

# SUPPORT THE PREVENTION & WELLNESS TRUST FUND

*Please Support H2012/S1293 by Senators Lewis, Chandler and Welch & Representatives Vega and Chan*



People's health is influenced primarily by the conditions where they live, work, and play. Yet, we spend nearly \$60 billion on health care in Massachusetts, primarily to treat people after they're sick. PWTF is first large scale initiative that invests in evidence-based community strategies to prevent illness and reduce health inequities. Between 2014-18, PWTF funded successful clinical-community partnerships focused on childhood asthma, falls among older adults, hypertension, and tobacco use.

## Independent Evaluation Finds Promising Results, Supports Further Investment

An independent evaluator found that between 2014-2017 *"PWTF appears to be a very sound investment from the point of view of improving outcomes and controlling costs."* noted significant systems innovation, and concluded that PWTF warrants further investment. The Prevention & Wellness Advisory Board—which includes representatives of consumers, insurers, hospitals, municipalities, business, researchers, and others - has recommend continued funding.



## Community Interventions To Tackle Root Causes of Poor Health & Health Inequities

Preventable health conditions such as diabetes, hypertension, asthma, and substance use disorders continue to rise, consuming 86% of national health care costs. The result is shorter lives, lower quality of life, reduced workplace productivity, and missed school days. Lower income communities and communities of color are impacted the most. Tackling these challenges requires robust investment in community prevention.

## Essential Partner in Successful Health Care Transformation

PWTF can bring evidence-based interventions to scale and evaluate their impact, providing crucial lessons for MassHealth and accountable care organizations as they seek to improve care at lower cost. PWTF also addresses community factors that lead to poor health – supporting ACOs to take on financial risk by tackling major cost drivers.



## Small Investment, Major Impact

A relatively small investment can impact millions of Massachusetts residents, with financial benefits for payers, businesses, government, and families. This bill funds PWTF through a combination of marijuana revenue (passed in the House in 2018) and a modest assessment on health insurers (passed into law 2012), with an estimated total of \$28m annually.

## Continued Funding Supported by Health Care, Municipal, Social Service, and Community Leaders

The House and Senate voted to re-fund PWTF in the last session as part of health care legislation. Hundreds of civic leaders have called for continued funding for PWTF, from large hospitals and health systems to small community based-organizations, from health policy leaders to labor leaders, and from business leaders to elder service providers. Mayors from Boston to Pittsfield also support future funding.

# PREVENTION TRUST COALITION

Action for Boston Community Development	Holyoke Public Schools
Alliance of Massachusetts YMCAs	Holyoke YMCA
Berkshire County Boards of Health Association	Hudson Health Department
Berkshire Family YMCA	Immigrants' Assistance Center, Inc.
Berkshire Health System	Latino Health Insurance Program
Berkshire Public Health Alliance	Lynn Community Health Center
Berkshire Regional Planning Commission	Lynn Health Department
Boston Senior Home Care	Manet Community Health Center
Berkshire South Regional Community Center	Massachusetts Association for Mental Health
Boston Public Health Commission	Massachusetts Association of Community Health Workers
Bowdoin Street Health Center	The Massachusetts Chapter of the American Academy of Pediatrics
City of Boston Elderly Commission	Massachusetts Coalition for the Homeless
Codman Square Health Center	Massachusetts Medical Society
Community Action of the Franklin, Hampshire & North Quabbin Regions	Massachusetts Public Health Association
Community Health Center of Cape Cod	Metropolitan Area Planning Council
Community Health Center of Franklin County	Metrowest YMCA
Community Nurse Home Care	New Bedford Health Department
DotHouse Health	Northern Berkshire Community Coalition
Duffy Health Center	Organization of Nurse Leaders
Edward M. Kennedy Community Health Center	Partners for a Healthier Community
Elder Services of Berkshire County	Quincy Health Department
Elder Services of Cape Cod & Islands	River Valley Counseling Center, Inc.
Elder Services of Merrimack Valley	South Shore Elder Services
Ethos	South Shore YMCA
Enhance Asian Community on Health	Springfield Food Policy Council
Family Health Center of Worcester	Springfield Partners for Community Action
Gloucester Health Department	Tri-Town Health Department
Greater Boston Interfaith Organization	UMass Memorial Health Care
Greater Lowell Health Alliance	Volunteers in Medicine
Harbor Health Services, Inc. - Hyannis	VNA of Cape Cod
Harvard Street Neighborhood Health Center	Western Area Massachusetts Dietetic Association
Health Care For All	Western Massachusetts Physicians Associates
Health Resources in Action	Western Massachusetts Health Equity Network
Healthy Living Center of Excellence	Weymouth Health Department
Heywood Healthcare	YMCA Cape Cod
Holyoke Health Center	YMCA Southcoast
Holyoke Medical Center	