

Support *Mass in Motion* Funding in the FY17 Budget

(Line item: 4513-1111)



MASSACHUSETTS

Action for Equity in Health

PUBLIC HEALTH ASSOCIATION

The Pressing Issue Facing Massachusetts:

- 2 out of 3 Massachusetts adults, and 1 in 4 Massachusetts children are either overweight or obese.
- Obesity is impacted by community conditions that limit access to healthy foods and safe places to be physically active. These conditions especially impact low income communities and communities of color.
- Obesity-related diseases account for a full \$3.5 billion in excess health care costs annually in Massachusetts.

The Mass in Motion program is improving health and well-being in communities by:

- Improving school nutrition and building physical activity into the school day.
- Working with restaurants, convenience stores and food pantries to offer healthier food and drink options.
- Improving parks and playgrounds by cleaning up litter, improving lighting and removing graffiti.
- Opening up school and community spaces during the evenings and weekends for physical activity.
- Adopting "complete streets" policies and practices, making it safer and easier for people to walk and bike.



Erving

Essex

Mass in Motion Works!

Communities that have been participating in Mass in Motion since its inception in 2009 have shown a statistically significant drop in the percentage of overweight and obese school children compared to the state as a whole.

State funding for *Mass in Motion* is contingent on federal matching funds and leverages private funding.

FY2017 Budget Request—Language in 4513-1111:

"funding shall be expended for Mass in Motion community grants in an amount not less than expended in fiscal year 2016, contingent upon receipt of matching federal prevention block grant funds"

Mass in Motion works in more than 60 cities and towns, including:

Adams Everett Northfield Springfield Lenox Amherst Fall River Leyden Northampton Stockbridge Sunderland Ashfield Fitchburg Lowell Northborough Framingham Belchertown Lynn Orange Taunton Buckland Malden Palmer Wakefield Cambridge Gloucester Manchester by the Sea Pittsfield Warwick Charlemont Great Barrington Marlborough Revere Wendell West Springfield Chelsea Greenfield Medford Rockport Clarksburg Hawley Melrose Weymouth Rowe Monroe Roxbury Williamsburg Conway Heath Deerfield Holvoke Montague Salem Worcester Dorchester Hudson New Bedford Shelburne

New Salem

North Adams

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