

## **Evaluating Community Programs**

### *Identifying Best Practices in Communities to Promote Childhood Obesity Prevention and Control*

The National Collaborative on Childhood Obesity Research (NCCOR) aims to evaluate new and existing obesity prevention and weight control interventions, with an emphasis on those involving multilevel and/or multi-component approaches, and to strengthen the capacity (e.g., knowledge, skills, tools) to implement both interventions and evaluations. Evidence is necessary at the individual, community and population levels.

To promote and accelerate this kind of research, maximize outcomes from research, and create and support the mechanisms and infrastructure needed for translation and dissemination, NCCOR has supported NHLBI in its soliciting proposals for a Research Coordinating Center (RCC) to lead a research program titled "Studying Community Programs to Reduce Childhood Obesity." Broad Agency Announcement (BAA) No. NHLBI-HC-10-15 was released Aug. 18; the deadline for proposals was Nov. 18. The contract will be awarded in summer 2010.

NCCOR members served on an advisory committee to inform the development of the BAA. The one funded RCC will work in close partnership with members of NCCOR to design and implement the research.

The goal is to inform public-health practice and policy by identifying community approaches that may work best for reducing childhood obesity rates. The study will also help identify future research directions.

NCCOR is a collaboration among the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), National Institutes of Health (NIH), Robert Wood Johnson Foundation (RWJF), and United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) to accelerate progress on reversing the epidemic of childhood obesity in the United States.