

## Education & Health



### HEALTH FAIR EVERYWHERE



# **GETTING THE (HEALTHY) WORD OUT**

- Research suggests that health fairs can influence healthy behaviors like nutritious eating and active living.
- Your community can support nutritious eating and active living by providing information and materials to residents at local events.
- At a health fair, you can easily reach large audiences with information about healthy living.
- More reasons for hosting a community health fair can be found here.



#### **ACTION STEPS**

#### **Gather interested partners**

- As you plan the steps needed to organize a successful health fair, consult the following resources:
  - The American Heart Association's Health Fair Kit
  - Lourdes Health Fair Manual

#### **BE THE FIRST!**

Tell the Mayors Wellness Campaign what you did so we can spotlight your work here!

 Challenges and Failures of Health Fairs and Community Screenings

#### **Develop materials**

- Think about what type of information you want to hand out (e.g., healthy food flyers, exercise plans, healthy heart tips, mental health supports, local health clinic information, etc.).
- Partner with local health care professionals, clinics or hospitals, and fitness organizations that have these materials; or design your own. Here are some free resources:
  - Healthy NJ's information on "Diet Food and Nutrition"
  - Healthy NJ's information on "Exercise and Fitness"
  - Chose My Plate's "10 Tips Nutrition Education Series"
  - Resource guide for health fairs, with focus on minority health

#### **Build Support**

- Tap local hospitals, gyms, and businesses to provide the materials or subsidize your printing costs.
- Allow them to be sponsors and supporters. Add their logos to any materials you develop.

#### **Get Help**

- Get a group of volunteers to promote the message at various town events.
- Secure a location such as a school gym, a sports field, a house of worship, or a town hall.
- Recruit students, hospital volunteers, or service groups to pass out materials.
- Decide what incentives you will offer to guarantee attendance. Consider incentives like free dental services, health screenings and vision screenings.