

NEW LONDON COUNTY PREVENTION COALITION

Healthy people in healthy places



CDC COMMUNITY TRANSFORMATION GRANT AWARDED TO NEW LONDON COUNTY

In November 2011, the Connecticut State Department of Public Health received a \$489,000 Community Transformation Grant (CTG) award. This five-year grant from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) is part of the Affordable Care Act and National Prevention Strategy to improve America's health.

Annual funding of \$84,000 will be distributed to each of the following five counties:

New London Tolland Windham
Middlesex Litchfield

ABOUT COMMUNITY TRANSFORMATION

The CT Community Transformation Grant (CTG) program will build the community capacity to prevent chronic disease. Funds will be used to support these communities as they build countywide coalitions and create a community health profile. This profile will include a health status report and an inventory of policies, environmental conditions and systems that may impact health. Each coalition will create a "Community Health Improvement Plan," which will include proven strategies to prevent obesity, reduce tobacco use, and prevent and control high blood pressure and cholesterol.

LEDGE LIGHT AND UNCAS HEALTH DISTRICTS PARTNER TO LAUNCH NEW LONDON COUNTY PREVENTION COALITION

Ledge Light and Uncas Health Districts will lead the New London County Prevention Coalition. For more information, or to join, contact: Cindy Barry, MA, at (860)-448-4882 x 302 or Deborah Buxton-Morris at (860) 823-1189 x123.

INVESTING IN COMMUNITIES INVESTING IN HEALTH

Experts agree that the places where people live, learn, work and play profoundly shape their opportunities to make healthy choices. People living in New London County's cities, towns and rural countrysides know that healthy choices are not always the easy choices.

The New London County Prevention Coalition will include community leaders in schools, work sites, health care, community organizations, and neighborhoods, working together to make healthy choices easier. This initiative will build on existing momentum and spark new, creative efforts to change statewide and local policies, improve community conditions, and invest in partnerships that will improve the health of **all** residents.

These changes will address the priority areas of:

- active living and healthy eating
- tobacco-free living
- quality clinical preventive services

JOIN THE MOVEMENT!

The New London County Prevention Coalition's impact depends on the vision, talent, dedication and support from every sector of our community. Members will have the opportunity to:

- Participate in "learning communities" and partner with subject matter experts in policy, agriculture, transportation, education, housing, and marketing
- Build a Report Card on Health for New London County
- Create a blueprint to advance health equity and reduce health disparities
- Produce sustainable change so residents can lead healthier, more productive lives

New London County - Putting Prevention to Work

FIRST COUNTYWIDE CHRONIC DISEASE PREVENTION EFFORT FOR NEW LONDON COUNTY

The Community Transformation Grant Program in Connecticut will give local public health departments an opportunity to translate prevention research into public health practice! Ledge Light and Uncas Health Districts will lead the first Countywide effort to reduce chronic diseases such as heart disease, cancer, stroke and diabetes. The New London County Prevention Coalition will strengthen the public health infrastructure and expand the work of ACHIEVE New London by creating new partnerships and bringing together existing coalitions to study and address the County's unique disparities in health outcomes and community conditions. The Coalition will then develop a plan with specific measures to achieve health equity, eliminate health disparities and improve the health of the overall population.

The New London Prevention Coalition will address the following priority areas, as set forth by the Center for Disease Control and Prevention: 1. *healthy eating and active living*, 2. *tobacco - free living*, and 3. *quality clinical preventive services*.

1. Healthy Eating Active Living

Many coalitions such as School District Wellness Committees, Children First New London County, New London Food Policy Council, New London Farm to City Coalition, New London County Community Gardens, the Departments of Agriculture and Transportation, and the Council of Governments will strengthen their efforts to improve access to healthy foods and opportunities for physical activity.

2. Tobacco-Free Living

The MATCH Coalition, American Lung Association, Connecticut Cancer Partnership, worksites, schools and municipal leaders will work together to identify policies and ordinances, strengthen cessation efforts and select strategies to reduce access to tobacco and exposure to environmental tobacco smoke indoors and in public outdoor spaces.

3. Quality Clinical Preventive Services

The New London County Health Collaborative was established to ensure quality preventive and other clinical services for New London County's most vulnerable citizens. As the Collaborative takes up a major strategic planning process this year, Ledge Light and Uncas Health Districts will assist in capacity building activities, coordinate data collection, mapping and management, and contribute evidence and practice-based models to reduce chronic disease. The Collaborative will play an integral part in designing and implementing the first countywide plan to improve clinical preventive services, with a focus on preventing and controlling risk factors for cardiovascular diseases.

