

Wyoming Department of Health, ARRA Impact -Communities Putting Prevention to Work: Community Funding

The CDC has made available \$373 million dollars for communities within the United States to address the issues of Obesity prevention/physical activity/nutrition (Category A), and tobacco prevention and control (Category B). Communities with populations between 50,000 – 500,000 are termed as rural areas and must submit applications via their state health departments. Additionally, the state health department, in this case the Wyoming Department of Health, must coordinate and provide oversight to the communities that are funded. Two communities may be funded under each category for a total of four communities.

Activities under both categories are to come from the use of MAPPS (**M**edia, **A**ccess, **P**oint of purchase, **P**rice, **S**ocial support & services) interventions. These interventions are evidence based and have shown to be effective in a variety of contexts (e.g., urban or rural populations). The intent of the funding is to help communities formulate change through the establishment of policy and environmental change. Again, the policies and environmental change will focus on either the reduction of chronic disease risk factors, specifically obesity, poor nutrition, lack of physical activity (Category A) and tobacco use (Category B).

The funding is for two years, but is a one-time only opportunity. Wyoming can receive between \$3 - \$8 million dollars to fund the communities under each category. The CDC anticipates funding between 30-40 communities/states of various sizes.

A Letter of Intent is due by October 30, 2009 and the full application must be submitted by December 1, 2009. Money will be awarded sometime in February, 2010.