



NATIONAL  
QUALITY FORUM

# Improving Population Health by Working with Communities: Action Guide

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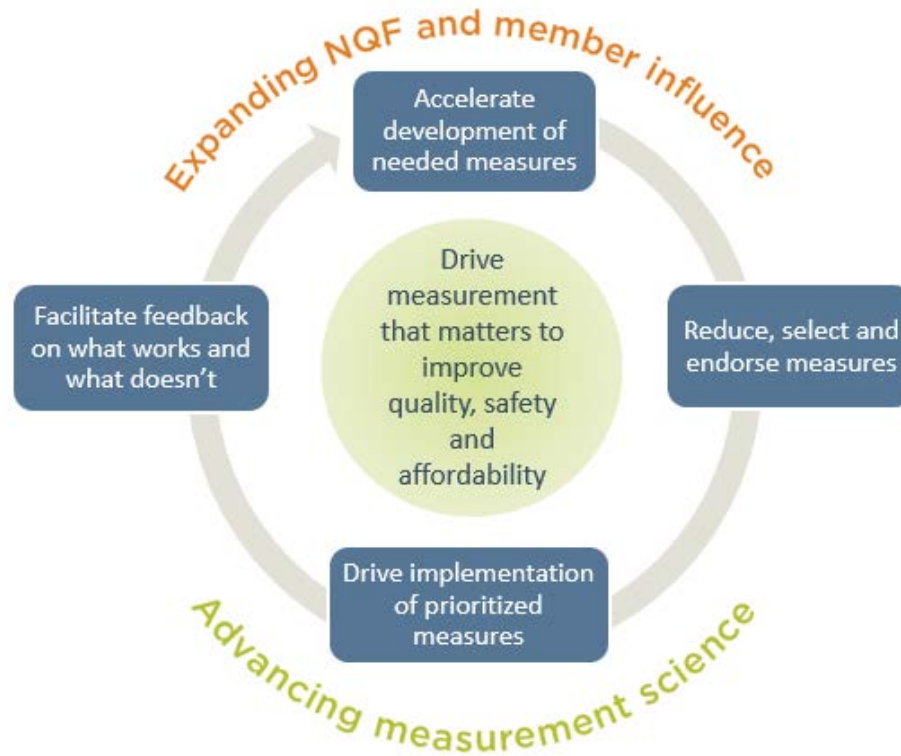
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# Objectives

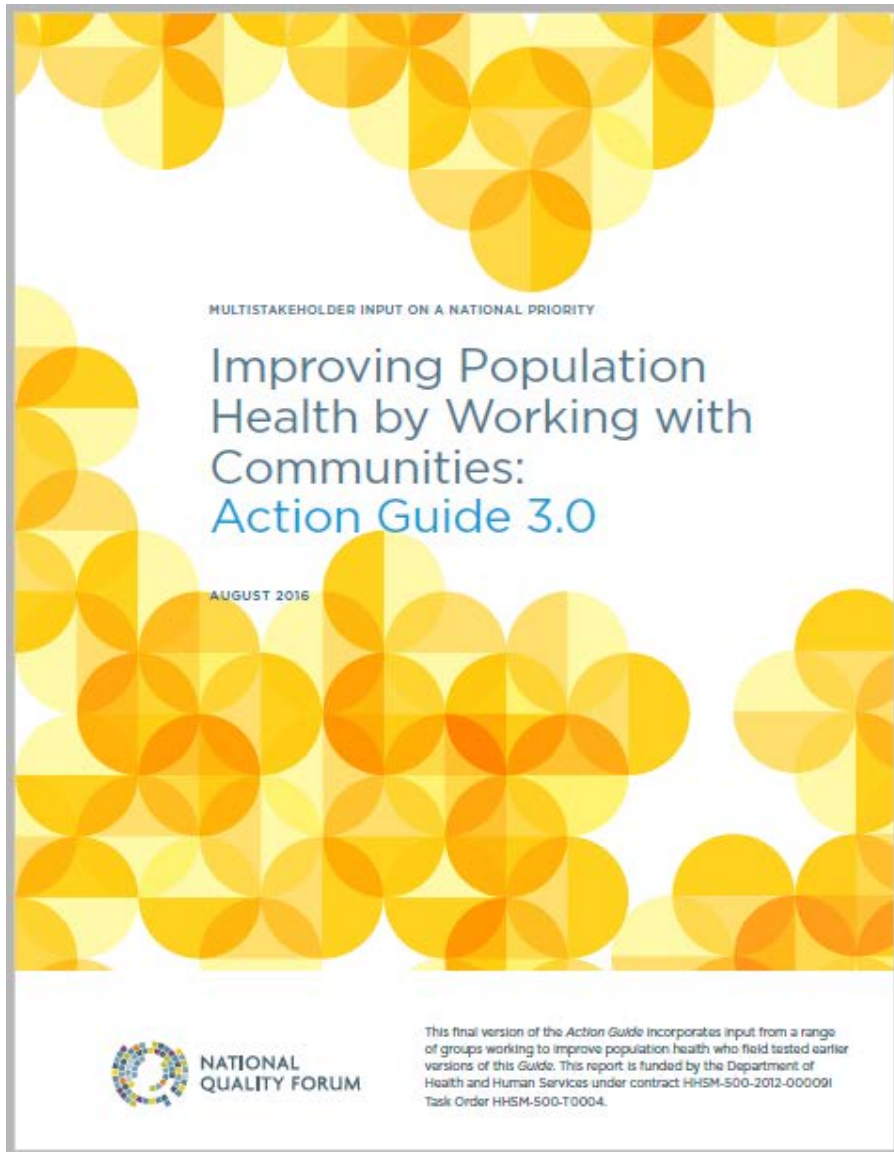
- Explain the importance of collaborating to improve population health
- Identify elements for success for working together to improve population health
- Demonstrate how the Action Guide can be used by communities

# What is the National Quality Forum?

*The National Quality Forum's (NQF) mission is to lead national collaboration to improve health and healthcare quality through measurement.*



NQF **leads, prioritizes** and **collaborates** to drive measurable improvements in health and healthcare.



# Action Guide to Improve Population Health by Working with Communities

- To support working together at local, state and national levels to improve population health

# The Action Guide includes:

- Definitions of important terms
- Ten elements for making lasting improvements in population health
- Ideas for actions to take
- Examples and links to practical resources

# Definitions of Important Terms

**Population Health:** The health of a population, including how health outcomes and disparities are distributed across the population.

**Population:** All individuals in a specified geopolitical area.

**Health:** A state of complete physical, mental, and social well-being and not merely the absence of disease or infirmity.

# Ten Elements for Making Lasting Improvements in Population Health

- ✓ Collaborative Self-Assessment
- ✓ Leadership Across the Region and Within Organizations
- ✓ Audience-Specific Strategic Communication
- ✓ Community Health Needs Assessment and Asset Mapping Process
- ✓ Organizational Planning and Priority-Setting Process
- ✓ Agreed-Upon, Prioritized Set of Health Improvement Activities
- ✓ Selection and Use of Measures and Performance Targets
- ✓ Joint reporting on Progress Toward Achieving Intended Results
- ✓ Indications of scalability
- ✓ A plan for sustainability

# Collaborative Self-Assessment

Community Health  
Needs Assessment &  
Asset Mapping

Planning &  
Priority Setting

Leadership  
Strategic  
Communication  
Scalability  
Sustainability

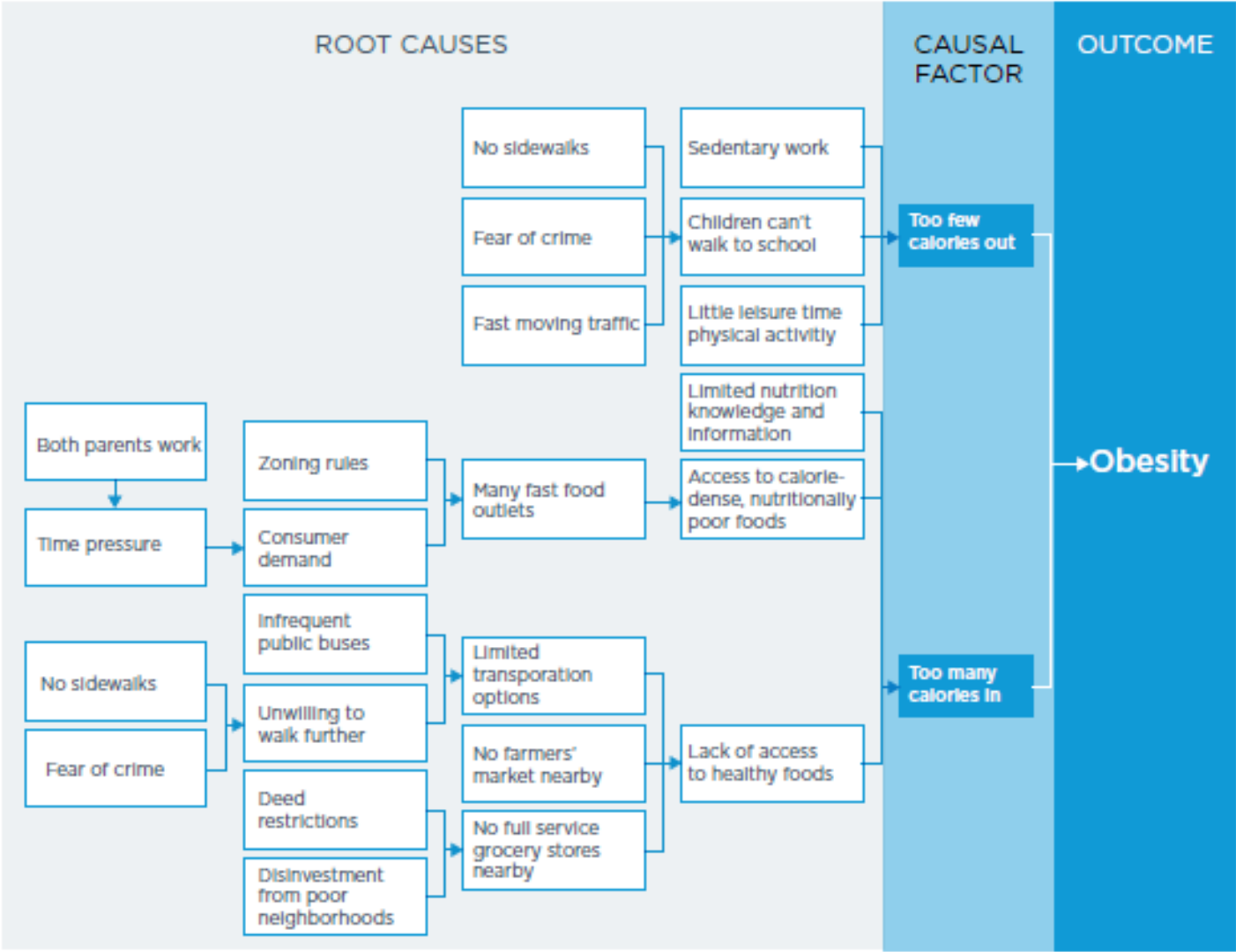
Joint Reporting

Measures &  
Performance Targets

Agreed-Upon Health  
Improvement Activities



# Ideas for Actions to Take Example



# Testing the Guide in the Field

- Community Service Council of Tulsa, Tulsa, OK
- Oberlin Community Services and The Institute for eHealth Equity, Oberlin, OH
- Colorado Cross-Agency Collaborative, Denver, CO
- Designing a Strong and Healthy NY (DASH), New York, NY
- Empire Health Foundation, Spokane, WA
- Kanawha Coalition for Community Health Improvement, Charleston, WV
- Geneva Tower Health Collaborative, Cedar Rapids, IA
- Michigan Health Improvement Alliance, Saginaw, MI
- Trenton Health Team, Inc., Trenton, NJ
- The University of Chicago Medicine Population Health Management Transformation, Chicago, IL

# Select Resources in the Action Guide Related to America Walks Work

- **The Blue Zones Project:** encourages individuals and community members to aspire to health lifestyle ideals
- **Let's Move:** online resources on how to play a role in preventing and reducing childhood obesity
- **Moving Health:** tools and resources to help transportation professionals and health practitioners identify and address the health impacts of transportation
- **YMCA Healthier Communities Initiatives:** resources for promoting healthier communities, including a guide to linking policy and environmental strategies to health outcomes