Invest in Healthier Community Spaces

Urban Health Partnerships (UHP)

UHP is a public health nonprofit that works with communities, governments, and organizations to invest in South FL communities by co-designing sustainable change and promoting health and well-being across the life span.



Targeted Support for the Healthy Streets & Public Spaces Initiative (HSPS)

The Issue: Need for Improved Safety, Access, & Quality of the Built Environment

South Florida has long been ranked among the most dangerous metro areas in the nation by the National Complete Streets Coalition's "Dangerous by Design" reports, ranking at #14 as of 2024. Public spaces such as parks and streets, however, are well-known to provide important benefits that contribute to a community's health and well-being. From natural areas to social connection spaces to transportation networks, communities need public space infrastructure and options to help them thrive. The many benefits of an active and healthy public space urge the prioritization of addressing long-standing barriers like increased crash risks on our roadways, gaps in bike and pedestrian networks, long transit commutes, threats from extreme heat and increasing urbanization, and lack of adequate investment in parks and recreation facilities and programs.

About the Healthy Streets & Public Spaces Initiative

At UHP, we aim to improve streets and public spaces through community-centered projects and policies that promote healthier environments and expand opportunities for residents. Our HSPS projects strive to provide the South Florida community with the ability to move independently, access resources, connect with others, engage in physical activity, and experience nature.

Mobilizing Toward Change: The HSPS Initiative Focuses on 5 Critical Areas

- Improve the safety, connectivity, and quality of our transportation systems for all users
- Enhance the quality of park spaces and programming to leverage their potential as resource hubs
- Integrate community voices into all aspects of project and planning decision-making processes
- Reduce health impacts from urbanization effects like extreme heat, water contamination, and air quality
- Promote sustainability of healthy streets and public spaces through Complete Streets policies, active design, and increased investment in parks

We Need Your Support

The HSPS Initiative has accomplished many policy, systems, and environmental changes towards improving public spaces, but more resources are needed to address persistent and evolving challenges for Miami-Dade.

Your investment will help create resilient, community-driven public spaces that allow people to live full, active, and healthy lives within their own neighborhoods.

Questions? Contact Wren Ruiz at wren@urbanhp.org

Join Us in Making a Lasting Impact

Sponsorship Benefits

- **Opportunity to join leadership committees** and collaborate with local governments, technical experts, and community leaders.
- Recognition as a program sponsor in newsletters, social media posts, and promotional materials.
- Opportunities for volunteer involvement in community events.
- **Quarterly progress meetings** with HSPS leaders to discuss program impact and opportunities.
- Highlighted recognition on UHP website, with tailored collaboration packages based on funding amount.

Funding Area	Investment Needed	Impact
Expand the Park Health Hubs Model	\$150,000	Fund the implementation of Park Health Hubs for a South Florida community to help us demonstrate the successes of the model in improving access to healthcare and resources through parks.
Support Complete Streets initiatives throughout South Florida	\$150,000 - \$200,000	Support community-led initiatives for safer, more accessible streets and transit systems for all including walking audits; increased safety enhancements; and Complete Streets policy adoption.
Reduce health impacts from extreme heat and urbanization	\$35,000 - \$100,000	Help expand shade coverage in South Florida communities through tree plantings, creative shade solutions, and championing ways to address environmental impacts on public spaces and waterways.
Protect historic cultural neighborhoods and safe spaces of South Florida	\$75,000	Support efforts to preserve historic Black neighborhoods and LGBTQIA+ neighborhoods and safe spaces, including strategic programs and policies with local governments, historic designations, or commemorative community changes like local art.
Support community-led advocacy to improve parks and programming	\$125,000	Fund activities that enhance parks facilities and programming, such as park audits, community-driven advocacy with local governments, and new programs based on community priorities.

Join Us in Building a Safer, More Connected South Florida

By supporting the Healthy Streets and Public Spaces Initiative, you are investing in a future where all residents can enjoy safe and quality public spaces, increased access to resources and opportunity, improved options in transportation, and connection to their neighborhood.

Contact Wren Ruiz at <u>wren@urbanhp.org</u> or at (786) 224-2309 today!

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