

Highlights of NCCOR Accomplishments & Activities

The National Collaborative on Childhood Obesity Research (NCCOR) is advancing the field through complementary and joint initiatives by its partners: Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), National Institutes of Health (NIH), Robert Wood Johnson Foundation (RWJF), and U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA).

The following are *select accomplishments* and activities from September 2016 through February 2017.

Released the Measures Registry User Guides. In 2015, NCCOR formed its first strategic funding alliance with The JPB Foundation to create four User Guides for NCCOR's landmark Measures Registry. The four User Guides focus on core areas of childhood obesity research: individual diet, food environment, individual physical activity, and physical activity environment. The User Guides provide an overview of measurement, describe general principles of measurement selection, present case studies that walk users through the process of using the Measures Registry, and direct researchers and practitioners to additional resources and sources of useful information. The Guides were completed in December 2016 and were released online in February 2017.

Completed the Health, Behavioral Design, and the Built Environment white paper. In March 2016, NCCOR held the workshop Deriving and Applying Behavioral Design Principles to Foster Active Living and Healthy Eating, bringing together experts from different domains of human thinking to increase understanding of how behavioral design influences health through contextualizing the processes that lead to human action. The Health, Behavioral Design, and the Built Environment workgroup together with some workshop attendees developed a white paper to encourage researchers and practitioners to consider behavioral design in their work. The white paper was published on the NCCOR website in February 2017.

Developed the Youth Compendium of Physical Activity. In 2012, NCCOR formed a Youth Energy Expenditure (YEE) workgroup to support research efforts to achieve consensus on methods and measures for establishing youth energy expenditure values. In 2016, NCCOR hosted the members of the YEE workgroup to begin developing the Youth Compendium of Physical Activity, a new tool that will be hosted on the NCCOR website. The workgroup is currently working to create the webpage for the tool which is expected to be released in May 2017. Workgroup members submitted two manuscripts on the development of the compendium and presented the data and development process at the Active Living Research Conference.

Engaged in dialogue about healthy food retail. In October 2016, NCCOR hosted the workshop Moving From Test Market to All Markets: Translating Food Purchasing Research into Evidence-based Strategies to Improve the Purchase of Healthier Items. The workshop convened researchers, food retailers, and practitioners working with the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program—Education (SNAP-Ed) and other public and private programs to engage in dialogue and form working relationships to enhance each other's work.

Communicated with the field and encouraged dialogue. NCCOR continued Connect & Explore, an external webinar series to inform and interact with researchers and practitioners. During the reporting period NCCOR hosted two Connect & Explore webinars:

- On Oct. 24, 269 people tuned in to the webinar Looking Back and Looking Forward: Nine Years of School District Wellness Policy Implementation. This webinar highlighted progress and opportunities in district wellness policies, and provided baseline data on the extent to which district policies aligned with the new federal wellness policy regulations.
- On Dec. 5, NCCOR hosted the webinar Assessing Prevalence and Trends in Obesity: Navigating the Evidence. This webinar provided an overview of the various data collection and analysis approaches that had been used in developing reports on the prevalence and trends in obesity across population groups, but particularly as they related to children and adolescents. A total of 151 people participated in this webinar.

Evaluated Health Care-Community Collaborations and shared what works. On Nov. 10, NCCOR hosted part three of a three-part Connect & Explore webinar series on Evaluating Health Care-Community Collaborations with more than 120 participants. The webinar featured groundbreaking research examining hospitals' community benefit activities to improve healthy food access, reduce risk of obesity and diet-related disease, and promote healthier food systems in their communities. The webinar also featured an overview of the newly released white paper, Evaluating Community-Clinical Engagement in Childhood Obesity: Implications and Recommendations for the Field. Speakers included Emma Sirois, MA and Susan Bridle-Fitzpatrick, PhD, from Health Care Without Harm; and Brook Belay, MD, MPH and Daniel Kidder, PhD, from the CDC.

Hosted a #ChildObesityChat on Twitter. NCCOR hosted a Twitter chat with more than 100 participants reaching more than 300,000 accounts with 3.7 million impressions on Nov. 15. The Twitter chat was co-hosted by NIH Office of Disease Prevention and discussed examples of partnerships between communities and clinical settings, features of evaluation efforts, and recommendations for the field. NCCOR members Rachel Ballard, MD, MPH of NIH Office of Disease Prevention and Brook Belay MD, MPH, of CDC Division of Nutrition, Physical Activity, and Obesity served as subject matter experts and helped guide the discussion.

Promoted resources and expanded our reach. NCCOR exhibited at the American Public Health Association (APHA) 2016 Annual Conference in Denver where more than 300 conference participants signed up for the NCCOR e-Newsletter. The Coordinating Center distributed materials such as the 2015 Annual Report, the updated 2016 Overview Booklet, and an executive summary of the white paper Evaluating Community-Clinical Engagement in Childhood Obesity: Implications and Recommendations for the Field. Participants also took pictures with NCCOR photo props and posted them on social media with the hashtag #NCCORatAPHA.