GIS as a tool for bridging Public Health, Healthcare and the Community

The Center for Healthier Children, Families & Communities is a multidisciplinary, community-focused research, policy, and training center at UCLA. Established in 1996, it is a joint effort of the David Geffen School of Medicine Department of Pediatrics and the UCLA Fielding School of Public Health. The Center also includes faculty from the UCLA Luskin School of Public Policy & Social Research, School of Law, and the College of Letters and Sciences. The center collaborates with leading organizations across the country to create and spread forward-thinking ideas and strategies.

The speakers will present on the Center’s work, approach, and discuss place-based framing of the spatial contexts in which health outcomes are produced in an effort to facilitate cross-sector alignment to address population health challenges. The Center is adopting novel approaches using geographic information systems to address these challenges with an approach based on incorporating community resident context experts from the start.

Join the Webinar

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Meeting ID: 644 190 077
Neal Halfon, MD, MPH
Director, CHCFC; Professor, David Geffen School of Medicine at UCLA, Dept. of Pediatrics; Professor, UCLA Fielding School of Public Health, Dept. of Health Policy and Management; Professor, UCLA Luskin School of Public Affairs, Dept. of Public Policy

Dr. Neal Halfon is a professor of pediatrics, health services, and public policy. Dr. Halfon's research has spanned clinical, health services, epidemiologic, and health policy domains. For more than a decade, Dr. Halfon has worked with national, state and local initiatives aimed at improving early childhood systems. He has also played a significant role in developing new conceptual frameworks for the study of health and health care, including the Life Course Health Development (LCHD) framework.

Dr. Halfon directs the All Children Thrive (ACT) network of people and places across the U.S. that are working together to identify the strategies and policies that can help all children thrive. Additionally, he is the Principal Investigator of Transforming Early Childhood Community Systems (TECCS) Initiative. He is Associate Director of the UCLA Clinical Translational Science Institute (CTSI). He also served as member of the Board on Children Youth and Families at the Institute of Medicine and National Research Council from 2001-2006. In 2006, he was awarded the annual research award from the Academic Pediatric Association for his contribution to the field of child health research. He received his MD at the University of California, Davis, and his MPH at University of California, Berkeley. He completed his pediatric residency at UC San Diego and UC San Francisco.

efrenaguilar

Geographic Information Systems Unit Chief

efrenaguilar heads GIS activities for the Center. He applies geographic information systems informed support to planning and evaluation practices that emphasize the impact of neighborhood conditions on individual and community health. His work emphasizes the democratization of data and inclusion of local residents in developing community-based planning efforts, actionable research, and place-based funding decisions as core strategies to achieve health equity. His professional experience runs a broad range of issues including social justice, homelessness, supporting displaced political refugees, domestic violence, education, public health, and child development.

In his current position efren is supporting the Doris Duke Population Change community of practice on Improving Community Wellness Measures. He is serving as a technical advisor to the New York Academy of Medicine East Harlem Action Collaborative for Child Health and Well-being Initiative and supports the UCLA Iris Cantor Women’s Center’s Reproductive Health and Environment Mapping Assessment Project (RHE-MAP). His primary role at the Center is to provide technical assistance on population measures and their community contexts for Transforming Early Childhood Community Systems (TECCS) Initiative consisting of a network of communities across the United States using the Early Development Instrument.

About the Bridging Collaborative

The Bridging Collaborative was built on the recognition that the relationship between public health agencies, health care organizations (systems, hospitals, health systems, etc.) and the community is central to population health improvement efforts.

The purpose of the collaborative is to help strengthen the relationship between public health, health care and the community by supporting and disseminating cross-sectoral population health efforts.

The Collaborative is co-chaired by Terry Allan, Health Commissioner of the Cuyahoga County Board of Health (Ohio), and David Lakey, Chief Medical Officer and Associate Vice Chancellor for Health Affairs at the University of Texas System.

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