



# Convergence

TERNARY EZINE FROM THE CENTER FOR HEALTH IMPROVEMENT

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### Health Policy Guide

Guidance and resources to support advocacy and decision-making



### Center for Health Improvement

Excellence in policy development and implementation



### California Health Policy Forum

Capitol conversations improving health

## Introducing California Health Policy Forum

The [California Health Policy Forum](#)

(CAHPF) launches a new and independent platform for education, idea sharing, and conversations among legislative and executive branch health policy staff about the complex

health issues facing the state today. Modeled after the [National Health Policy Forum](#), CAHPF seeks to inform the public policy-making process through a series of invitational briefing sessions that feature national speakers. [The Center for Health Improvement](#) (CHI) hosts and staffs the **nonpartisan, participant-driven, solutions-oriented** conversations. CAHPF steering committee includes Patricia E. Powers (CHI President/CEO), Sandra Shewry (CDHS Director), Elizabeth G. Hill (Legislative Analyst), Joseph M. Hafey (Public Health Institute President) and Donald B. Moulds (Senate Office of Research Director). CAHPF funding partners are [The California Endowment](#) and [The California HealthCare Foundation](#).



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## CDHS Worksite Wellness Study Launched

With increasingly soaring rates of adult obesity, the need for proven interventions is greater than ever. Evidence suggests that worksite health promotion programs can offer benefits for both clinical outcomes and workplace productivity. [The Center for Health Improvement](#) (CHI) — in partnership with the [University of Michigan](#) and the [California Department of Health Services](#) (CDHS) — is conducting a new study funded by the [Centers for Disease Control and Prevention](#) (CDC). The three-year program examines the impact of worksite environmental and policy changes on the health of 3,500 CDHS employees. To improve employee nutrition and physical activity, simple and sustainable alternatives will be tested, such as offering healthy choices in vending machines and making stairways more accessible. Given the pressing need for health promotion programs in public sector settings, the study will monitor the changes of the worksite environment and employee behavior.

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## NICHQ Features California ASD Collaborative

[The Center for Health Improvement's](#) (CHI) breakthrough collaborative to improve the quality of diagnostic processes for children with Autism Spectrum Disorders (ASD) will be highlighted at the [National Initiative for Children's Healthcare Quality](#) (NICHQ) annual forum February 28-March 2 in San Diego. Gregg Shibata, CHI Project Manager, guides the [California ASD Collaborative](#), a statewide initiative to implement best-practice guidelines for screening and diagnosis of children suspected of having ASD. NICHQ is an education and research organization dedicated solely to improving the quality of health care provided to children. The annual forum invites experienced leaders and nationally recognized speakers to speak on promising practices.

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