Establishing Effective Partnerships to Improve Health through the Built Environment

Shaw Forum/Workshop Hosted by the Urban Land Institute
June 10th, 2017

Small Group Discussions Summaries

1. What are the key health initiatives/programs/projects of each Joint Call to Action signatory organization which represent opportunities for sharing and cross-organizational collaboration (by staff)?
   - First step: crosswalk how various projects and topics intersect and connect existing projects and programs
     - Focus areas in common (food, resilience, transportation etc.) to work together on as staff
   - Leverage existing conferences and events through a shared calendar
   - Hold regular meetings to review action plans
     - Quarterly meeting with work goals
     - Team of selected staff (2 staff members per organization assigned)
     - Collaborate among selected staff (no one leader)
     - Overarching edict from our CEOs so Joint Call to Action is a part of job descriptions, communications
   - Develop a member network
     - Look at bringing together executive boards, CEOs

2. How can the Joint Call to Action signatory organizations encourage collaboration at the local level between members of differing professions?
   - National organizations need to be on the same page to define what health means in built environment – “Bill of Health Rights” statement
     - All organizations agree upon and can help disseminate toolkit from the national to the local level
     - Framework informs the creation of a task force/committees at a local level
   - Increase communication between organizations on the local level
     - Need bridge builder/point person/generic email linked to all chapter leaders to increase local collaboration
   - Nationally compiled strategies/best practices/case studies to present to local jurisdictions and other standards/code officials
   - Develop process to present joint statements for healthy ideas to local elected officials and policymakers
National staff can help to get public health officials/other local experts to the table to uncover community needs and local issues

- Regional convening/seminar/workshop for local chapters to connect and evaluate area’s health – aligning local health officials needs with design intent
- Crowdsourced app to be populated by people in local area to show good examples of healthy design and/or areas of need/problems
  - Crowdsourced information gives general public ownership/education about local environment’s pros and cons

3. Do members of the Joint Call to Action signatory organizations/various disciplines share a common language or understanding around health?

- Organizations share the same values of health, but have different areas of expertise
- Articulate the value add and benefits of health – what is the big picture?
  - Goal is to engage and educate community members, role of the organizations is to translate
  - Include evidence base and metrics in the value add
- Clarify assumptions about codes/policies that different professions may have about what other professions are doing in the processes involved with health and built environment
- Facilitate Joint meetings and a shared calendar at the local level for peer to peer learning

4. Which other organizations or groups should be at the table?

- Criteria for bringing in other organizations:
  - Core definition/key framework for this work – tapping into membership for subject matter expertise
  - Have a local level constituency network – a targeted market
  - Internal framework for health goals/outcomes/implementation explicitly
  - Capacity to assess/monitor programs – how to empower local level staff to take the lead
  - Staff capacity to participate, assume leadership role over time
- Two types of organizations to involve/differing roles:
  - Advisors – sharing expertise
    - E.g. CDC, NAACP, social justice, equity groups
  - Adopters – groups who can take action, have influence
- Other perspectives to include:
  - Investment
  - Transportation
  - More public health
  - Government/elected officials
  - Civic engagement (this should be integrated in all perspectives)