Charles Branas is a professor who directs the Department of Epidemiology and a CDC Research Center at Columbia University. His research extends from urban and rural areas in the US to communities across the globe, incorporating place-based interventions and human geography. He has led science that generates new knowledge while simultaneously creating positive, real-world changes and health-enhancing resources with local communities. He has worked in multiple Schools of Public Health, Engineering, and Medicine, and is a member of the National Academy of Medicine.