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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

**NNPHI featured in Annual Status Report to Congress for supporting Federal departments with Health Impact Assessment in the implementation of the National Prevention Strategy**

**July 21, 2014, Washington, DC:** NNPHI was featured in the [National Prevention Council's](#) most recent [Annual Status Report](#) to Congress delivered to the President and members of Congress on July 1, 2014. The report demonstrates the Nation's progress on prevention and wellness and highlights the collective impact of the federal government and its partners to improve the health and quality of life for individuals, families, and communities.



NNPHI, the [Oregon Public Health Institute](#), and the [Georgia Health Policy Center](#), in collaboration with the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, have contributed to this progress by working with select National Prevention Council member departments to support their understanding and use of health impact assessments (HIAs) in their efforts to advance the priorities and strategic directions identified in the National Prevention Strategy.

Health Impact Assessment (HIA) is a structured process that brings together scientific data, public health expertise, and stakeholder input to identify the potential health effects of a proposed policy, program, project or plan. The results of an HIA offer department leadership practical recommendations to minimize risks and capitalize on opportunities to improve health in a particular community.

The departments the NNPHI team has worked with include the US Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD), the US Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), and the US Department of Transportation (DOT). The NNPHI team provided training and technical assistance for departments interested in conducting their own HIAs and, in the case of HUD, are currently conducting the HIA itself in close partnership with [Health Impact Project](#).

NNPHI has released a [Health Impact Assessment Toolkit](#) for federal departments to support their use of HIAs as a strategy for considering health in decision making. The toolkit features a set of documents that make the case for using HIA as a tool, lessons learned from Federal implementation of HIA, identification of issues specific to integrating the practice of HIA into Federal departments and specific examples of completed HIAs.

## About the National Network of Public Health Institutes

Created in 2001 as a forum for public health institutes (PHIs), today NNPHI convenes its members and partners at the local, state, and national levels in efforts to address critical health issues. NNPHI's mission is to support national public health system initiatives and strengthen PHIs to promote multi - sector activities resulting in measurable improvements of public health structures, systems, and outcomes. Learn more about NNPHI and its member institutes at [www.nnphi.org](http://www.nnphi.org).