

2021 Bright Cities Program Announcement

Rolling Letter of Intent Deadline

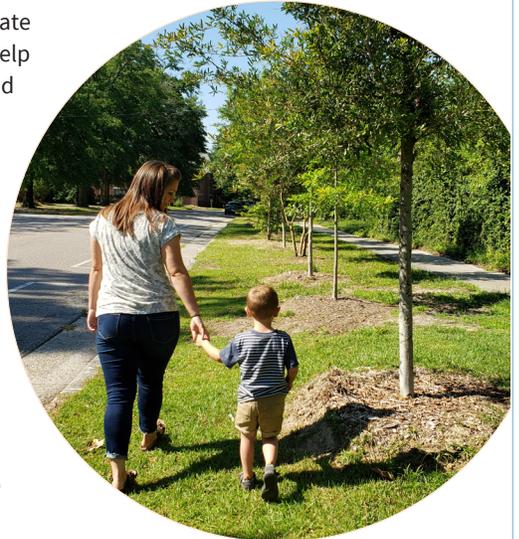
Healthy Babies Bright Futures invites letters of intent from US cities to participate in our Bright Cities program. Our goal is to work collaboratively with cities to help fund on-going efforts that reduce neurotoxic exposures in pregnant women and babies. **We invite more cities to join HBBF's Bright Cities program—growing our total network to over 15 cities.**

Cities may propose a project that:

- **Reduces Toxic Exposures in Community Developments.** Sample project ideas include toxic free childcare training and napmat exchanges; transition to chemical-free turf maintenance and resident education; and reducing lead exposures through education and/or remediation projects about lead exposure mitigation for pregnant women, lead-safe gardening, and lead-free water.
- **Reduces Toxic Exposures in City Purchasing.** Environmentally preferable purchasing (EPP) policies help to create conditions for healthy community spaces by requiring that products purchased are sustainable and free of neurotoxic chemicals as well as instituting practices that reduce waste, conserve energy and water, and reduce greenhouse gas emissions.
- **Reduces Toxic Exposures in Food.** Sample project ideas include using vacant municipal land for organic produce cultivation, increasing the delivery of local and organic produce in collaboration with Farmers' Markets, and working collaboratively with residents living in low access food areas to develop solutions to the lack of healthy food access.
- **Reduces Toxic Exposures in Outdoor Air.** Sample projects include tree planting, planting of vegetative barriers near busy streets to remove air pollutants via deposition, and transitioning park management strategies to chemical-free methods, and other green infrastructure projects.

Read more on our blog at <https://www.hbbf.org/blog>

Bright Cities is part of **Healthy Babies Bright Futures (HBBF)**. We are a collaboration of nonprofit organizations, scientists and donors that came together in 2014 to solve the solvable part of the silent epidemic of learning and developmental deficits that impacts as many as one in six children in the US. HBBF is a response to the large and growing body of research on how early life exposures to toxic chemicals—from drinking water, food, air, soil and consumer products—can contribute to autism, IQ loss, learning or behavioral problems, attention-deficit hyperactivity disorder (ADHD) and speech or cognitive delays.



Tree planting, Columbia, SC.

"The link between health and sustainability is at the very core of Bright Cities. With one outstanding program, we were able to positively impact two of our City's priorities – the health of our babies and a clean environment."

Steve Benjamin,
Mayor,
Columbia, SC



Assistance will be delivered in five ways:

- **\$20,000 grant** to reduce neurotoxic exposures in pregnant women and children under two years as part of a city initiative.
- **\$15,000 grant** for a community-based partner to work collaboratively with the city's initiative to reduce neurotoxic exposures.
- **Technical Assistance from Bright Cities staff** (e.g., consultation, peer-learning, case studies, and best practices).
- **Bright Cities staff city visit.** At least one Bright Cities staff member will support your project with a site visit. Depending on your city's needs, these visits can be used to facilitate public engagement, leverage support from elected officials, help coordinate key partners and other related activities.
- **Sharing your City's Accomplishments.** Bright Cities staff will promote your city's efforts locally, provide original blog content and share your work with our partner organizations.



Taking soil samples at Boulder, Housing Partners property, Boulder, CO.

To be considered:

Your letter should include a:

- Description of your city's neurotoxic challenge. Include any relevant social, environmental or economic background that will help us understand more details about your community.
- Description of your proposed project and implementation plans.
- Current status of the proposed project, (i.e., planning, implementation) and your timeline. Feel free to identify any future milestones you're hoping to achieve.
- Monitoring and evaluation plans for this proposed project.
- Description of any existing local/regional stakeholders or partners you are working with on this project, or with whom you intend to engage in the future.
- Statement of support from your mayor or elected official.

Cities will be contacted about next steps upon receipt of their letter of intent.

Have questions about the Bright Cities program?

Contact Kyra Naumoff Shields, Bright Cities Program Director, at knaumoff@hbbf.org.

