

Local Health Departments CalFresh Healthy Living FFY 2022

Brief 3: Partnerships and Coalitions

Research Brief • July 2023

Background and Overview

Local health departments' (LHDs) CalFresh Healthy Living (CFHL) programs engage in partnerships and coalitions to leverage resources and enhance sustainability. These partnerships and coalitions are especially important for supporting PSE change efforts.

- Partnerships occur formally or informally between LHDs and other entities involved in CFHL programming during a given year.
- Coalitions are groups of individuals and/or organizations who commit to joint action over an extended period.

Annually, LHDs report information about their collaboration in the Program Evaluation and Reporting System (PEARS). This brief highlights data reported by LHDs during Federal Fiscal Year (FFY) 2022.

Partnerships

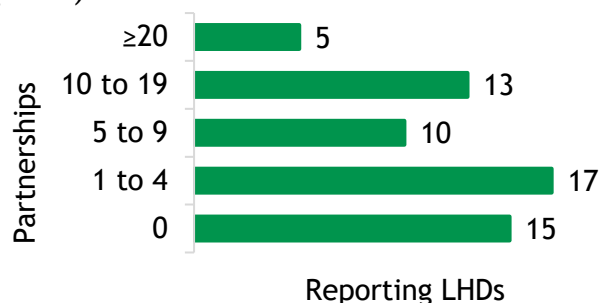
Partnerships Reported

Out of 60 LHDs, 45 (75%) reported at least 1 partnership in FFY 2022 (Figure 3.1).

- Nearly half of LHDs (47%) reported 5 or more partnerships (Figure 3.1)
- 573 total partnerships were reported
- Of the 45 LHDs reporting partnerships, the median number of partnerships was 7 and the maximum was 163

Figure 3.1

Number of partnerships reported by LHDs (N=60)



Types of Partners

Partners reflect the settings where CFHL programs are implemented and organizations that support these efforts. Half of all LHD partners represented 3 partner types:

1. K-12 schools (28%)
2. Early care & education facilities (12%)
3. Public health organizations (10%)

Other commonly reported partners include farmers markets and other agricultural organizations (7%), foundations and non-profit organizations (6%), community members (6%), food banks and pantries (5%), and local government agencies (5%).

Partnership Assistance

For each partnership, LHDs report what types of assistance they provide to the partner, and what assistance they receive.

- The most common assistance provided by LHDs was materials (74%)
- The most common assistance received by LHDs was program implementation (51%)

Coalitions

Multi-Sector Coalitions Reported

Out of 60 LHDs, 44 (73%) reported at least 1 coalition in FFY 2022 with 2 or more members.

- 127 total coalitions were reported
- Of the 44 LHDs reporting coalitions, the median number of coalitions was 2 and the maximum was 17

Coalition Membership & Sector Representation

Among 127 coalitions, the number of members reported ranged from 2 to 118 (median = 10).

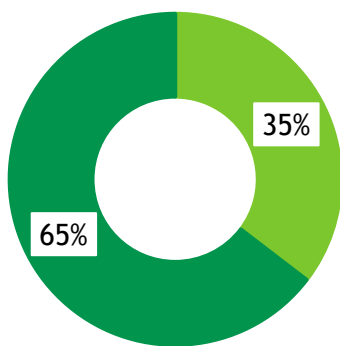
To understand the extent to which LHDs worked with other sectors to collectively impact their audience, we assessed the diversity of sectors represented in each coalition with at least 2 members.

- Coalitions comprised 1 to 8 sectors, with a median of 4
- Out of 127 coalitions, 45 (35%) had 5 or more sectors represented (Figure 3.2)

Figure 3.2

Coalition sector diversity (N=127)

- 5 or more sectors
- Fewer than 5 sectors



The most frequently represented sectors in coalitions were ‘public health and health care’ and ‘education’ (Table 3.1).

Table 3.1

Sector representation in FFY 2022 coalitions

| Sector | Coalitions with sector representation N (%) |
|-------------------------------|---|
| Public health and health care | 101 (80%) |
| Education | 97 (76%) |
| Government | 78 (61%) |
| Community design | 53 (42%) |
| Food industry | 45 (35%) |
| Agriculture | 42 (33%) |
| Public safety | 26 (20%) |
| Media | 4 (3%) |
| Other* | 30 (24%) |

Other included non-profit organizations, faith-based groups, and community members.

Accomplishments

LHDs attributed a wide range of accomplishments to their collaboration:

Through this partnership, we increased access to physical activity at parks and open spaces by hosting several bicycle and pedestrian rodeos. - Long Beach

Having a designated Wellness Program Coordinator has resulted in a strong Wellness Committee and a network of Site Wellness Leads who can implement the wellness policy and assess progress at school sites. - San Diego

The Children's Outdoor Bill of Rights was formally adopted by the Board of Supervisors in March 22. The coalition is sharing activities that will help children complete the Bill of Rights - for example, a local farm has Saturday farm days that children can participate in. - Santa Clara