



Building a healthy Kentucky together.

July 1, 2011

William D. Hacker, MD, FAAP, CPE
Commissioner
Department for Public Health
275 East Main Street HS1GWA
Frankfort, Kentucky 40621

Dear Commissioner Hacker:

Kentucky Voices for Health, a broad coalition of over 250 organizations and individuals working to improve health and health care coverage for all Kentuckians, offers its support for the Kentucky Department of Public Health's Community Transformation Grant application. Tobacco use and second hand smoke, obesity, diabetes, high blood pressure, and the effects of high cholesterol are all critical to improving the health of all Kentuckians. These problems are even more pronounced in our disparate populations and in rural communities, who are so often faced with additional challenges such as provider shortages and other barriers to care.

We appreciate the invitation to be a part of the broad-based Leadership Team which will guide this five-year initiative and look forward to partnering with you to engage communities in this transforming effort. Working with local coalitions and individuals at the community level will help give this Leadership Team even better perspective to influence positive policy and environmental changes.

Kentucky Voices for Health seeks to build a healthier Kentucky through focusing on the following priorities:

- Assure that all Kentuckians have access to high quality, affordable health care
- Make prevention a priority for Kentucky's health policies and programs
- Improve the efficiency and effectiveness of health care for Kentuckians
- Improve the health of Kentucky's children

The objectives of this grant proposal fit within the above mission. We are committed to working with you and your team on efforts to promote tobacco free living and active and healthy lifestyles. We believe that the best health care solutions are found when everyone works together to build them. Kentucky families and businesses in every county are facing rising costs. Healthy families create healthy economies and a healthy Kentucky is something we all want. In the next five years, we can address these high impact areas at the state and local levels to ensure a sustainable future.

Kentucky Voices for Health welcomes the opportunity to be a significant collaborator in this integrated and cooperative approach to chronic disease prevention for the Commonwealth of Kentucky.

Sincerely,

Jodi Mitchell
Executive Director

120 Sears Avenue, Suite 212 ● Louisville, KY 40207
Phone: (502) 552-1406 ● Fax: (502) 690-3555
www.kyvoicesforhealth.org