

Making Long Island a Healthier Place to Live, Work, Learn and Play

In 2015, the Long Island community was awarded a **Creating Healthy Schools and Communities (CHSC)** grant from the New York State Department of Health initiative to increase access to affordable and nourishing foods in schools and the surrounding neighborhood. See how we are using this opportunity to make Long Island a thriving community.

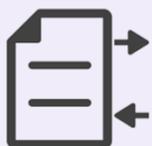
A primary goal of this initiative is to develop synergies between in-school wellness efforts and community health and outreach efforts.

Aligning efforts strengthens the collective impact we are able to achieve.



Creating Healthier Schools

Western Suffolk BOCES is leading the efforts in five Long Island School Districts. Key activities include:



Policy. Work with District Wellness Committee to assess, strengthen and communicate the wellness policy.



Implementation. Establish a Wellness Team in at least one building in each district to lead policy implementation, including offering healthier foods and opportunities for physical activity.



Engagement. Engage students, staff and families in health promotion activities.

Creating Healthier Communities

Community health and outreach efforts, led by Sustainable Long Island and Stony Brook Medicine, reinforce the in-school health and wellness programming. The target areas communities are Roosevelt, Wyandanch, Central Islip, Brentwood, and Southampton (Shinnecock reservation). Key activities include:



Healthy Food Retail. Work with local retailers near schools where little or no healthy food or beverage items are available for purchase.



Complete Streets. Make improvements to the built environment by adding Complete Streets features such as wayfinding signage, paint in crosswalks, bus shelters, bike lanes etc. The benefits of these changes are improved safety, increased economic vitality, and improved health.



Worksite Wellness. Partner with community organizations, such as worksites, daycares, after-school programs, and faith-based organizations, to adopt healthier standards for food served and sold, and increase access to and consumption of healthy, affordable foods and beverages.

Want to get involved?
Contact Western Suffolk BOCES at
631-595-6843

