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# | A Comprehensive Multi-level Approach for Passing Safe Routes to School and Complete Streets Policies In Hawaii

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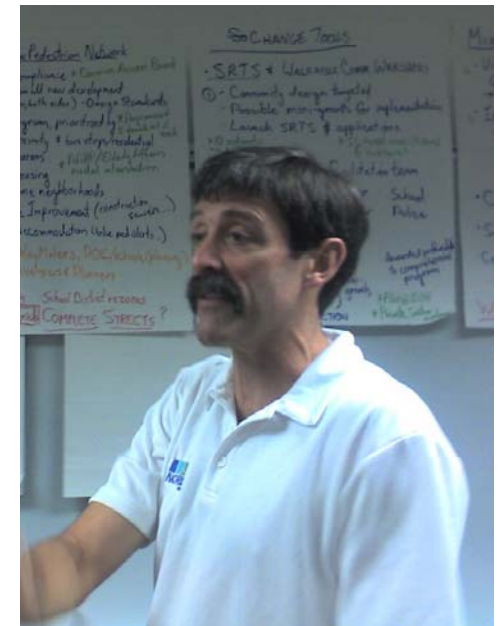
Healthy Hawaii Initiative

# Overview



## Key Partners

- **Healthy Hawaii Initiative (HHI)** – State of Hawaii Department of Health (DOH) focus on health promotion, and chronic disease prevention
- **Contractor, Mark Fenton** – expert in active transportation, background in planning and engineering
- **Evaluation Team** – University of Hawaii at Manoa

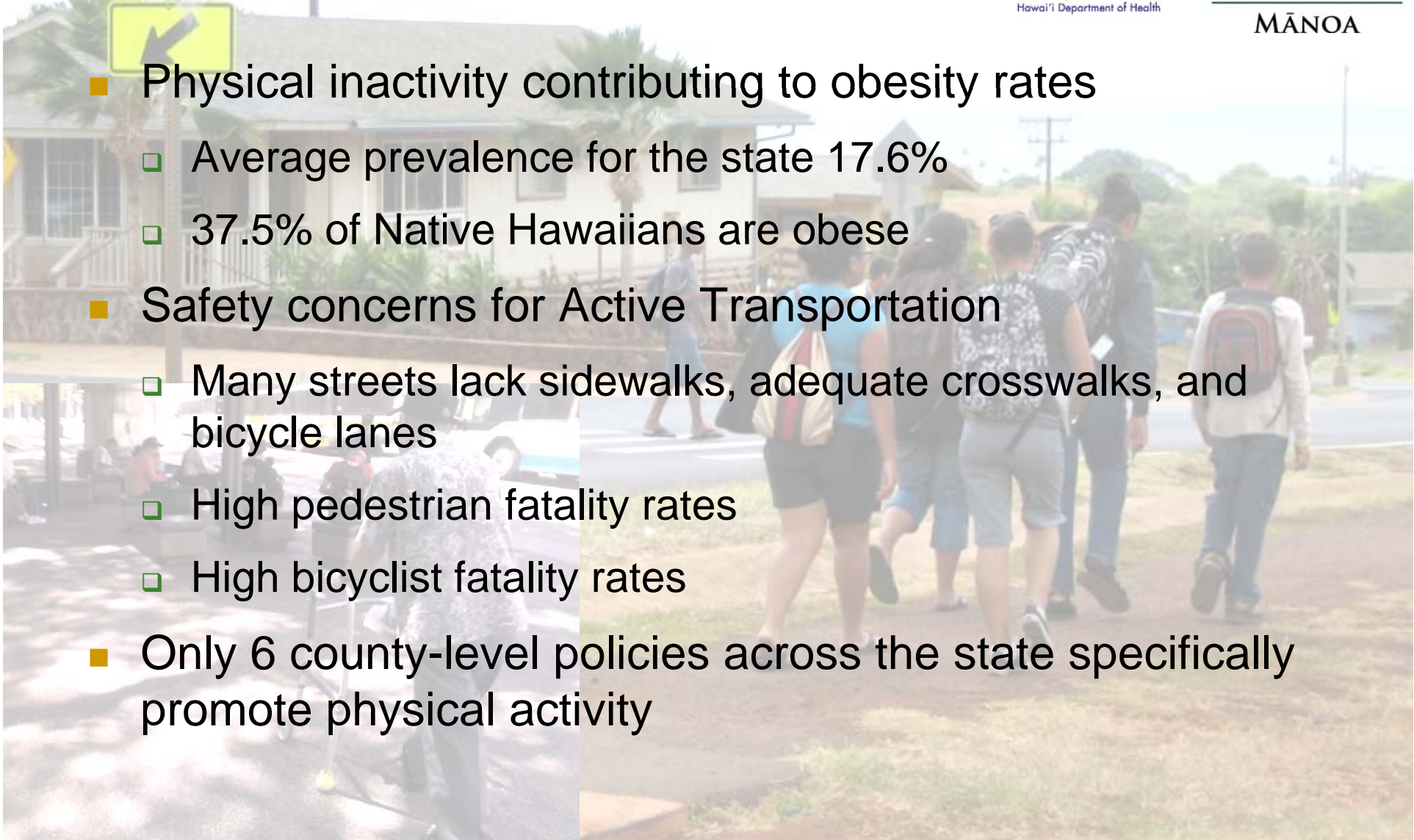


# Problem



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- Physical inactivity contributing to obesity rates
  - Average prevalence for the state 17.6%
  - 37.5% of Native Hawaiians are obese
- Safety concerns for Active Transportation
  - Many streets lack sidewalks, adequate crosswalks, and bicycle lanes
  - High pedestrian fatality rates
  - High bicyclist fatality rates
- Only 6 county-level policies across the state specifically promote physical activity





# Purpose



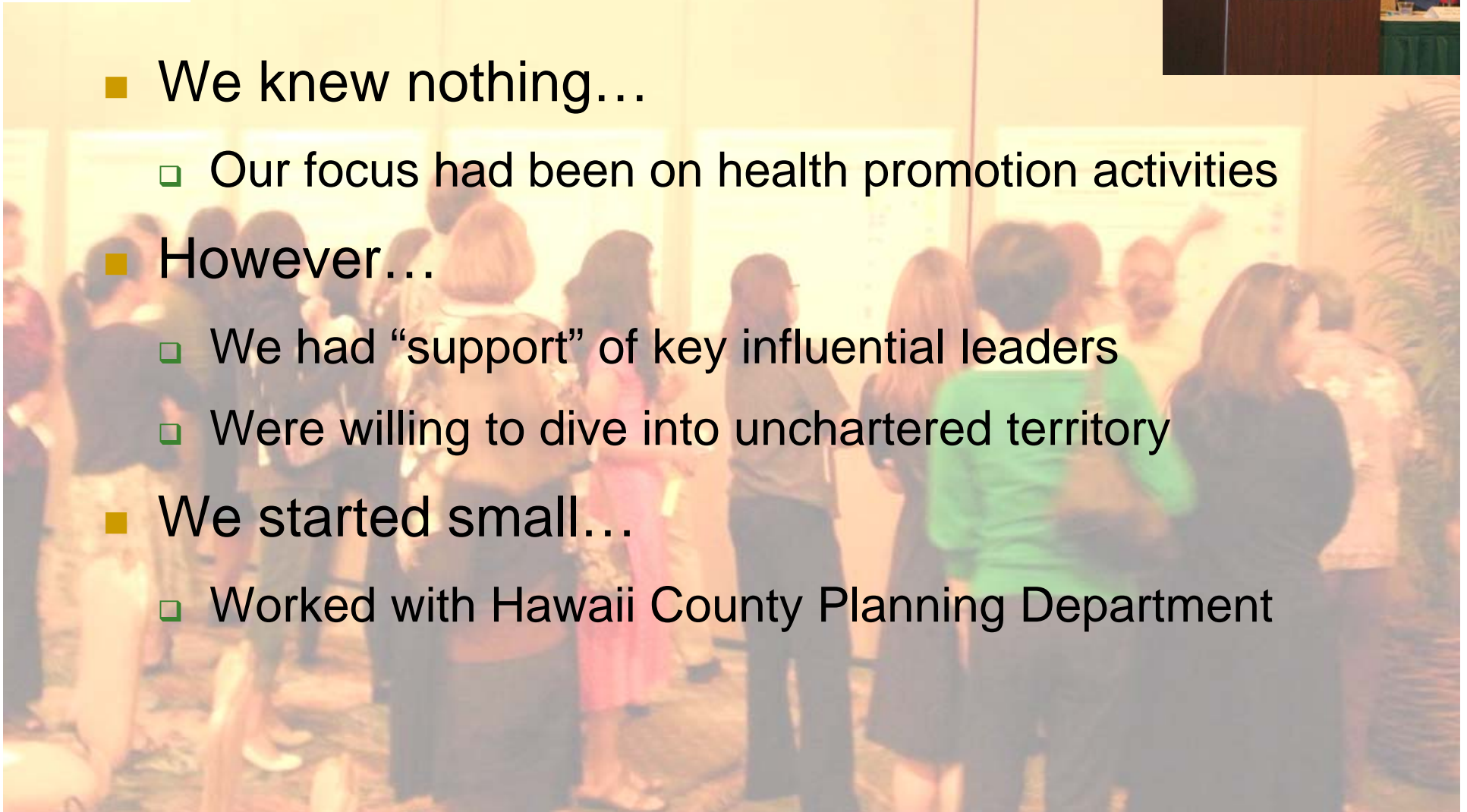
- To describe our capacity building approach leading to the passage of statewide safe routes to school (SRTS) and complete streets policies in Hawaii, highlighting lessons learned.



# In the Beginning



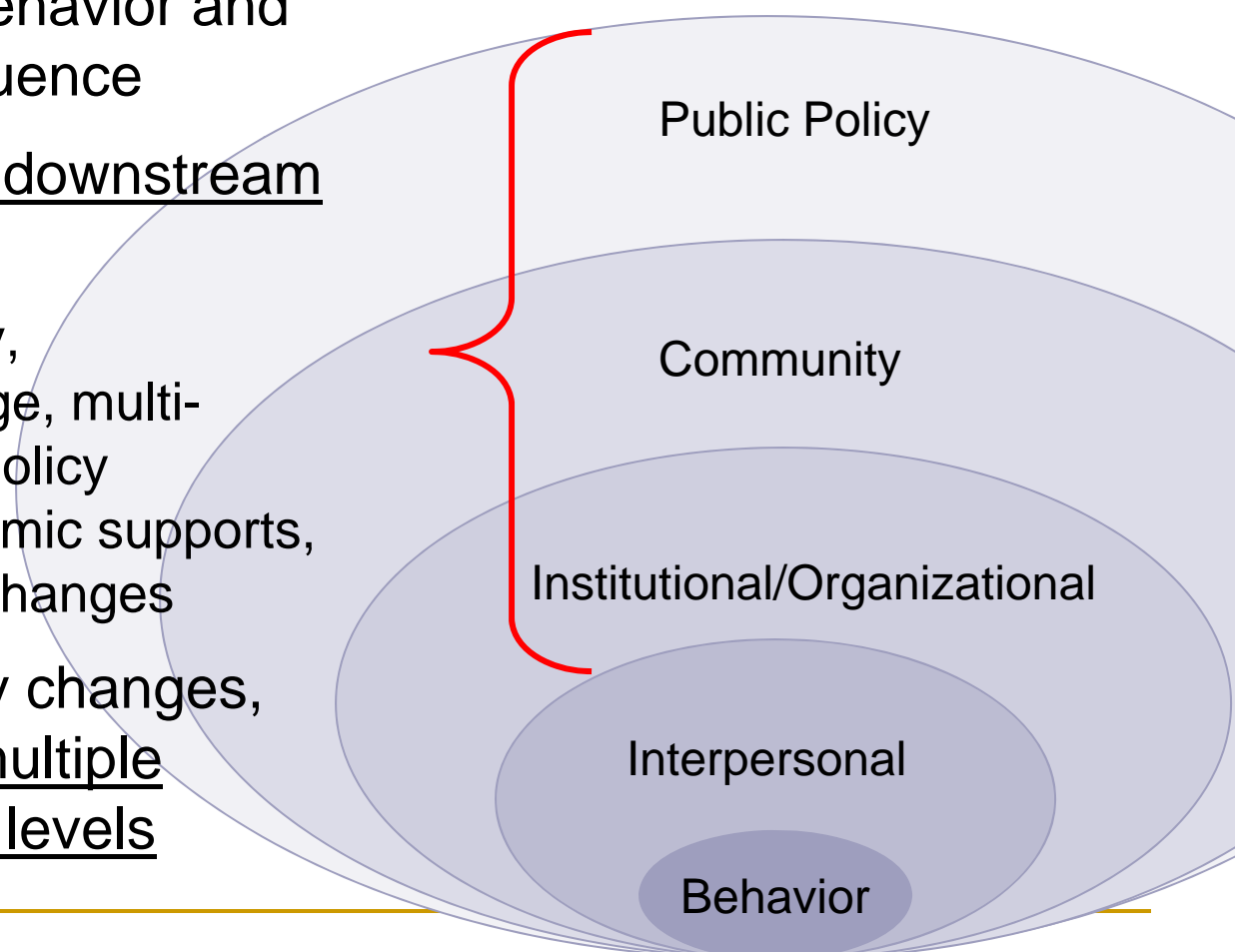
- We knew nothing...
  - Our focus had been on health promotion activities
- However...
  - We had “support” of key influential leaders
  - Were willing to dive into uncharted territory
- We started small...
  - Worked with Hawaii County Planning Department



# Framework



- Social ecological model – synergy between individual behavior and multiple layers of influence
- Behavior affected by downstream effects of
  - education, advocacy, organizational change, multi-method strategies, policy development, economic supports, and environmental changes
- For large-scale policy changes, focus should be on multiple strategies at multiple levels



START.

LIVING  
HEALTHY  
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# Methods



Level	Date	Activity
Institutional/ Organizational	Aug. 2007 Oct. 2007 July 2008 Oct. 2008	<b>Workshop for Planners and Developers</b> <b>Physical Activity and Nutrition Summit</b> <b>Survey of Planners and Developers</b> <b>Physical Activity and Nutrition Forum</b>
Community	March 2008	<b>Community Workshops (Active Living Communities)</b>
Institutional & Community	March 2007 Aug. 2008 Oct. 2008 Dec. 2008	Hawaii County Activities <b>Strategic Planning Sessions (Advocates)</b> <b>Planning Session (Achieving Complete Streets through SRTS)</b> <b>Planning Session (Achieving Complete Streets through SRTS: Part II)</b>
Public Policy	March 2008 Dec. 2008 Jan. 2009 June 2009	<b>Informational meetings</b> <b>Policy-makers' Breakfast</b> Introduction of SRTS and Complete Streets Policies Policies signed into law



# Methods



- 18 month period
  - Meetings (legislators, council members, commissioners, planning department staff, etc.)
  - Workshops (key community members, advocates, health organizations, state and county agency staff, etc.)
  - Conferences (cross disciplinary representation and at all levels within organizations and within government)
- Informational Briefing with Legislators





# Results

- January 2009
  - SRTS bill and complete streets bills introduced in Hawaii State legislature
  - Advocates
    - monitored bill progress
    - testified at hearings
    - helped craft amendments to strengthen bill wording
  - SRTS statute articulated expectations for the Department of Transportation administration of funds
  - Complete streets law tasked the state and county DOTs with adopting complete streets policies and establishing a temporary taskforce to review existing highway design standards and guidelines

# Policy Change



- June 2009
- Both bills were signed into law
  - ❑ [http://www.capitol.hawaii.gov/session2009/bills/SB718\\_HD1\\_.htm](http://www.capitol.hawaii.gov/session2009/bills/SB718_HD1_.htm)
  - ❑ [http://www.capitol.hawaii.gov/session2009/bills/HB983\\_CD1\\_.htm](http://www.capitol.hawaii.gov/session2009/bills/HB983_CD1_.htm)
- Now we work towards...IMPLEMENTATION



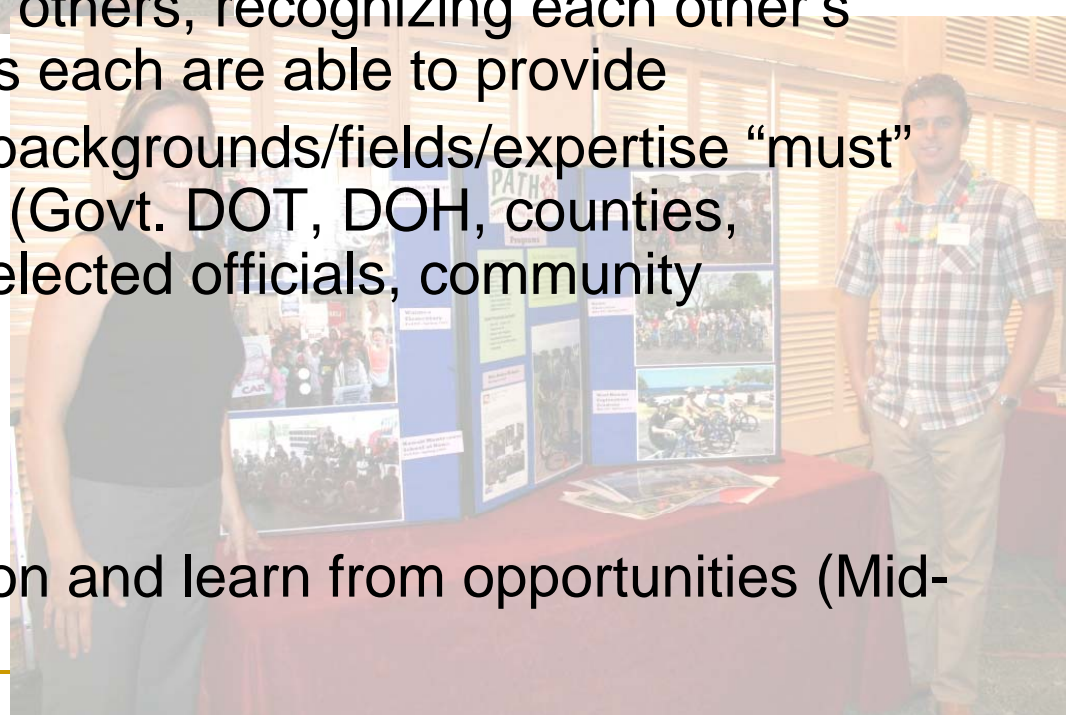




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# Lessons Learned “Must Have’s”

- High Level Buy In and Support
- Strategies in place for building and maintaining relationships
  - Use of open communication and supportive tones
  - Leveraging the work of others, recognizing each other’s roles and the resources each are able to provide
  - Partners from various backgrounds/fields/expertise “must” be part of the dialogue (Govt. DOT, DOH, counties, advocates, coalitions, elected officials, community members, etc.)
- Flexibility
  - Funding
  - Flexibility to capitalize on and learn from opportunities (Mid-stream flexibility)



# Lessons Learned

## “Must Have’s”

- Have a dynamic consultant
  - Local pictures and examples
  - Working knowledge of the community and a sense of place
  - Open to suggestions from the “local” organization
- Evaluation and consultant built in from the beginning
- Design program based on the “place” (the State, County or Neighborhood)

**FOCUS on your OUTCOMES and the REASONS WHY they are IMPORTANT**



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  - HHI-DOH Staff Members
  - HHI Evaluation Team Members
  - Advocates
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# Mahalo (Thank You)

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