

## 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: the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), the National Institutes of Health (NIH), the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation (RWJF), and the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA).

The following are **select accomplishments** and activities from June through November 2022.

### **Launched the Economic Indicators Library on the NCCOR website.**

NCCOR continues to add tools to its growing list of resources supporting active communities. The [Economic Indicators Library](#) offers helpful resources to measure the economic benefits of activity-friendly communities. The library contains 10 data indicators that influence quality of life, such as air quality, housing affordability, green space, and life expectancy. The library can help communities decide what indicators to prioritize and measure based on their relevance to the most pressing local needs and their vision for the future. The library complements the May 2022 launch of, [Create Thriving, Activity-Friendly Communities: Making the Case for Investments in Activity-Friendly Communities](#). This suite of customizable resources can help public health practitioners, decision-makers, and community members make the business case for improving the built environment. In addition to launching the library in October, NCCOR updated the communication toolkit to help partners promote the new resources.

### **Published a paper on COVID-19 and early childhood care centers.**

NCCOR, in partnership with the Gretchen Swanson Center for Nutrition, was published in the journal *Frontiers of Public Health* in June. The article, [Key Informant Interviews to Inform Nutrition and Physical Activity Recovery Efforts in Child Care Settings amid the COVID-19 Pandemic in the United States](#), analyzed qualitative interviews with federal representatives, practitioners, and researchers to identify best practices and recommend future investments in child care settings. The authors were Allison Nitto, David Berrigan, Andrew Bremer, Sarah Kersten, Leah Carpenter, and Amy Yaroch.

### **Hosted a Connect & Explore webinar on Reframing Childhood Obesity: Cultural Insights on Nutrition, Weight, and Food Systems.**

NCCOR partnered with the Vanderbilt University Cultural Contexts of Health & Wellbeing Initiative and the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation to host a Connect & Explore webinar featuring a recently released report, [Reframing Childhood Obesity: Cultural Insights on Nutrition, Weight, and Food Systems](#). The report focused on three key areas in which insights and examples from abroad can improve health policy related to childhood obesity in the U.S. A panel of speakers explored how public health policy can work with, not against, cultural traditions and norms and harness local creativity to change health outcomes. Primary authors Ted Fischer and Tatiana Paz Lemus were joined by RWJF staff, Jaime Bussel and Karabi Acharya, to discuss the report's origin, findings, and implications for child nutrition and health. This webinar occurred on September 7, 2022 and attracted strong audience interest. Over 500 people registered for the event. The recording and [slides](#) are now available on the NCCOR website.

**Promoted NCCOR's tools and resources during National Childhood Obesity Awareness Month.**

During National Childhood Obesity Awareness Month (NCOAM) in September, NCCOR highlighted the expansion of its tools and resources during the past decade. NCCOR developed four new social media graphics for NCOAM promotion, including an [overview of NCCOR tools](#) and [a chart](#) depicting the purpose and audiences for each tool.

**Attended the American Academy of Pediatrics (AAP) Annual Meeting.**

NCCOR attended the annual AAP meeting from October 7-11, 2022. In addition to hosting an exhibit booth, NCCOR presented a poster titled, A Toolkit for Evaluating Childhood Health Weight Programs. Dr. Sarah Armstrong, who served as an external expert on *A Guide to Methods for Assessing Childhood Obesity*, shared highlights from the Toolkit and discussed the importance of including evaluation activities when conducting childhood healthy weight programs.

**Attended the SHIFT Summit.**

NCCOR presented a poster titled, Create Thriving, Activity-Friendly Communities: Tools to Make the Case for Investments in Activity-Friendly Communities at the SHIFT Summit from October 17-20, 2022. The poster was authored by NCCOR member, Hatidza Zaganjor.

**Submitted two manuscripts for publication.**

NCCOR submitted "Count Every Bite to Make 'Every Bite Count': Measurement Gaps and Future Directions for Assessing Diet from Birth to 24 Months" to the *Journal of the Academy of Nutrition and Dietetics*. A paper recognizing the 10<sup>th</sup> anniversary of NCCOR's signature tools, "The National Collaborative on Childhood Obesity Research Catalogue of Surveillance Systems and Measures Registry: Celebrating 10 Years and Beyond" was submitted to the *American Journal of Preventive Medicine*. Both manuscripts are expected to be published in 2023.

**Attended the American Public Health Association's Annual Meeting.**

NCCOR participated in the APHA Annual Meeting in Boston from November 6-9, 2022. During the conference, Dr. Angie Cradock presented NCCOR's newest tool, [How-to Resources to Create Thriving, Activity-Friendly Communities: Making the Case for Improving the Built Environment](#). This presentation was featured during a panel discussion titled [Built-Environment and Active Transportation to Enhance Physical Activity](#). To promote the presentation and raise awareness about the importance of built-environment improvements, Mark Fenton led a walk for conference attendees through Boston's Seaport District. During the event, he identified neighborhood features that promote and hinder opportunities for active transportation. NCCOR shared the walk on Twitter for followers who could not attend the conference. Finally, NCCOR hosted a conference booth and live-tweeted conference sessions relevant to childhood obesity.