



Jyotsna Blackwell, MPH

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Jyotsna Blackwell joined the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention as a public health advisor over ten years ago. She works in the Division of Population Health, Healthy Schools Branch. Blackwell serves as a project officer for six states (Louisiana, Massachusetts, Minnesota, New Mexico, Tennessee and Oklahoma) and manages an employee wellness project with the Society of Public Health Education (SOPHE). She managed the National Center for Chronic Disease Directors (NACDD) contract that assisted in developing the School Employee Wellness Guide. She provided oversight in the development of the framework, served as part of the advisory group and conducted reviews for the guide. Blackwell was the program manager for the Office of Chronic Disease Prevention unit in the Health Assessment and Promotion Department of the DeKalb County Board of Health (GA) for more than 13 years. She addressed policy and environmental issues in DeKalb County that related to chronic diseases. She also led its efforts in securing more than \$15 million in federal, state and corporate funds to eliminate chronic disease in the county. Blackwell worked in the most diverse communities of the county to provide health education to residents regarding diabetes, obesity and asthma. Additionally, she worked with grassroots organizations in DeKalb County and co-lead the development of two successful health coalitions. She also provided leadership in the passing of key county/citywide policies, including the DeKalb Clean Indoor Air ordinance. Blackwell earned her master's degree from Emory University's Rollins School of Public Health.