

Support Walkable Communities

20 years strong
**AMERICA
WALKS**

October 2019



The Salvation Army Kroc Center's Walking School Bus in Camden, New Jersey - a 2018 Community Change Grantee - provides students with critical after-school programming they wouldn't otherwise have access to.

Do You Want to Create Change?

Our \$1,500 Community Change Grant program works to provide support to the growing network of advocates, organizations, and agencies using new, engaging, and inclusive programs and projects to create lasting change at the grassroots level. We've funded over 100 projects to date — [read the stories of our 2018 grantees here](#).

Funded projects should:

- Increase physical activity and active transportation in a specific community
- Engage people and organizations new to the efforts of walking and walkability
- Demonstrate a culture of inclusive health
- Create and support healthy, active, and engaged communities

Applications are open until November 8th. We'd love to hear all about your dream plans for activating healthy, active, and engaged places to live, work, and play.

Apply for a Community Change Grant



People Are Dying on Our Streets. We Wish We Were Surprised.

The **latest pedestrian fatality rates came out last week** and 6,283 friends, family members, and neighbors lost their lives while doing the most basic of human activities– walking. America Walks wishes we could say we were surprised by the continued devastating trend of growing deaths on our streets, but in our car-focused and poorly designed transportation system it's clear that people are not the priority. You only have to look to the **barely there mention of people walking in the statement on traffic fatalities** for proof of this. Read more about our thoughts on this topic in this **New York Times article** and **Washington Post article**.

This Way to Wayfinding 101

After scaling the surprising hurdles of wayfinding, one of our Community Change Grantees, The City of Huntsville, Alabama, recommended that we develop some content for those just starting out on the windy wayfinding path.

In an effort for novice wayfinders to (excuse the pun) find their way we decided that, fresh out of the maze of wayfinding, Huntsville city staff were probably the perfect newly minted experts to provide us all with some pertinent 101.

If you are interested in starting a Wayfinding project or you're compelled to learn more about one of our Community Change Grant recipients, you're gonna want to read: ***Finding Your Way: the Surprisingly Complex World of Wayfinding.***



WALKING FOR CIVILITY

At America Walks, we believe walking and moving can be used as an accessible, gentle, and tactical intervention for division in our communities. This three-part blog series on Walking for Civility examines the ways the act of walking and promoting walkable communities functions as a bridge to civility, connection, and community change.

Click below to read our second blog in the Walking for Civility Series, ***5 Reasons Why Walking Is Essential for Civility, Connectedness, and Community Change***, and see how you can activate walking for civility in your community.

Read Walking for Civility: 5 Reasons Why Walking Is Essential for Civility, Connectedness, and Community Change

Get to Know America Walks' Newest Board Member

We're making major strides in the walking movement with some of the most powerful change agents — our board members! **David Sabgir** joined

us earlier this month.

David is deeply passionate about getting people moving. He is a full-time cardiologist in Columbus, OH and the Founding CEO of **Walk with a Doc**, an international nonprofit with a mission to inspire communities through movement and conversation.

Read why David is invested in empowering communities to create safe, accessible, and enjoyable walking conditions for all.



Mark Those Calendars

- **November 8th:** Get those **Community Change grant applications** in by the 5pm Eastern deadline!
- **November 15th:** Don't miss out on the Call for Proposals for CNU28 Twin Cities, where the focus is on creating more affordable neighborhoods. **Find out more here.**
- **November 20th:** **Join America Walks' free webinar**, *Beyond the Physical: Mental and Social Benefits of Walkable Communities*, where we'll explore the myriad of benefits of walking that extend beyond our individual physical health.

Register for Our November Webinar

BEYOND THE PHYSICAL: MENTAL & SOCIAL BENEFITS OF WALKABLE COMMUNITIES



Content We Loved This Month

- **Active Transportation Transforms America** / *Rails-to-Trails Conservancy*
- **The Long Road to Vision Zero** / *America Walks*
- **Cars Are Death Machines. Self-Driving Tech Won't Change That** / *The NY Times*
- **The Walkable Campus: Mobility Options for Higher Education** / *America Walks*
- **Addressing Ableism in Your Built Environment** / *America Walks*

America Walks Thanks Our Sponsors

America Walks thanks our sponsors for their generous support of this publication and all of the work being done by America Walks to promote the walkable movement. Thanks for helping to make America a great place to walk!

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