

News

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20 new leadership teams selected for Kresge's Emerging Leaders in Public Health initiative

Foundation reaches goal of training 100 local public health leaders

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HEALTH </programs/health>

The Kresge Foundation announced today the 40 public health leaders who will work to transform the role of local public health departments in their communities as part of the third cohort of The Kresge Foundation's Emerging Leaders in Public Health <<http://www.kresge.org/elph>> initiative, totaling the number of trained leaders to 100.



Kresge's Emerging Leaders in Public Health was designed to provide public health leaders of county and local health departments opportunities to build additional knowledge and skills to tackle the challenges they face in their communities. This initiative is part of the foundation's Health Program's strategy to accelerate community-centered approaches that promote health of communities.

During the program, the leaders will participate in an action-oriented program focused on the design and implementation of a transformative concept that shifts or expands the capacity of their local department. Each team will receive a resource grant up to \$125,000 as well as coaching and technical assistance to evolve their ideas into action.

“We were overwhelmingly impressed by all of the applications for the third cohort of Emerging Leaders in Public Health,” said Dr. Phyllis Meadows, senior fellow to The Kresge Foundation’s Health Program and the Emerging Leaders in Public Health lead. “Collectively, these leaders are dedicated and passionate as well as have the abilities to truly transform the role of public health in their communities.”

The initiative is designed to develop teams of local public health leaders, including the health director and an emerging future leader from a public health agency. Each team will be asked to challenge and support each other while building skills and competencies together, applying their knowledge to transform how each organization functions in its community.

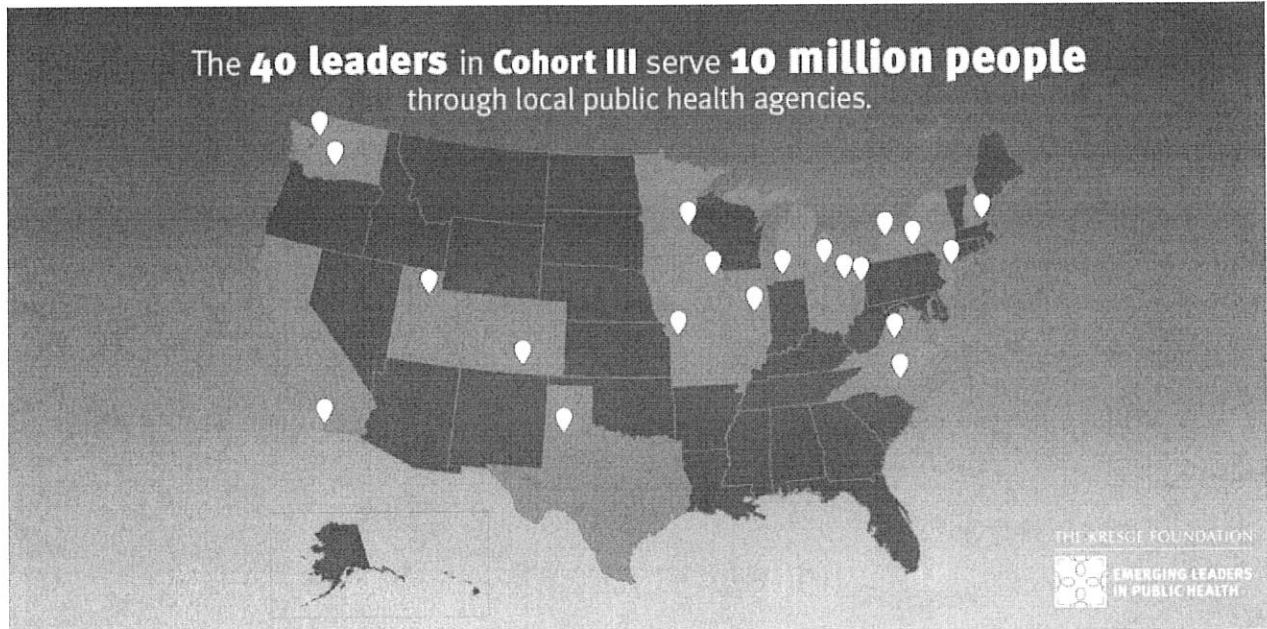
Cohort III Emerging Leaders in Public Health Participants

The leaders participating in the third cohort are:

- Nicki Britten and Courtney Davis, Berrien County Health Department
- Nafissa Cisse-Egbuonye and Eileen Daley, Black Hawk County Health Department
- Julie Pryde and Awais Vaid, Champaign-Urbana Public Health District
- Layton Long and Michael Zelek, Chatham County Public Health Department
- Katherine Wells and Madeline Geeslin, City of Lubbock – City of Lubbock Health Department
- Bobbie D. Bagley and Heidi Peek-Kukulka, City of Nashua Division of Public Health and Community Services
- Merle Gordon and Brian Kimball, Cleveland Department of Public Health
- Wilma Wooten and Sayone Thihalolipavan, County of San Diego HHS Agency, Public Health Services
- Joneigh Khaldun and Valentina Djelaj, Detroit Health Department
- Paul Pettit and Brenden Bedard, Genesee and Orleans County Health Departments

- Bridgette Casey and Ray Dlugolecki, Jackson County Health Department
- Stacey Flanagan and Linda Ivory-Green, Jersey City Department of Health and Human Services
- Kim Gonzales and Jennifer Sanchez McDonald, Las Animas – Huerfano Counties District Health Department
- Patricia Sweeney and Michelle Edison, Mahoning County District Board Health
- Anne Barry and Kathy Hedin, Saint Paul – Ramsey County Public Health
- Gary Edwards and Dorothy Adams, Salt Lake County Health Department
- Jeff Ketchel and Nicole Thomsen, Snohomish Health District
- Denise Bonds and Rebecca Schmidt, Thomas Jefferson Health District
- Frank Kruppa and Samantha Hillson, Tompkins County Health Department
- Andre Fresco and Lillian Bravo, Yakima Health District

Collectively, the 20 health departments represented by these cohort leaders serve nearly 10 million community members in cities across the country.



The 40 leaders selected for this newest cohort join a growing community of public health leaders support by The Kresge Foundation. In 2015, Kresge selected 24 public health leaders to participate in the inaugural cohort of the initiative and in 2017 Kresge selected 40 public health leaders to participate in Cohort II. With the addition of Cohort III, Kresge is meeting its goal of providing leadership development and resources to those who directly serve their communities.

“At Kresge, we recognize the complexity of the health system, and that all the disciplines within our nation’s public health system have the potential to play important roles in fostering community health. Public health agencies are an especially vital partner in creating healthier people and communities, and we look forward to fostering the skills and ideas of the sector’s next generation of leaders,” said David Fukuzawa, managing director of The Kresge Foundation’s Health and Human Services Programs.

The leaders will be supported by The University of North Carolina Gillings School of Public Health (UNC), which serves as the National Program Office for the initiative.

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