In the wake of the urban unrest in Los Angeles in 1992, the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation realized that the well-being of urban children needed greater attention. Recognizing that "a community that cannot assure the basic health and safety of its children is hardly a community at all," in the words of Paul Jellinek, former RWJF vice president, the foundation launched the Urban Health Initiative (UHI). This ambitious 10-year enterprise aimed to "engage entire cities in a concerted, collaborative effort to bring region-wide improvements in multiple measures of youth health and safety," according to Charles Rorer, former Seattle mayor and director of the UHI national program office.

UHI organizers resolved participating cities would choose their own priorities and develop their own strategies to bring about an improvement in the lives of the youth. To gain legitimacy and leverage proclivities public and private resources for their efforts, leaders in the five cities selected by the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation-Baltimore, Detroit, Oakland, Philadelphia, and Richmond—would also need sophisticated political and communication campaigns. The initiative would also be data-driven: it would rest on proven approaches and measured results and would rigorously evaluate the validity of its assumptions and analyze progress as it unfolded to provide mid-course corrections. In short, the UHI aimed to provide a new model for securing systems change: institutionalizing best practices and dedicating funds to reach a scale whereby a marked improvement is seen in citywide youth health and safety statistics.

UHI leaders in each city created new organizations to collaborate with public and private agencies and forge regional coalitions across racial and economic lines. While the organizations had a common underlying philosophy in aiming for systems change, and shared many of the same approaches to building consensus and obtaining support from local decision leaders, each site also employed methods specific to its city and the problems it faced in improving the well-being of children. In Richmond, site leaders formed Youth Matters, in partnership with the Chamber of Commerce, as the agency best situated to overcome tensions between the city and surrounding suburbs. Oakland's UHI leaders created Safe Passageways, composed of representatives of numerous jurisdictions serving area youth. In Detroit, child advocates established the Youth Connection (now known as Mayor's Time), which also targeted Pontiac and Mt. Clemens as part of a regional focus. Baltimore Safe and Sound, the UHI affiliate in that city, relied on grassroots organizing to boost the area's belief that the city could be a positive place for children. Philadelphia Safe and Sound, for its part, formed a joint effort with local officials to expand funding for kids. To learn as much as possible from this broad, multi-year effort, the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation funded an extensive mixed-method evaluation design, headed by Beth Weitzman at New York University. To complement the UHI, the Urban Seminar Series on Children's Health and Safety convened twice yearly and directed by William Julius Wilson at Harvard University's Kennedy School of Government has invited practitioners, policymakers, foundation directors, and researchers to share expertise and experiences as the UHI has progressed. The most recent seminar, held in December 2003 at Harvard University, focused on lessons from the initiative, now in its final phase. In papers, presentations, and discussions, participants analyzed what they have learned about harnessing high-quality data and launching communication and political campaigns to create systemic social change.
Philosophy and Procedures

The University of Maryland is committed to maintaining a safe and healthy living and working environment for all of its employees and students. This commitment includes providing ongoing training and education on health and safety issues, as well as developing and implementing policies and procedures that promote a safe workplace.

The purpose of this manual is to provide guidelines and procedures for maintaining a safe and healthy workplace. This manual covers a wide range of topics, including emergency preparedness, fire safety, and workplace hazards.

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The Urban Health Initiative (UHI) is an educational program that focuses on improving the health and safety of children in the UHI catchment area in Oakland, California. The program is led by Laura Cowan, President of the Bessie Harris Foundation, and is supported by several organizations, including the Kaiser Permanente Foundation, the California Endowment, and the Kaiser Family Foundation.

The mission of the Urban Health Initiative (UHI) is to improve the health of children in the UHI catchment area through a multi-pronged approach that includes education, research, and community engagement.

The UHI is committed to addressing the unique challenges faced by children in underserved communities, including poverty, violence, and lack of access to health care. The program works to engage families, schools, and community organizations in efforts to improve the health and safety of children in the catchment area.

The UHI collaborates with partners from a variety of fields, including education, public health, and community development, to develop and implement programs that address the needs of children in the catchment area. The program focuses on improving access to health care, reducing violence, and increasing educational opportunities for children.

The UHI aims to create a healthier, safer environment for children in the catchment area, improving their overall well-being and promoting healthy outcomes for future generations.

The UHI is committed to partnerships with community organizations, schools, and government agencies to achieve its goals. The program strives to involve all stakeholders in developing and implementing effective strategies to improve the health and safety of children in the catchment area.

The Urban Health Initiative (UHI) is one of several initiatives funded by the Bessie Harris Foundation, a non-profit organization dedicated to improving the lives of children and families in underserved communities.