

The CAPHE Partnership: History and Current Efforts

Our Foundation



Community leaders, environmental advocates, and researchers have long been concerned about, and advocated on behalf of, environmental health in Detroit. In 2013, three long-standing partnerships between community members and academic researchers came together to create CAPHE. Community Action Against Asthma (CAAA), founded in 1998 with a focus on air pollution and childhood asthma; Detroit Community Academic Urban Research Center (URC), founded in 1995 with a focus that included policy advocacy for health equity; and Healthy Environments Partnership (HEP), founded in 2000 with a focus on the environment and heart health in Detroit. All three partnerships use Community Based Participatory Research (CBPR) approaches that aim to equitably involve community based organizations, health service providers, and academic researchers in all aspects of the research process. Community and academic partners from CAAA, the URC and HEP pooled skills and resources to create CAPHE, to address air pollution and promote health equity in Detroit (<https://caphedetroit.sph.umich.edu/>).

Where We Are Now

CAPHE launched our [Public Health Action Plan](#) (PHAP) to reduce air pollution and promote health equity in 2017. The plan is grounded in strong science and community priorities: It builds on, and substantially extends, ongoing efforts to improve Detroit's air quality. Since 2017, CAPHE partners have disseminated recommendations and the science underlying them, and worked with others to implement priority actions. Our partnership has grown to include community based organizations, environmental advocates, and governmental and academic institutions. Together, all partners make up the CAPHE Steering Committee (SC), responsible for overseeing CAPHE's continued work. Funding from multiple sources, with multiple CAPHE partners serving as fiduciaries, continues to support action on prioritized PHAP recommendations.



Mission and Values

Equity is at the center of all aspects of our work, including our process, our research, and our actions. We strive to promote collaboration and shared decision making at all levels, to continually evaluate and strengthen our efforts, and to ensure that Detroit residents and leadership have a substantial voice in identifying and creating solutions to promote clean air and health equity in Detroit.

CAPHE Timeline

