



# Our Health is California's Health

## Setting the Health Agenda for 2010 & Beyond

September 2010

### California's policymakers and health stakeholders are encouraged to:

- ❖ Support the core principles of equity and fairness, effective governance, and health in all policies.
- ❖ Use these principles as a lens to evaluate and discuss health issues.
- ❖ Advance the recommendations for improvement in: Health Care Access and Quality, Promoting Safety in Homes and Communities, and Preventing Chronic Disease.
- ❖ Share these principles and recommendations broadly.

The health of Californians is vital to the health of California: our workforce, our economy, our healthcare costs, and our children's future all depend on people living in healthy, thriving communities. Every decision we make impacts our health—from transit to education to new technology investments—and we must commit as a state to ensuring that every policy and decision we make will better the health of Californians. The momentum is starting to build:

**In Richmond**, community advocates in this heavily industrial city worked closely with redevelopment and public health staff to improve local air quality, documenting the effects of diesel truck traffic in residential neighborhoods and mapping new routes for the polluting vehicles.

**In San Jose**, when residents urged the local redevelopment agency to pay more attention to neighborhood safety, a strong community coalition was born—generating a host of successful proposals, including simply building a sidewalk to help make a crime-ridden playground more safe and accessible.

**In San Diego**, a federally-funded Beacon Community is launching a program that aims to better heart attack and stroke outcomes by empowering patients to engage in their own health management through online and cell phone technology.

Californians need leaders committed to protecting and improving everyone's health. The recommendations and core principles in this document reflect the shared thinking of the signatories, leaders from organizations across California focused on public health and health care access and quality.

**Action is needed now—The health of all Californians depends on it!**

# Endorsements

American Lung Association in California  
Asian Pacific Partners for Empowerment, Advocacy and Leadership  
Asian & Pacific Islander American Health Forum  
Berkeley Media Studies Group  
California Black Women's Health Project  
California Center for Public Health Advocacy  
California Food Policy Advocates  
California Pan-Ethnic Health Network  
California Public Health Association—North  
Center for Civic Partnerships  
Center for Health Improvement  
Children Now  
County Health Executives Association of California  
Harm Reduction Coalition  
Human Impact Partners  
Insure the Uninsured Project  
Latino Coalition for a Healthy California  
Latino Health Access  
Lifelong Medical Care  
Local Government Commission  
Partnership for the Public's Health  
PolicyLink  
Prevention Institute  
Public Health Institute  
Regional Asthma Management & Prevention  
St. John's Well Child and Family Centers