<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Event/Milestone</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2002</td>
<td>Organizing for Success</td>
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<tr>
<td>2004</td>
<td>Visioning</td>
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<tr>
<td>2005</td>
<td>Assessments</td>
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<tr>
<td>2006</td>
<td>Our Community Roadmap to Health</td>
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<tr>
<td>2007</td>
<td>Action Cycle: Health Action Partnership</td>
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<tr>
<td>2008</td>
<td>YMCA $: Pioneering Healthy Communities</td>
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<td>2009</td>
<td>RWJF $: Healthy Kids Healthy Communities</td>
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<tr>
<td>2010</td>
<td>CDC $: Communities Putting Prevention to Work</td>
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<tr>
<td>2012</td>
<td>Leadership Team formed as a governing body</td>
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<tr>
<td>2013</td>
<td>Articles of Collaboration adopted and four Priority Groups created</td>
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Today We are 100+ Organizations Strong!
Our Work

The Health Action Partnership combined the momentum of two major funding opportunities to achieve policy, systems, and environmental change. This change is aimed at preventing obesity and tobacco use.

*Healthy Kids, Healthy Communities* is a Robert Wood Johnson Foundation grant that focuses primarily on policy changes aimed at preventing *childhood obesity*.

*Communities Putting Prevention to Work* was a CDC funded grant targeting *public health* efforts to improve nutrition, increase physical activity, reduce obesity, and decrease tobacco use.
Jefferson County Health Action Partnership

Making the Healthy Choice the Easy Choice

HKHC + CDC Funded Partners

American Lung Association
Better Basics
Childcare Resources
Children's Policy Council
Community Food Bank
Community Foundation of Greater Birmingham
Conservation Alabama Foundation
Freshwater Land Trust
Gateway
Greater Birmingham Community Food Partners
Jefferson County Department of Health
Jefferson County Land Development Office
Jones Valley Urban Farm
Main Street Birmingham
Media for Health
Regional Planning Commission of Greater Birmingham
Success By 6
The Modern Brand
United Way
YMCA
Active Living Initiatives

Greenway master plan for Jefferson County that will connect communities through a network of sidewalks, bike lanes, and walking trails.

Technical assistance to local cities to look at how zoning codes and land-use laws affect physical activity opportunities.

Complete Streets policies that would improve safety and accessibility for all users- pedestrians, bicyclists, transit users, and motorists.

Safe Routes to School resources and implementing Walking School Bus best practices.
Red Rock Ridge & Valley Trail System
Greenway Master Plan: Trails + Multi-Modal Paths

‘Our One Mile’ process was led by the Freshwater Land Trust

Public input: Over 1,200 people attended stakeholder meetings or engaged through other venues of community outreach.

Virtual Stakeholder Meeting had over 600 visits.
Red Rock Ridge & Valley Trail System
Greenway Master Plan: Trails + Multi-Modal Paths

www.RedRockTrail.org
Jefferson County SmartCode

In 2010, the Jefferson County Commission amended its zoning regulations and adopted an optional SmartCode floating overlay zone. The SmartCode provides a zoning tool which embraces the County’s Comprehensive Plan priority to encourage developers to create village-center style developments that mix uses and provide a range of housing options. The code links land use and transportation as a means to promote sustainability, reduce traffic congestion, and improve overall quality of life.
Complete Streets

Designing roads to enable safe access for all users. Drivers, walkers, bicyclists, and transit users of all ages and abilities are considered when planning new roads or renovating existing roads.

Working with municipalities within Jefferson County to get policies adopted at the local level.

Working with RPCGB on inclusion of Complete Streets in long-range transportation plan.
Complete Streets

Resolution **PASSED** the Birmingham Planning Commission

Resolutions **PASSED** by Montevallo, Midfield, Sylvan Springs, Pleasant Grove, Homewood, and Bessemer City Councils

Subdivision Regulations **REVISED** to include Complete Streets language in Birmingham and Clay

Comprehensive Plan **INCLUDES** Complete Streets language in Graysville
Safe Routes to School

Working with local schools to improve safety and encourage more walking and biking.

Benefits include … reducing traffic congestion, increasing physical activity levels, improving concentration and academic performance, improving air quality.

- Programs – Walking School Bus and bike/ped education
- Projects – Infrastructure improvements and maintenance
- Policies – School wellness, complete streets, and school safety zones (pilot)
Our Progress

2010
Community Meetings / National Center for Safe Routes to School Trainings at 4 schools (Homewood, Birmingham)

2011
April: Walking School Bus Workshop
May: School Meetings/Kresge Arts in Birmingham
June: Wellness Policy Workshop
July: Walking School Bus Policy Workshop
August-Sept: Walking School Buses Launch
October-December: Continued Participation/Awards

2012
March: Spring Walking School Bus launch + SRTS Applications
Walking Wednesdays / 2012-2013 Results

Robinson Elementary: 52 students participated, walking 166 miles
Hemphill Elementary: 150 students participated, walking 941 miles
Phillips Academy: 78 students participated, walking 218 miles
TOTAL: 1325 miles!
Safe Routes to School

Infrastructure

Non-Infrastructure

Projects: Sidewalks, Traffic Calming, etc.

Plans and Policies

Programs, Events & Education

Enforcement
WHAT DO YOU SEE ON YOUR WAY TO SCHOOL?

SAFE ROUTES TO SCHOOL OF CENTRAL ALABAMA

When kids walk through their neighborhoods, they see broken sidewalks, overgrown lots, abandoned buildings, and overpassed play areas. These pictures highlight the need for maintenance, safety, and accessibility. Just some of the reasons why communities must make safe routes a priority.

In the past, residents and families would walk or bike to school, enjoying physical activity and healthy habits. Several communities have made safe routes a priority and have discovered a fun way to encourage walking to school.

The Walking School Bus works just like a traditional school bus route, but kids are walking instead of riding. Adult "bus drivers" help kids stay safe while they get to experience school with their friends on the way to school. When communities create safe routes to school, everyone benefits. In order to make a successful Safe Routes to School program, streets need to be designed to accommodate all users. Gritty, well-maintained streets, sidewalks, and traffic calming measures will encourage students and residents to be more active, increasing health and community livability.

OUR PARTNERS
Birmingham City Schools
Jefferson County Department of Health
PBWA of Greater Birmingham
Regional Planning Commission of Greater Birmingham
Jefferson County Health Justice Partnership

SAFE ROUTES TO SCHOOL OF CENTRAL ALABAMA
Contacts: safesrtoesblanca.org
Aligning Active Living initiative

• **2011-2012:** Work team assists with revisions and implementation of the Wellness Policy at Bessemer City Schools – Jefferson County Department of Health (JCDH)

• **October 2011:** Improved Childcare regulations passed throughout Jefferson County, positively impacting facilities in Bessemer – Childcare Resources and United Way’s Success By Six

• **December 2011:** Work team assessed walking conditions near Abrams Elementary, leading to application for a Safe Routes to School grant – Healthy Kids, Healthy Communities + Health Action Partners
In Partnership w/ Bessemer, Alabama

- **March 2012:** City of Bessemer adopted Safe Routes to School and Complete Streets resolutions – *Conservation Alabama Foundation*

- **August 2012:** City of Bessemer adopted a Smoke Free ordinance – *JCDH*

- **2013:** Recent discussions on SRTS programming, Walking School Bus program, and Walk to School Day events with Bessemer City Schools – *Safe Routes to School of Central Alabama*
Jefferson County Health Action Partnership

Structure

Three Anchor Organizations

1. Jefferson County Department of Health
2. Community Foundation of Greater Birmingham
3. United Way of Central Alabama

Leadership Team: includes anchor organization representative and key sectors in the community

Priority Groups

Members
## New HAP Leadership Team (+ Governing Body)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>American Heart Association</th>
<th>YMCA of Greater Birmingham</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Blue Cross and Blue Shield</td>
<td>Holy Family Cristo Rey High School</td>
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<tr>
<td>Birmingham Business Alliance</td>
<td>United Way of Central Alabama</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Jefferson County Committee for Economic Opportunity</td>
<td>UAB Minority Health and Health Disparities Center</td>
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<tr>
<td>Regional Planning Commission of Greater Birmingham</td>
<td>Community Foundation of Greater Birmingham</td>
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<tr>
<td>Bessemer City Schools</td>
<td>Norwood Resource Center</td>
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<tr>
<td>The City of Birmingham</td>
<td>Alabama Department of Public Health</td>
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<tr>
<td>Freshwater Land Trust</td>
<td>Birmingham Public Library</td>
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<tr>
<td>Hispanic Interest Coalition of Alabama</td>
<td>Jefferson County Department of Health</td>
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<tr>
<td>UAB School of Public Health</td>
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Anchor Organization Responsibilities

• Commitment to ensure the long-term success
• Commitment of staff time to support infrastructure of the partnership
• Communication
• Leadership Team point of contact
• Organize, facilitate, report
• Staff supports Priority Groups and works to create the action agenda
Leadership Team Responsibilities

• Act as the governing body of HAP
• Assess annual progress towards goals
• Support priority groups in action agenda
• Promote HAP action agenda to the community
• Ensure functional processes of HAP
• Review and revise priorities of the Priority Groups
Health Action Priority Groups

- **Healthy Food Choices**
  - Chairs: Community Food Bank of Central Alabama
  - Staff: Community Foundation and Dept. Of Health

- **Healthy Children & Youth**
  - Chairs: Success By Six and Children’s of Alabama
  - Staff: United Way and Dept. of Health

- **Livable Communities**
  - Chairs: Lakeshore Foundation & Sloss Realty
  - Staff: Dept. of Health and Regional Planning Commission of Greater Birmingham

- **Tobacco Free Task Force**
  - Chairs: American Lung Association & JCDH
  - Staff: Jefferson County Dept. of Health
Health Action Priority Groups

- **Healthy Food Choices**
  - **Goal:** Improve Healthy food Access
  - **Current Objective:** Increase SNAP/EBT acceptance at Farmer’s Markets and other retailers using a “Double Bucks” pilot project

- **Healthy Children & Youth**
  - **Goal:** Improve Child Wellness
  - **Current Objective:** Advance the adoption of health and wellness policies impacting at least 200 children in out-of-school time

- **Livable Communities**
  - **Goal:** Increase active living and improve environment
  - **Current Objective:** Support construction and utilization of 10 new miles of trails and advance the adoption of Complete Streets in 3 municipalities

- **Tobacco Free Task Force**
  - **Goal:** Decrease secondhand smoke exposure
  - **Current Objective:** Advance the adoption of comprehensive indoor smoke-free policy in the City of Hoover
Livable Communities

Participating Organizations:
- AARP
- United Way of Central Alabama
- Lakeshore Foundation
- Black People Run Bike & Swim
- Bici Bicycle Cooperative
- Jefferson County Department of Health
- The Bethesda
- Mike & Gillian Goodrich Foundation
- YMCA of Greater Birmingham
- Sloss Real Estate Company
- City of Birmingham
- Community Foundation of Greater Birmingham
- Jefferson County Land Planning
- Regional Planning Commission of Greater Birmingham
- Children’s Policy Council
- Alabama Innovation Engine
- Birmingham Business Alliance
- Fresh Water Land Trust
- Conservation Alabama
- Jefferson County Committee for Economic Opportunity
- University of Alabama at Birmingham
Livable Communities

Ongoing Monthly Meetings

Established Three Working Groups:

**Policy** - Increase involvement in COMMUNITY issues that support active living through education and advocacy (Complete Streets)

**Programs** - MOVE people to action around policy, use, and participation efforts

**Projects** - Foster the ability for people to WORK TOGETHER COLLABORATIVELY to identify funding opportunities, implementation and support
Goal: *Increase active living and improve environments*

**Objective 1:** Align existing built environment plans and policies supporting an active living environment by December 2013

**Objective 2:** Increase community engagement in active living and built environment initiatives by March 2014

**Objective 3:** Build coalitions to support the implementation of built environment plans supporting active living by September 2014

**Objective 4:** Support the construction and utilization of ten new miles of trails, sidewalks and bike lanes, etc. within Jefferson County by Nov. 30, 2013

**Objective 5:** Advance the adoption of at least 3 Complete Streets policies to increase walkability, bikeability and pushability of neighborhoods by July 31, 2014
SHAPE YOUR ENVIRONMENT

• Attend meetings of your local planning commission, especially those dealing with comprehensive planning and zoning regulation changes.
• Advocate for improvements in your community.
• Volunteer to clean, maintain, and improve local parks and open spaces.
• Choose an active mode of transportation and walk or bike places instead of being auto-dependent, especially distances less than one mile.
• Drive with awareness for those walking and cycling around you.
• Participate on a community work team to progress an initiative, such as Safe Routes to School or a neighborhood clean-up day.
• Vote for elected officials who realize the impact planning has on your community’s long-term sustainability and financial outlook.

Nichalaus Sims
Safe Routes to School of Central Alabama
nsims@uwca.org / 205.458.2166

http://www.linkedin.com/pub/nichalaus-sims/16/573/802