



\$75,000 in Funding Awarded to Three Cities For Projects with Children's Health and Climate Co-Benefits

Healthy Babies Bright Futures selected Boulder, CO, Hendersonville, NC, and Lansing, MI to receive funding for climate action plans

WASHINGTON DC — The Healthy Babies Bright Futures' (HBBF) Bright Cities program is thrilled to announce the latest round of grant funding for cities across the US that are taking innovative and equitable steps to improving children's health. The awards, totaling \$75,000, will be split between three cities whose proposals showed promise of reducing neurotoxic exposures for expectant families and young children while also addressing climate change.

Though 35 of the 50 largest US cities have adopted local climate action plans, just a fraction of cities have integrated specific strategies to reduce ubiquitous toxic exposures *within* their climate, sustainability, or resilience plan.

To help reduce this gap, Healthy Babies Bright Futures awarded three \$25,000 grants for cities to plan a locally appropriate action that reduces neurotoxic exposures with a climate, resilience, and/or sustainability co-benefit. Cities in Colorado, North Carolina, and Michigan were selected as recipients of this funding.

WHAT DO THESE CITIES PLAN TO DO?

- **Boulder, CO** will develop and implement a sharable communication campaign to leverage community environmental toxic chemical exposure studies so residents better understand the impact of lawn chemicals on prenatal and early childhood exposure and healthier alternatives.
- **Hendersonville, NC** partnered with the community-based organizations on a community garden revitalization project, including growing food using organic methods, conducting cooking classes, and providing hands-on educational experiences in the garden for neighborhood children.
- **Lansing, MI** will implement an adopted environmentally preferable purchasing (EPP) policy and create practical deliverables that other municipalities can use to foster EPP in their communities.



“It’s exciting to see individual municipal actions being integrated into a city’s day-to-day,” said Kyra Naumoff Shields, PhD, Bright Cities Program Director. “We are thrilled to work collaboratively with talented staff in Boulder, Hendersonville, and Lansing to support local work and share it broadly to help build brighter futures for the kids in all of our lives.”

About HBBF: [Healthy Babies Bright Futures](#) is a nonprofit organization that measurably reduces the largest sources of babies’ exposures to neurotoxic chemicals that harm brain development. We use original research, city governments, and strategic partnerships to empower parents, build resilient communities, and pressure decision-makers to keep babies’ brains safe from neurotoxic exposures.

The [Bright Cities program](#) provides grants and tailored best practices to city governments to equitably reduce community exposures to neurotoxic chemicals. Forty-four cities have designed and completed projects that reduced harmful exposures to neurotoxic chemicals. Our three main areas of focus are: healthier air and environments; nontoxic and environmentally-preferable purchasing; and increasing access to organic and healthy food.

[RFP for this award](#)