



Ohio Regional Convergence Partnership

In 2011, the Ohio Regional Convergence Partnership (ORCP) was established to advance the vision of healthy people in healthy places in the state of Ohio. As a funder collaborative, ORCP aims to support multi-field partnerships in achieving equitable and sustainable environmental and policy changes specifically around increased access to healthy foods and physical activity.

ORCP leverages the collective tools of policy and advocacy, grantmaking, convening, and capacity building to reach a common goal of equitable healthy food and quality healthcare access across the state. The Sisters of Charity Foundation of Cleveland is the fiscal agent member for the partnership. Priority setting and funding decisions are made by consensus across member delegates through regular conference calls or in-person meetings.

Current members include the HealthPath Foundation of Ohio, Saint Luke's Foundation of Cleveland, CareSource Foundation, and the Sisters of Charity Foundation of Cleveland. Previous members include Interact for Health, Kaiser Permanente, Osteopathic Heritage Foundations and the Wean Foundation.

Highlights of ORCP's work:

- ORCP engaged the Health Policy Institute of Ohio in 2012 to conduct a [statewide landscape analysis](#) of efforts related to improving access to healthy food and physical activity, addressing equity and identifying sustainable interventions that could be scaled up or replicated in other regions of the state.
- In 2013, ORCP supported the Ohio State University Extension's Community Development office to [assess the perceptions, challenges and opportunities](#) related to the availability of fresh, local food in Ohio.
- In 2014, the ORCP and Finance Fund, an Ohio-based CDFI, worked with The Food Trust to conduct a [statewide research study](#) to identify communities in Ohio that lack access to healthy food.
- Recommendations from a [2015 report](#) that was supported by ORCP led to the launch of the [Healthy Food For Ohioans program](#) in 2016. It supports the development of new and existing grocery stores and other healthy food retail in lower-income, underserved areas throughout the state by providing loans and grants to cover costs associated with land acquisition.



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OHIO REGIONAL CONVERGENCE PARTNERSHIP

- ORCP supported stakeholders from across the state to learn and grow their understanding of advancing equity by sending a 24 member delegation to the 2015 [Policy Link Equity Summit](#) and over 70 delegates in 2018.
- ORCP supported Produce Perks Midwest with a grant towards a 1:1 match through the USDA-Food Insecurity Nutrition Incentive program. The \$2.3 million award in 2018 from USDA, along with matching funds contributed by Produce Perks Midwest and partners from across the state represent a \$4.6 million commitment to expand the Produce Perks program, increasing affordable access to healthy, local produce for the 1.4 million Ohioans receiving SNAP.

National Convergence Partnership

ORCP is a regional member of the [National Convergence Partnership](#), a collaborative of foundation and health care institutions working to foster healthier and more equitable environments for all children and families.

At the local, state, regional, and national levels, the National Convergence Partnership works at the intersection of multiple issues to advance healthy people and healthy places through joint action and policy and practice changes

Established in 2007, there are now a total of eight organizations in the National Convergence Partnership: Ascension Health, The California Endowment, Kaiser Permanente, The Kresge Foundation, MacArthur Foundation, Nemours, the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation, and the W.K. Kellogg Foundation. Additionally, there are 70 local or regional foundations that participate as local partners.

For more information on the Ohio Regional Convergence Partnership, please visit: <https://convergencepartnership.org/>. ORCP continues to welcome members to the partnership (particularly those that bring geographic diversity and thought partnership) interested in working toward equity in Ohio. If you are interested in learning more about becoming an ORCP member, contact Adrienne Mundorf: amundorf@socfcleveland.org.



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