

1 IDENTIFY Key Knowledge Gaps



Mobilizing collaboration efforts requires clear identification of areas that require more research attention.

NCCOR identified measurement methods and surveillance systems related to individuals and their environments as key gaps in the field of childhood obesity research.

2 CREATE a Shared Identity



Finding common ground among partner organizations helps narrow the focus of a collaborative.

Scientific staff and senior leaders from each NCCOR partner reviewed how their childhood obesity research efforts aligned and chose to focus on the effects of environmental, policy, and systems-level factors.

3 DEVELOP Structures for Collaboration



A culture of mutual respect and trust is fundamental to building effective, democratic relationships in a collaborative that draws from different disciplines and organizations.

NCCOR's structural model includes a neutral convener to ensure effective engagement and communication across the collaborative, with a coordinating center housed at FHI 360.

4 IDENTIFY Effective Leaders



A cross-collaborative leadership team ensures consistent engagement and effort even when organizational senior leadership or areas of focus change.

Scientific staff serve as effective leaders across NCCOR, from targeted working groups to the Steering Committee (senior-level representatives that provide overall management).

5 FACILITATE Continuous Knowledge Exchange



Knowledge sharing in rapidly evolving fields requires leveraging diverse communication methods for strategic information exchange.

NCCOR strategic communications include a website, webinars, publications, and conference presentations to engage experts across many disciplines and audiences.

6 SUPPORT Assessment of Progress and Feedback



Regular assessment of collaborative activities ensures consistent alignment with mission and goals.

Through strategic planning, assessments of partnership processes, input from external experts, and annual reviews, NCCOR continually evaluates its activities and their relevance to NCCOR's mission and the field of childhood obesity research.