

# PARTNERS IN CHANGE



INSTITUTE FOR  
PUBLIC  
STRATEGIES

# ADVANCING EQUITY SO PEOPLE CAN LIVE THEIR BEST LIVES.



## A BROAD FOOTPRINT

IPS has been protecting community health and wellbeing since 1992. We have been the lead agency for a wide range of upstream prevention programs.

IPS is a partner in transforming the conditions and systems that perpetuate inequity, health disparities, and lack of opportunity in order to create vital, thriving, and inclusive communities.

Adverse Childhood Experiences (ACEs)

Alcohol and Other Drugs Prevention

Child Sex Trafficking Prevention

Community Building Initiatives

Community Revitalization

Community Trauma and Toxic Stress

Crime Prevention

Health Equity

Land Use and Planning

Nutrition and Obesity Prevention

Pedestrian Safety

Safe and Fair Housing

Safe Parks and Beaches

Seat Belt Safety

## ADVANCING EQUITY

Equity tops IPS's list of core values and advancing equity is a fundamental feature of our work. Inequitable community and social conditions are at the root of most health disparities. Expanding equity can transform communities. It is an upstream approach that ensures all individuals, regardless of race, income, education, or gender identity, have the opportunity to live healthy, safe, fulfilling lives.



“Equity is not A path forward, it is THE path forward. It requires more than social service programs; it demands big, bold policy change.”

- Brenda Simmons, IPS CEO

## A MODEL FOR CHANGE

IPS's Approach to Community Transformation (ACT) Model provides a proven framework for implementing upstream prevention programs. The ACT Model integrates strategies to create the synergy and momentum needed for population-level change.



### ■ COMMUNITY TRANSFORMATION

The vision. Bringing significant, measurable change that advances health, safety, and opportunity for all.

### ■ RESEARCH & DATA

Engaging with communities to collect, analyze, and report data, employ evidence-informed strategies, measure progress, and evaluate outcomes.

### ■ MEDIA

Generating strategic, timely, sequential news enhanced by social media to frame issues, amplify voices, and advance change.

### ■ COMMUNITY ORGANIZING

Engaging those most impacted by societal problems to build collective power, play a role in decision-making, and drive change.

### ■ POLICY & SYSTEMS CHANGE

Proactively identifying systemic barriers to equity and advocating for policy solutions.

### ■ SUSTAINABILITY

Ensuring the necessary infrastructure, community capacity, and accountability measures are in place to support long-term change and resilience.



# CORE COMPETENCIES

IPS has been a partner in creating positive population-level change since 1992. We provide consultation, collaboration, innovation, training, and technical assistance across a range of functions integral to creating equitable, healthy, safe, and livable communities.

**PROGRAM DESIGN.** IPS assists funders in developing requests for proposal that optimize upstream prevention programs focused on systems change. This includes staffing considerations and the development of implementation frameworks that connect programs and geographies.

**ADVANCING EQUITY.** IPS has developed tools and processes that integrate equity into population-level programs. They provide a blueprint for understanding problems, identifying evidence-informed solutions, integrating disaffected populations, and advocating for policy and systems change.

**TRAUMA-INFORMED PREVENTION.** IPS provides customized training and consultation to guide organizations working to prevent community trauma, toxic stress, and Adverse Childhood Experiences (ACEs) at a community level.

**RESEARCH & DATA.** IPS provides customized data collection strategies supported by tools that inform every aspect of project implementation, from assessing problems to identifying benchmarks of progress.

**COMMUNITY ORGANIZING.** IPS provides training and tools for building multi-sector coalitions, mapping community influencers, and implementing grassroots organizing strategies that engage those most impacted by inequitable community conditions.

**MEDIA ADVOCACY.** For decades, IPS has refined our strategic media advocacy techniques and tools. We have trained organizations in dozens of states on effective earned and digital media strategies.

**ADVOCACY FOR SYSTEMS CHANGE.** IPS has developed strategies and tools to identify policy and systems-based advocacy techniques and methods for engaging with key decision makers. IPS also offers policy analysis and guidance on policy formulation.

## COMMUNITIES THAT THRIVE

IPS HAS AN EXPANSIVE HISTORY. WE ARE CONTINUOUSLY INSPIRED BY OUR COMMUNITY PARTNERS AND THEIR PERSISTENT COMMITMENT TO TRANSFORMING CONDITIONS SO THAT PEOPLE CAN LEAD HEALTHIER, SAFER LIVES, WITH MORE EQUITABLE OPPORTUNITY FOR ALL.



### PROJECT HIGHLIGHTS:

**CHANGING A CULTURE OF DUIs IN MONTANA.** The IPS-led Montana Community Change Project (MTCCP) “[gave] a voice to citizens who before were muzzled by the perceived community support for Montana’s hard drinking culture ...” (from Evaluation Report). Over three years, 33 local ordinances were passed, as were eight state laws. The MTCCP also yielded drops in alcohol-related crashes and crash fatalities.

**PREVENTING OBESITY IN LA COUNTY.** The IPS-led Champions for Change project increased health and wellbeing in Pomona, California. School gardens were created within Pomona Unified School District. Healthier plant-based options were integrated into lunchroom menus. Low-income families gained access to inexpensive organic produce through the formation of a volunteer farmer’s market.

**REDUCING RISK IN WEST HOLLYWOOD.** IPS has implemented risk-reduction measures to lessen alcohol and meth’s dramatic impact in West Hollywood. In partnership with the city, IPS hosts alcohol- and drug-free events that attract thousands of residents annually. A newly-installed Alcohol Liaison Officer proactively engages with bars and clubs to ensure compliance with serving laws. IPS and its community partners regularly distribute fentanyl strips and Narcan to WeHo residents.

**REVITALIZING A HOUSE OF GOLD.** Casa de Oro, once a thriving community in San Diego County, had become a dumping ground for liquor stores and smoke shops. Once mobilized, an IPS-sponsored coalition with over 100 residents quickly had the attention of local government. Now, with a new library and community center approved, the development of a nearby park, and revised coding to attract desirable businesses, this community is becoming a House of Gold once again.



## ABOUT IPS

IPS IS A PRIVATE, NONPROFIT ORGANIZATION. WE RECEIVE FUNDING FROM PRIVATE FOUNDATIONS AND LOCAL, STATE, AND NATIONAL GOVERNMENT AGENCIES. IPS HAS EXPERIENCE WORKING IN DOZENS OF STATES, ON RESERVATIONS, AND IN MEXICO. WE CURRENTLY HAVE OFFICES IN SAN DIEGO COUNTY, SAN BERNARDINO COUNTY, LOS ANGELES COUNTY, AND MONTANA.



## THE COMMUNITIES WE CURRENTLY SERVE INCLUDE:

### LOS ANGELES COUNTY

CITY OF LOS ANGELES  
SANTA MONICA  
UCLA  
VENICE BEACH  
WEST HOLLYWOOD

### SAN BERNARDINO COUNTY

ADELANTO  
HESPERIA  
HIGHLAND  
REDLANDS  
VICTORVILLE  
YUCAIPA

### SAN DIEGO COUNTY

18 CITIES AND THE  
UNINCORPORATED AREA  
US-MEXICO BORDER REGION

### IPS CORPORATE OFFICE

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