the root causes of these health disparities, LiveWell Greenville, the South Carolina Department of Health and Environmental Control, the Institute for the Advancement of

"We were able to put pieces together and figure out — it's not just that a child is obese and they need to eat less and move more. It's about the community and the system they're living in and how that is hurting or enhancing their health."

— SABRINA SMITH
LiveWell Greenville

Community Health at Furman University, Bon Secours St. Francis Health System, and Prisma Health partnered together to launch the Build Trust, Build Health project with support from a BUILD award.

A Path To Building Trust

To guide their work, the teams at LiveWell Greenville and the Hispanic Alliance convened community focus groups and created the Healthy Equity Action Leaders (HEAL) board, a group of White Horse Road Corridor neighbors who have experienced food insecurity, limited active living access, and feelings of mistrust or not belonging due to discrimination. The focus groups were a critical opportunity for the neighbors to begin advocating for change.

The focus groups also helped community leaders understand that residents were not able to get the care and resources they needed because language services were not widely available, contributing not only to poorer health outcomes like increased obesity, but also fueling mistrust.

New Ways Of Working — For Greater Impact

The Build Trust, Build Health work continues to grow and community residents are benefitting from its impact. For example, the project has trained more than 250 health providers in language justice and culturally inclusive practices to further strengthen trust with their patients. And through Canasta Básica, a program that provides Greenville's families with culturally appropriate healthy foods, more than 1,600 families have been served so far, with \$157,000 invested in the program.

As Greenville looks to the future, the collaboration has made the Health Equity Action Leaders board a permanent fixture in LiveWell's structure, thereby ensuring that efforts to promote food security, active living, and health equity continue to be grounded in community members' life experiences.



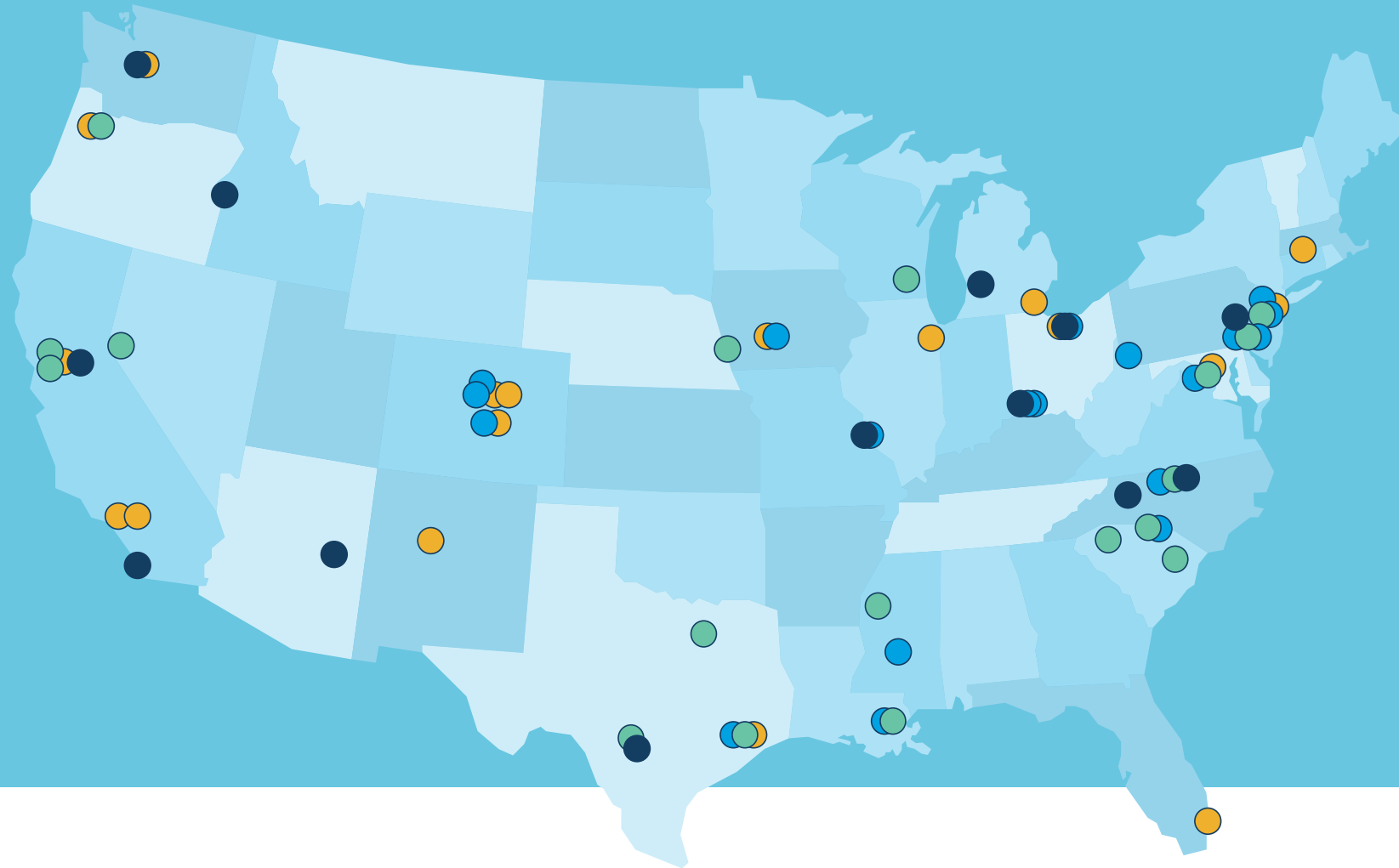
"We heard a lot of stories — moms that cannot come to the school to talk with the teacher because they didn't have the language to communicate what they need; people that need medical services and their third grade child was needing to provide interpretation."

— VANESSA RODRIGUEZ
Hispanic Alliance / LiveWell Greenville

A Growing Movement

BUILD Communities

Every BUILD collaborative is led by a network of partners who are committed to creating community-centered change. Together, they are building community power and advancing health equity across the United States.



2015-2017

BUILD 1.0

Albuquerque, NM
Aurora, CO
Baltimore, MD
Chicago, IL
Cleveland, OH
Colorado Springs, CO
Denver, CO
Des Moines, IA
Detroit, MI

Harris County, TX
Los Angeles, CA
Miami, FL
Oakland, CA
Ontario, CA
Portland, OR
Seattle, WA
Springfield, MA
The Bronx, NY

2017-2019

BUILD 2.0

Aurora, CO
Charlotte, NC
Cincinnati, OH
Cleveland, OH
Colorado Springs, CO
Covington and Gallatin County, KY
Des Moines, IA
Franklin Borough, NJ
Greensboro, NC

Houston, TX
Jackson, MS
Lafayette, CO
New Brunswick, NJ
New Orleans, LA
Philadelphia, PA
Pittsburgh, PA
St. Louis, MO
Trenton, NJ
Washington, DC

2019-2022

BUILD 3.0

Camden, NJ
Dallas, TX
Gastonia, NC
Greensboro, NC
Greenville, SC
Houston, TX
Kerrville, TX
Marion County, SC
Milwaukee, WI
New Brunswick, NJ

New Orleans, LA
Oakland, CA
Omaha, NE
Reno, NV
Sunflower County, MS
Vallejo, CA
Vancouver, WA
Washington, DC

2023-2026

BUILD 4.0

Allentown, PA
Boone, NC
Cincinnati, OH
Cleveland, OH
Durham, NC
Muskegon Heights, MI
Payette, ID
Pinetop-Lakeside, AZ
San Antonio, TX
San Diego, CA

Seattle, WA
St. Louis, MO
Stockton, CA

Critical upstream priorities addressed by BUILD collaboratives:



Housing



Safe Communities



Transportation



Maternal and Child Health



Community Revitalization



Youth



Healthy Living



Tobacco Control



Education



Food Access



Legal Intervention



Mental Health

WASHINGTON, DC

The Power of Centering Parents: From Asthma to Resilience

●● BUILD 2.0 & 3.0 | 2017-2022

Healthy Together: Cross-Sector Collaboration Fuels Impact

In Southeast DC, parents are driving change in how doctors, lawyers, and health plans support children's health. A medical-legal partnership that began between Children's National Hospital and DC's Children's Law Center (CLC) evolved into BUILD Health DC—a cross-sector collaboration that includes parents and the local public health department, supported by BUILD.

The partnership expanded legal services to address poor housing conditions impacting children's asthma. By integrating lawyers into pediatric clinics, families had access to lawyers who could advocate for resolutions on issues like mold or rodent infestations.

Listening To Parents Leads To Change

Listening to parents led to changes in how CLC provides legal services, including lawyers' visits to their clients' homes to see the housing conditions firsthand and the creation of a vital family outreach worker position to support families more holistically with a range of



social needs, significantly reducing the likelihood of lawyers losing contact with a family during protracted legal proceedings. By taking steps to build trust with the families it serves, CLC has been able to achieve more positive legal outcomes, which in turn has lowered the cost of treating kids' asthma in Southeast DC and improved health outcomes.

"We're providing individual legal services to each parent and caregiver, but this is about community leadership and voice and contributions. I think that we are now doing things differently at Children's Law Center."

— TRACY GOODMAN
Children's Law Center

The results spoke volumes. A BUILD-supported financial analysis showed that resolving unhealthy housing conditions reduced healthcare costs by an average of \$10,000 per child over 18 months. This data helped launch a first-of-its-kind contract between a legal service organization and managed care organization: AmeriHealth Caritas DC now provides reimbursement for legal interventions that lead to better health outcomes and cost savings.

Powerful Parent Voices Foster Resilience

In its next phase, BUILD Health DC leveraged their experience centering partner voices to address adverse childhood experiences (ACEs) by strengthening family resilience. Parent Cafés — peer-led spaces for sharing and connection — were launched in 2020 and later expanded.

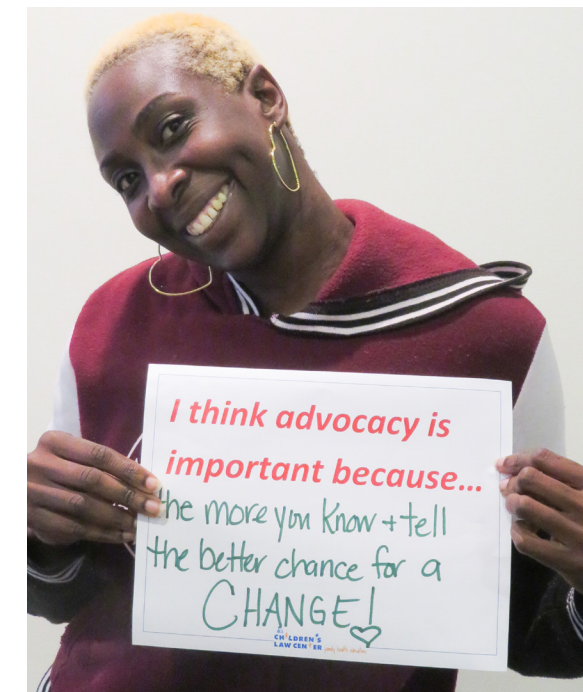
Parents weren't just participants — they were leaders. Spearheaded by these advocates, a new Parent Café training hub, led by the Early Childhood Innovation Network, has enabled hundreds of community members to become facilitators themselves, creating a sustainable network of peer support across DC.

"We had parents involved in almost all of our meetings, designing our strategy, figuring out what we were going to do...we have learned the value of parent leadership."

— DR. NIA BODRICK
Children's National / Early Childhood Innovation Network

The cross-sector BUILD model has helped to reshape how lawyers and doctors provide legal and medical services in the long term, embedding parent leadership into their core. From co-designing strategies to facilitating Parent Cafés, parents have played central roles in building a healthier Southeast DC.

BUILD didn't just catalyze new services to help improve children's health — it shifted power. By centering parent voices, the initiative has fostered sustainable, community-driven solutions that build equity and resilience for children and families in the nation's capital.





Improving Early Childhood Development in Allentown, PA

● BUILD 4.0 | 2023-Today

In Allentown, Pennsylvania, partners came together to improve education, health, and social factors that support healthy development for kids from cradle to career. With the BUILD award, the Early Childhood and Health initiative is ensuring that all children have the resources they need to thrive by creating an equitable learning environment for the first five years of life. The initiative is learning from families about the factors that contribute to inequities in educational and health outcomes, and advocating for sustainable systems and policy changes that will improve the lives of Allentown residents for generations to come.

“BUILD pushed us to center the community and residents in every part of our work. We invested a lot of time and effort into relationship-building with families in the community – creating a safe space for them to share what matters most and offering meaningful opportunities to connect.”

— SAMANTHA SHAAK

Leonard Parker Pool Institute for Health



Strengthening Housing Stability for Refugee Populations in El Cajon, CA

● BUILD 4.0 | 2023-Today

Community partners in the San Diego Refugee Communities Health through Housing Project are leveraging their respective strengths to improve housing stability for refugee populations in El Cajon, California. Safe, stable, and affordable housing is essential to maintaining good physical and mental health. Through collaborative, inclusive, and trauma-informed practices, community partners are advocating for policies and system changes that will eliminate discriminatory practices and make it easier for refugee families to live in safe and affordable homes.

“Through BUILD, we’ve learned that housing isn’t just shelter — it’s a foundation for healing, for connection, and for reclaiming security. When we invest in people’s homes, we’re investing in their health, their dignity, and their future.”

— DILKHWAZ AHMED

License to Freedom

Reflecting on 10 Years: Lessons Learned

When The BUILD Health Challenge launched over a decade ago, communities demonstrated a readiness for innovation, a desire to shift from focusing on reactive individual healthcare to preventative community health, and a willingness to partner to achieve their goals.

While our mission and model remain constant, BUILD has adapted its approach to respond to what we have learned from communities putting the model into action. BUILD shares the strategic shifts that had the greatest impact on our mission to advance a national movement that centers and sustains cross-sector, community-based partnerships.

1 Provide catalytic investment and support for lasting, local impact

BUILD's investment, guidance, and support in local partnerships is part of a much longer arc of change in communities. Recognizing this gives BUILD a greater ability to know what progress and impact can look like, even when it varies widely across different communities. For BUILD, impact can translate into new policies or regulations, changes in how we work to achieve healthy communities, or unlocking new funding.

Following BUILD's support of the Roots to Prevention collaborative in Camden, New Jersey, the cross-sector partnership received an additional \$1.4 million investment from the U.S. Department of Agriculture to continue expanding access to locally-grown, healthy food.

2 Implement trust-building in cross-sector partnerships

Trust-building with community-based and philanthropic partners is essential, and BUILD believes that communities know best what they need to thrive. By creating a flexible funding model and avenues of support that can adapt to local contexts, communities are able to move forward in ways that make sense for them, pivot in the face of challenges, and act on emerging opportunities. This leads to long-term, systemic change in BUILD communities.

3 Center equity and racial justice

BUILD places deep importance on being clear and explicit about its values and commitment to health equity and racial justice. Through community listening sessions, local partners shared with BUILD that this is an activating factor for them to engage in necessary — and sometimes difficult — conversations and practices in their unique contexts. At the same time, BUILD actively reflects on its own journey and shares learning to advance the field for others who are embarking on this work.

4 Prioritize community voices in decision-making

BUILD involves awardee partners in its decision-making processes and creates avenues for them to influence strategies based on their lived experiences to create a stronger and more effective relationship-driven initiative. BUILD awardees actively participated in its strategic planning design, and continue to influence programmatic decisions.

Starting in 2019, BUILD awardees began serving as compensated formal advisors to the initiative, a role formalized in 2024 with the establishment of BUILD's Awardee Advisory Council.

Gratitude for 10 Years: Letter from Our Executive Director

Dear Friends and Partners,

I want to express my deep and sincere gratitude to our community partners, funders, and supporters as we celebrate 10 years of The BUILD Health Challenge and its community-led collaborations advancing health equity and racial justice across the country. There are not enough words to express how honored I am to have been on this journey over the last decade.

BUILD began in 2015 with an interest in understanding how conditions related to where a person lives — such as access to healthy food, stable housing, education, and jobs — influence their health and well-being. **Today, BUILD is creating a new norm in the United States, one that shifts from a focus on individual healthcare to centering what supports health in a community. That is how real and lasting systemic change is realized.**

The BUILD funding collaborative has invested \$30 million into 68 community-led collaboratives. The results of their efforts show us what is possible when communities come together with a shared vision, trust, and the resources they need.

At BUILD, we celebrate the long-term systemic change that communities achieve and the complex work necessary to get there. BUILD awardees have demonstrated that incremental changes can compound over time, giving way to sustained improvements in health, quality of life, and well-being.

I'm proud that we continue to learn from our community partners about how to be Bold, Upstream, Integrated, Local, and Data-Driven, and we are committed to leveraging those learnings to advocate for our systems to better support community-driven approaches to health.

Our collective work — and the resulting transformations in communities — demonstrates how the BUILD model is a framework for any community to identify the root causes of health in their neighborhoods and embark on a shared path forward to greater equity.

BUILD looks forward to continuing its partnership with community leaders, health institutions, funders, policymakers, and health advocates across the country. Together, we embrace our shared responsibility of establishing healthy and equitable communities and a better future for us all.

With gratitude,



Melissa Monbouquette
Executive Director, The BUILD Health Challenge



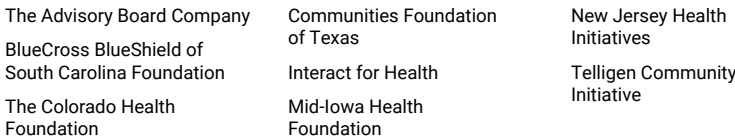
Thank You to the BUILD Funding Collaborative

BUILD is honored to partner with leading grantmaking organizations in this national, state, and local effort. Our collaborative blends national perspectives with issue-specific and regional expertise, and aims to inspire similar teamwork among organizations at the local level that will lead to a healthier tomorrow.

We are grateful for the support, guidance, and trust of our funding partners:



Many others contributed to our efforts over the last 10 years. Thank you to our previous funding partners:





10 | The
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Are you ready to BUILD with us?

We are seeking bold leaders who are committed to transforming community health and advancing equity. Visit us at [**www.buildhealthchallenge.org**](http://www.buildhealthchallenge.org) to learn more.