



Partnerships & Multi-Sector Coalitions

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Local health departments' (LHDs) CalFresh Healthy Living (CFHL) programs engage in partnerships and coalitions to leverage resources and enhance sustainability. These collaborations are especially important for supporting policy, systems, and environmental (PSE) change efforts.

Partnerships occur formally or informally between LHDs and other entities involved in CFHL programming during a given year.

Coalitions are groups of individuals and/or organizations who commit to joint action over an extended period.

PARTNERSHIPS

LHDs reported **539 partnerships** in FFY24. Nearly all LHDs (92%) reported at least one partnership, and a quarter reported 10 or more. Among reported partnerships, 17% (89) were newly established during FFY24.

Partners reflect the settings where CFHL programs are implemented and the organizations that support these efforts. Common partners included:



As mutually beneficial partnerships, LHDs provided assistance to their partners as well as receiving assistance in return. Assistance commonly included:

Assistance Provided	Assistance Received
Materials (76%)	Human resources (58%)
Human resources (64%)	Space (54%)
Program implementation (58%)	Planning (48%)
Planning (56%)	Program implementation (46%)

MULTI-SECTOR COALITIONS

LHDs reported participation in **179 multi-sector coalitions** in FFY24. Nearly all LHDs (92%) reported at least 1 coalition with 2 or more members. On average, coalitions were 6 years old and LHDs reported having participated in them for an average of 5 years.

Coalition membership can help us understand how LHDs work together with other sectors to collectively impact their audience. In FFY24, coalition membership:

- Ranged from 2 to 62 members per coalition (median = 7)
- Comprised 1 to 11 diverse sectors (median = 4)
- Included at least 5 diverse sectors for 34% (61) of coalitions
- Included at least one Community-Based Organization for 67% (120) of coalitions

LHDs reported having various goals for their coalitions. The most common of these goals included:



- 46%** Influence development or revision of a site, organization, or community level policy
- 41%** Help establish a new community service to improve community health
- 25%** Support implementation of a new law or policy
- 18%** Help establish a new government service to improve community health
- 15%** Develop a monitoring system for community changes adopted previously

ACCOMPLISHMENTS

LHDs attributed a wide range of accomplishments to their collaborations. A handful of these include:*

"We successfully completed some Walk Audit Assessments around the Central Union High School site and utilized the school's STEM classes to have students complete projects that would support the Safe Routes to School interventions."

–Imperial County



"Coordinated food access resources for the community. Continued to strengthen emergency food response connections and protocols to be ready for the next disaster. Members worked to create an inventory of community food assets that can be mobilized in times of disaster."

–Sonoma County



"Successfully held the 30th annual Kids at the Park event for children in San Benito County."

–San Benito County



"Through this coalition we were able to:"

- produce \$3 coupons with additional funding from the public health department, which could be redeemed at farmers markets to purchase fresh fruits and vegetables
- promote CalFresh utilization at Farmer's Markets through coupons to over 80,000 SNAP-eligible families through Social Services direct marketing and distribution to over 80 partners
- produce marketing materials co-developed with WIC and distributed to WIC clients and through partner organizations
- develop new social media messaging to promote the program
- track coupon usage at markets
- track CalFresh and Market Match redemption"

– Santa Clara County



"Over the past year this coalition has had meetings to discuss ways to best support improved physical activity access, time, and resources to Safe Education and Recreation for Rural Families Program (SERRF) sites. The coalition planned, scheduled, and completed a full SERRF staff training utilizing the CATCH physical activity curriculum boxes. The goal of conducting this all staff training was to continue working towards a more wide-spread adoption of the CATCH evidence-based physical activity curriculum and sustainability of improved opportunities for non-PE physical activity in the after school programs throughout Tehama county."

–Tehama County



**Quotes may be edited slightly for brevity and clarity*