

Support Walkable Communities

20 years strong AMERICA WALKS

July 2019

Grassroots Community Change Projects Enhance Walkability Step by Step



These three women are Verde's Living Cully Walking Group leaders in Portland, Oregon. They all complete neighborhood clean-ups during their twice monthly walks, picking up trash, reporting illegal dumping and graffiti, and keeping the area safe and clean. The leaders all received professional neighborhood watch training through the City of Portland's office of civic engagement to keep their community thriving.

Their steadfast presence in making the community safer and more accessible for low-income Latinx folks to be physically active has also cultivated key partnerships. They've expanded their walking route to other areas to break down active transportation barriers so more people can walk and enjoy their neighborhoods.

This is just a peek at one of the 18 projects we awarded funds to this year through our **Community Change Grants**. These catalytic grants go towards unique walkability projects to spark equitable grassroots change. [Read about other highlights of the program and see what our local walking champions are up to at the ground level.](#)

[Read The Community Change Grant Stories](#)



Juliette Rizzo Reflects on Years of Mobility Independence Advocacy

We're celebrating the upcoming 29th anniversary of the ADA with a new blog post by Juliette Rizzo on inclusive walk audits. She takes us on a moving adventure through some of her most pertinent advocacy moments in the last few years including highlighting her recent work to challenge communities to change.

Find out why she says that John Stamos is the one that got away and why she'd like YOU to continue to cultivate key accessibility changes in your communities. [Read her blog here and download the new resource to walk towards inclusion.](#)



Tell Congress the Time is Now for Safer Streets

As a member of the National Complete Streets Coalition, America Walks was proud to see legislation move forward that would create support for Complete Streets across the US. The Complete Streets Act of 2019 would require states to set aside money for Complete Streets projects and create a statewide program to dole out the money (and technical support), and also require states & metro areas to adopt design standards that support safer, complete streets. [Now we need your support to make it happen.](#)

Salud America Calls for Action Around Climate Change

Salud America is a lead organization of this month's Climate and Health monthly theme with the Every Body Walk! Collaborative.

Create New Opportunities for Transportation for Latinos

Even though Latinos walk, bike, and use public transit or carpooling more than non-Latinos, they face **unsafe routes** and unreliable transportation.

Improving transportation options, like investing in public transit, sidewalks and bike lanes, can both reduce pollution and improve Latino quality of life. This [guidebook](#) will help.



Ignoring Climate Change Won't Stop It from Happening

Despite the need for immediate climate change action, the Trump administration has campaigned to reduce the government's role in protecting the environment.

Steps to decrease science and regulations are seemingly a part of their broader effort to deny the severity of climate change, which will have harsh consequences on Latinos and all Americans.

Want more on this topic? Check out the two guest blogs posts from Salud America:

- [Latinos Support Climate Change Policies](#)
- [Climate Change Rollbacks and the Risks Latinos Could Face](#)

Register for Our August Webinar

CONNECTED AND ENGAGED: COMMUNITY OUTREACH STRATEGIES FOR TRANSPORTATION



Mark Those Calendars

- **August 2nd:** National Recreation and Park Association is looking for the next 10-Minute Walk grantee to receive \$40,000. Are you working to increase access to high-quality parks? [Apply for the grant here.](#)
- **August 14th:** Learn more about the importance of community engagement and collaboration in designing and creating walkable and movable neighborhoods for all its members. Hear from expert panelists on how organizations and individuals can build relationships and connections for a more active and engaged future. [Register for our free webinar](#), *Connected and Engaged: Community Outreach Strategies for Transportation*. [You can register for all America Walks webinars through September here.](#)
- **Happening Now:** When it comes to health, small changes can make a BIG difference! @HealthierGen and @Kohls have teamed up to help families make simple swaps for a healthier summer. [Join the campaign here.](#) #KohlsHealthyAtHome #SummerSwap

REGISTER NOW

◆◆◆ Places for People ◆◆◆



NATIONAL WALKING SUMMIT

COLUMBUS, OHIO
SEPTEMBER 24, 2019
walkingsummit.org

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Content We Loved This Month

- [Equity and Your Community Video Series / 11th Street Bridge Park](#)
- [A Diverse Network of 'Place Leaders' Activates Public Spaces in Boston / Next City](#)
- [Partnering for Engagement: Accessibility of Public Spaces / America Walks](#)
- [Think Cars Will Always Dominate Because 'New York's Not Holland'? Well Neither Was Holland! / StreetsBlog NYC](#)
- [Walking on Painted Keys: Creative Crosswalks Meet Government Resistance / NPR](#)

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