Together, we're making our 15 communities healthier, better places to live through collaborations!

Sharon Sandusky purchases produce from the Mobile Farm Stand, which makes weekly visits to three of Montclair's senior housing buildings. She says, "I love that they bring fresh fruits and vegetables straight to my door!"

Eleanor Davis adds, "The Mobile Farm Stand is a blessing. All this food for $3… it's a week's worth of vegetables for me."

• Partners for Health Foundation and community partners are spearheading efforts to make healthy choices easier through policy and environmental changes because…

14.2% of New Jersey's low-income children under the age of five are obese. Among the 44 states reporting on low-income childhood obesity, New Jersey has the highest prevalence.

• We're addressing the persistent issues of hunger and homelessness because…

Men and women of all ages are working, but still unable to afford basic necessities, like housing, food, child care, health care and transportation. The United Way of Northern New Jersey estimates that there are 1.2 million "ALICE" (Asset Limited, Income Constrained, Employed) households in the state.

• We're helping older residents to age in the community by connecting them with services, activities, and opportunities to engage in civic life because…

87% of adults age 65+ want to stay in their current home and community as they age. A total of 71% of adults aged 50 to 64 want to age in place.

• We're increasing access to oral health because…

New Jersey is one of three states to receive an F grade from the Pew Charitable Trusts for its lack of access to dental sealants for low-income children.

• We're developing a mental health safety net and creating system-wide changes to foster youth resiliency because…

More than 50% of life-long mental health disorders emerge before the age of 14 and 75% prior to age 24.

Partners for Health supports the Mobile Farm Stand, part of the Montclair Community Farm Coalition, which operates farms behind HOMECorp housing on Miller Street and at the Montclair Historical Society on Orange Road. The coalition engages the community in farming, food, agricultural and nutritional education. Members also include the Department of Health & Human Services of the Township of Montclair, Montclair State University, and Rutgers Cooperative Extension of Essex County: Essex 4-H and Master Gardeners. A new partnership with the Montclair District Initiative for Gardening in Schools (DIGS) provides even more produce for the Mobile Farm Stand. Funding is also provided by the USDA and community members.
TOGETHER, we’re making our 15 communities healthier, better places to live through collaborations!

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*Featured on the cover*

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PARTNERS FOR HEALTH FOUNDATION'S IMPACT SINCE 2008… 270 grants to 105 organizations, totaling more than $8 million!

Free tax preparation services from New Jersey Citizen Action and United Way of Northern New Jersey for low income families resulted in refunds totaling more than $1.1 million this year, 28% of which were in Earned Income Tax Credits (EITC).

Representatives from Montclair, Bloomfield, Nutley and West Orange convened quarterly to advocate for pedestrian safety. Freeholder Brendan Gill attended a recent meeting.

Community contributions and 46 healthy food drives plus matching dollars from Partners for Health Foundation resulted in more than $571,000 in grants to organizations fighting hunger and homelessness since 2014.

A 2015 survey evaluating Lifelong Montclair concluded that 71% of the respondents found the Lifelong Montclair Guide to Public Transportation useful, and 65% learned something new.

The KinderSmile Community Oral Health Center in Bloomfield provides a much needed dental home to children and pregnant women, with or without insurance.

The Zufall Mobile Dental Clinic has brought in-depth, high-level learning to older adults in just over one year.

The Zufall Mobile Dental Clinic serves children and seniors, residents of public housing, veterans, and homeless individuals and families through visits to local partner organizations.

City Gear is working with local EITC partners to address systemic barriers to tax preparation services.

The LIFE Transitions for Seniors has supported 50 residents facing critical life decisions since 2015. A Mental Health Association of Essex County counselor works with adults 65+ at the Montclair YMCA, the Montclair Public Library, and at the Aging in Montclair Senior Hub in the Salvation Army.

The Young Voices conversation at the 2016 Montclair Film Festival began with a screening of 4 short films including *Individuality*, produced by these student filmmakers. A panel of experts then discussed the concerns of local youth and how our community can provide a better safety net to support them.

The first six months of a one-year fresh produce grant provided funding for 41,400 healthier soup kitchen meals and more nutritious food offerings for 5,300 pantry clients.

HomeSharing has created 13 housing matches resulting in 2,266 nights of shelter. The program matches residents who are willing to share their homes with individuals in need of affordable housing.

Every contribution will be matched $1 for $1 by Partners for Health!

The Montclair Institute for Lifelong Learning (MILL) fosters learning as a lifelong endeavor and provides adults aged 55+ with opportunities to make social connections. A campaign has been launched to meet the growing demand for classes and to keep them FREE and accessible for all.

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