The HIP (Health Impacts through Planning) Cities Initiative is a campus/community partnership initiative between the Orange County Health Care Agency, the Community Outreach Partnership Center (COPC), and the Department of Planning, Policy and Design at the University of California, Irvine.

The goal of the HIP Cities Initiative was to help cities in Orange County build capacity resulting in proactive integration of health into planning, policies, and practices to create long term sustainable improvements in the health of communities that benefit individuals and families.

The work of the HIP project contributed to a synergy between campus and community partners working at the intersection of urban planning and public health. That synergy, and related forces, resulted in the development of a regional network called CHANGES (Community Health Action Network for Growth Through Equity and Sustainability).

CHANGES began in 2011, and its efforts are focused on supporting health equity and place-based community development efforts that employ planning practices and policies to improve built environments. CHANGES is one of the 9 regional hubs that comprise the California Convergence. California Convergence is a regionally-organized, statewide network that unites grassroots leaders and institutional partners to collectively build equitable, safe and healthy communities.

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