

Adult Ed & Employment

A) Adult and out-of-school youth education

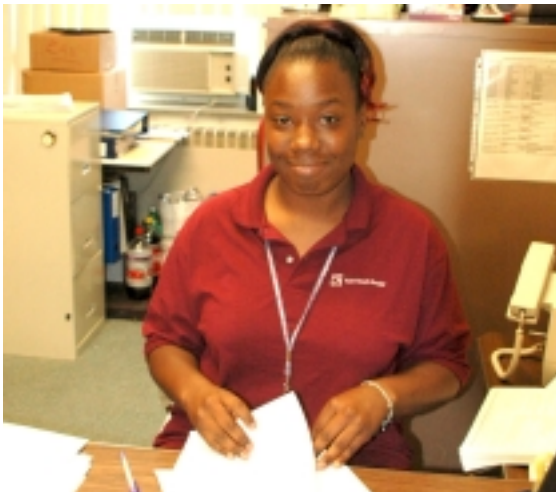
- Partnership membership added five new active members associated with the Pathways to Family Success Team, increased the number of programs and activities and increased enrollment in literacy services by 32 slots in Title I classes.

B) Alternative programs including tutoring, drop out prevention and after-school programs

- 60% of Project Success Plus participants passed the MCAS exam and over 30 middle school youth were involved in a mentor program that supports MCAS learning.

C) Youth and senior employment and volunteerism

- The Mayor's Youth Council has established a community service registry with an inventory of volunteer opportunities for youth
- The Shepherd Center and the Khmer Family Resource Center are creating a volunteer transportation project for Cambodians.



Housing & Planning

A) Affordable housing

- The Fall River Housing Authority has been authorized and is now moving forward to soon implement the plan to construct new owner-occupied and subsidized apartment units on the site of the Watuppa Heights housing project.

- Community Action for Better Housing is in the process of converting the rectory of St. Anne's Church to 18 apartments for low-income elderly and disabled people

B) Waterfront access

- Funding is now being sought for key aspects of completed plans to open up access to the western edge of Fall River's riverfront

C) Improvements in recreation facilities for youth and adults

- The Fall River Conservation Commission has received the notice of intent to construct a bicycle path from Brayton Avenue to the Westport line planned by Green Futures.



The Fall River Healthy City Initiative was established in partnership with the City of Fall River and Partners for a Healthier Community and is supported by a grant from the Harvard-Pilgrim Foundation



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Partners for a Healthier Community is the local Community Health Network Area (CHNA) organized by the Massachusetts Department of Public Health to establish a working partnership between DPH and area residents to improve the health status of all those who live or work in the CHNA

Partners for a Healthier Community
P.O. Box 9608
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**Healthy
City
Fall River**



Summary of First Year Accomplishments





Healthy City First Year Accomplishments

In the Spring of 2004, participants in the Healthy City Fall River initiative identified five Priority Areas and Sub-Areas (see columns to the right) to address health and quality of life improvements for the city.

By the end of the first year of the project, a number of projects were underway and significant progress had been made within the five Priority Areas.

Some of these accomplishments are briefly described on each of the five panels to the right. Information on all fifty of the first year Healthy City Fall River projects can be seen at the website, www.healthycityfallriver.org.

Additional projects have been identified for the second year of the project, and progress will be monitored on each of these throughout the year. An annual Spring Celebration of accomplishments is held in April each year to acknowledge the efforts that citizens who live or work in Fall River are making to improve the quality of life and the health of city residents.

We invite you to become involved by volunteering your time to take with one or more projects!

Safety & Substance Abuse

A) Increased community policing and personal safety

- Maplewood Neighborhood Association held "Hello Neighbor" event to strengthen cohesiveness and was designated a "Weed & Seed" area
- Every 5th through 9th grade student in Fall River Public Schools - approximately 2,600 students - participated in a five-session relationship violence prevention curriculum by the Katie Brown Foundation.

B) A drug-free community, including enforcement of tobacco laws

- The HELPP project educated over twenty neighborhood leaders on heroin use, prevention and treatment and produced public service announcement that aired on local cable television channels
- SSTAR's Project Alert graduated over 200 middle school students in a science-based drug prevention curriculum
- A tobacco enforcement unit was established by the Health Department to identify and stop illegal tobacco sales to minors.

C) reduction of gangs

- Fall River police used public forums, neighborhood meetings, PTO meetings and athletic events including bike rodeos and basketball shoot outs to reduce gang activity



Environment & Recreation

A) Cleaner streets and parks

- All sixth grade students viewed a 45 minute GREEN FEVER presentation and 300 participated in an Eco-Invention Convention
- The Clean and Lien program encouraged property clean-up city-wide and assessed fines on violators

B) increased and improved recreational opportunities for youth and adults

- An updated Open Space and Recreation Plan was completed with steps to restore the parks system, enhance the quality and appeal of neighborhoods and expand outdoor recreational opportunities
- The Trustees of Reservations provided free after-school recreational activities for over 1,000 youth in the city's new bioserve
- The Boys & Girls Club completed construction of a new 18,000 square foot addition and have added 120 new members to their program
- Community Development Recreation increased year-round recreational, educational and cultural programs by 9% with no additional funds
- The Board of Park Commissioners enhanced Kennedy Park and North Park through grants and expanded the Youth Little League and new adult baseball league from 4 to 10 teams.
- The Street Tree Planting Program provided two 6-week training programs and established a public awareness education program

C) Measures to ensure cleaner air and water

- Fall River Water Watch organized a Make-A-Difference Day clean-up along the western shore of North Watuppa Pond
- The Combined Sewer Overflow project continues to move forward on its projected timeline.

Health Education

A) Nutrition and diabetes education

- All second graders in 10 schools participated in the U-Mass Extension "Pick a Better Snack Program", a social marketing campaign aimed at increasing fruit and vegetable consumption.
- The Healthy Lifestyles Task Force completed a vending machine survey at Durfee High School, distributed healthy eating packets to kindergarten parents, conducted a smoking survey with Charlton and St. Annes, and developed walking programs for the schools.
- The Diabetes Association offered a "Keep Moving" program to 38 families, a "Power To Move!" exercise program combines stretching, strength training and low-impact aerobics, and a series of educational sessions on diabetes prevention to employees at the Quaker Fabric Corporation.

B) Tobacco education

- Over 2,000 public and private fourth graders got a good look at "Mr. Gross Mouth" and decided smoking was not for them in Charlton Hospital's Tar Wars program, a supplement to the patient QuitWorks program.
- St. Anne's Hospital adopted QuitWorks throughout the Hospital, offered an 8-week cessation program four times a year, and adopted the READY, SET, QUIT Program for employees and patients in cooperation with Partners for Clean Air.

C) Physical fitness education

- A new Durfee High School Wellness Center provides 35 weight and cardiovascular fitness machines and heart monitoring equipment to teach students the importance of lifelong fitness.