



South Carolina's Healthy Eating and Active Living Health Impact Assessment Capacity Building Project

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# **Capacity Building Process**

- Increase knowledge of HIAs and the skills required to perform HIAs
- Conduct a planning process to assess current and future capacity and capability to implement HIAs focusing on healthy eating and active living
- 3. Complete Rapid HIA in one SC community



## Learning about HIA

### SC Team attended ASTHO sponsored HIA training:

- •SC Department of Health & Environmental Control
- •SC Institute of Medicine & Public Health
- Spartanburg Area Transportation Study
- Partners for Active Living
- Berkeley/Charleston/Dorchester Council of Governments

#### **Results:**

- Increased understanding of the HIA process
- Partnership building
- Decision to conduct a rapid HIA



# Strategic Planning Process

Convened diverse group of stakeholders from across SC:

Council of Governments City Planners

Transportation Planners Department of Agriculture

Department of Education Cycling Advocates

Department of Transportation State Housing Agency

Facilitated discussion about how HIAs could be used to address healthy eating and active living in SC



## Planning Process Takeaways

## **Key Considerations:**

- How to position HIAs as 'value-added'
- How to promote the use of HIAs
- How to select projects / decisions to impact
- How to identify resources and capacity to conduct HIAs



## Planning Process Takeaways

#### **Recommendations:**

- Educate decision makers about HIA
- Educate non-health & health professionals about HIA
- Establish a mechanism for identifying policies or projects
- Consider varied funding sources
- Build increased capacity for data collection/management
- Continue to build capacity to perform HIAs

Full Report available at <a href="https://www.imph.org">www.imph.org</a> under "Publications"



# Since the Planning Process

- •In 2011, IMPH conducted an HIA in Spartanburg, SC on proposed road project (report available at <a href="https://www.imph.org">www.imph.org</a> under "Publications")
- •IMPH asked to lead HIA workshop at VA Public Health Association Meeting (September, 2011)
- •IMPH received National Network of Public Health Institutes (NNPHI)/Health Impact Project training scholarship (November, 2011)
- •The Piedmont Health Foundation sponsored HIA training provided by IMPH in Greenville, SC (March, 2012)
- •IMPH selected by NNPHI and Health Impact Project for HIA demonstration project funding in 2012.



# **Moving Forward**

### **Opportunities:**

- Newly funded project in new area of state (Greenville)
- Continued partnership with Spartanburg stakeholders
- Understanding that HIAs are 'scalable'
- Understanding that HIAs are 'part science, part art'

#### **Challenges:**

- Getting the attention of policy makers
- Timing is everything
- Most of all capacity and resources



## Thank you!

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