A guide to Policy, Systems, and Environmental Change

Policy, systems, and environmental changes (PSE) initiatives are ongoing activities that inspire healthier communities by improving the environments where limited-income people buy, cook, consume, and enjoy food.

To learn more about our PSE toolkits visit our website.

ncstepstohealth.org



Examples of PSE Changes

Farmers Markets

- Steps to Health

Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program Education (SNAP-Ed)



Assist market in being more culturally appropriate for their community

Schools

Parks



Create strategies to support walking and biking to school.

Policy

A written statement of an organizational decision.

Example: A school health team drafting school-wide nutrition policies.

Systems

Unwritten, ongoing, organizational changes that result in new activities that reach large proportions of clients served.

Example: Ensuring water is always available to drink at community sites

Environment

Observable changes to the built or physical environments.

Example: Improving the appeal, layout, or display of healthy foods at a food pantry.



Develop signage to promote increased opportunities for physical activity.

Community Sites

Create opportunities for on-site gardening programs.



Food Pantries

Utilize bundling or crossmerchandising strategies to encourage healthy choices.



EXTENSION

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