Upstream Investments for Health Equity: Putting Your CHNA Into Action with Community Environmental Scans
National Health Foundation’s mission and community engagement philosophy -

- Upstream solutions for addressing the social determinants of health
- Participatory Action Research
- NHF’s history with BUILD Health LA

Community Environmental Scans & CHNA’s

- Enhancing CHNA’s with community perspective & engagement
- Assisting hospitals in investing in upstream solutions for social determinants of health
NHF’s Community Environmental Scan Process

1. Literature Review and Data Mining
2. Community Engagement Activities
   a) Community Canvassing
   b) Focus Groups
   c) Stakeholder Surveys
3. Data Analysis
4. Recommendations
   a) Strategies for addressing community concerns
   b) Related service providers in the area
   c) Investment options
Challenges -

• Timing – community engagement is a time consuming, sometimes unpredictable task
• New communities with new landscapes, geographically but more so culturally and politically

Successes -

• Built trust with community residents on behalf of the hospitals
• Authentic community engagement and feedback
• Strengthened partnership between NHF and Keck Medicine of USC
Upstream Investments in Health Equity

Community Environmental Scans and the subsequent recommendations are driven by community residents and tailored to their needs. Knowing this, will help a hospital tailor their investment strategies and invest in upstream solutions that can start them on a path towards achieving health equity in their service areas.