



As a resource center for physical activity information and materials, the USC PRC serves public health specialists and physical activity practitioners. Our primary resources are described below.

We maintain an extensive Web site (<http://prevention.sph.sc.edu>) to provide resources and information to

researchers, public health practitioners, and others who are interested in promoting physical activity in their communities. The Web site contains research updates, which summarize recent physical activity research; copies of reports and tools developed by the USC PRC; an archive of past issues of the USC PRC newsletter; links to other physical activity-related Web sites; and descriptions of USC PRC projects.

The *USC Prevention Research Center Notes* is an e-mail newsletter with current information about physical activity and public health. The newsletter includes brief updates of current journal articles; notices of new reports, materials, and resources; listings of upcoming conferences and workshops; and topics related to promoting active community environments. Instructions for subscribing can be found on our Web site.

The Physical Activity and Public Health On-Line Network is a listserv that advances public health approaches to promoting physical activity by creating an international network of public health practitioners, researchers, and interested others. Instructions for subscribing can be found on our Web site.

The Physical Activity and Public Health (PAPH) courses consist of an eight-day Postgraduate Course on Research Directions and Strategies and a six-day Practitioner's Course on Community Interventions. The long-term goal of the courses is to improve the public's health by increasing the number of researchers and practitioners who have expertise in the population-based promotion of physical activity. More information is available on our Web site at <http://prevention.sph.sc.edu/seapines/index.htm>.

CONTACT INFORMATION

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OUR MISSION AND VISION

The University of South Carolina Prevention Research Center (USC PRC) envisions *Physically Active People in Active Community Environments*. To achieve our vision, we are committed to conducting research and to translating that research into practice to improve the health of individuals, families, and communities.

OUR RESEARCH GOALS

- **Identify factors that affect physical activity in community settings**
- **Evaluate the influences of community environments and policies on physical activity**
- **Develop successful physical activity interventions in community settings**
- **Design community interventions to reduce racial and ethnic disparities in physical activity**

OUR CORE RESEARCH

The USC PRC's community-based participatory core research project is titled "Policy and Environmental Change to Promote Physical Activity: A Participatory, University-Community Partnership." This project is conducted in Sumter County, S.C., through the Sumter County Active Lifestyles (SCAL) coalition. SCAL is a community-based coalition of city and county agencies, businesses, nonprofits, associations, and local residents. The USC PRC and SCAL work closely with the local public health district and the Sumter County Recreation and Parks Department to meet the SCAL goal to "increase physical activity or exercise among Sumter County residents by creating a supportive environment through policy and environmentally focused strategies."

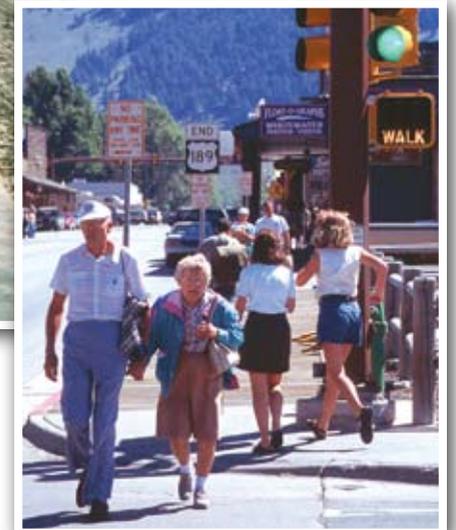


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