

# Implementation of Strategic Plans for Lupus

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## INTRODUCTION

Funded by CDC, the American College of Rheumatology collaborates with NACDD to develop sustainable strategies to support and build partnerships between state health departments and community-based organizations on Lupus. This poster describes how two community-based organizations were funded to implement select recommendations from state-based strategic plans to improve education and awareness of lupus and to develop sustainable policy changes for improved lupus treatment and surveillance.

## OBJECTIVES

This project is intended to support sustainable strategies to implement priority action items in the National Public Health Agenda for Lupus and to build long-term partnerships between state or local public health departments, leaders in minority health and healthy equity, and community-based organizations that support persons living with lupus.

## PRIORITIES

To implement at least one measurable recommendation from the state-based Action Plan that builds upon current partnerships, is sustainable, and effects policy, systems, and/or environmental changes.



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## IMPACT

- The Big Bend Rural Health Network developed an effective partnership with the Florida Chronic Disease Director, including a lupus subcommittee to the Chronic Disease Coalition, a lupus module for inclusion in the 2019 BRFSS and compilation of hospitalization discharge and death data for addition to the Florida Charts website. The project also includes training community health workers in effective lupus self-management techniques.
- The Georgia Council on Lupus Education and Awareness is building upon an effective partnership with the Georgia Chronic Disease Director to develop a lupus module for inclusion in the 2019 BRFSS, and to assess the interest in telemedicine and provide training to specialty and primary care practitioners on the use of telemedicine for lupus diagnosis and treatment

## OUTLOOK

While both grantees continue to include lupus education and awareness by the general public as part of their mission, the move toward improved surveillance of lupus and education of community health workers and primary care practitioners about lupus, as well as the increased collaboration with the state CDD sets the stage for sustainable impact beyond the grant period.