

Gaps and Opportunities for School-Based Nutrition Research

NW Schools Obesity Prevention Research Consortium & UW Exploratory Center for Obesity Research

Workshop - May 23, 2005

Goal: To establish an action plan for collaborative research efforts to prevent childhood overweight through changes to the elementary school food environment as one component of a comprehensive approach to childhood overweight.

Specific Objectives: Participants will be able to:

1. Identify existing evidence and research gaps for school nutrition: What works? What do we think might work, but we need evidence for? What tools do we need to measure the impacts of interventions?
2. Describe the policy and institutional context for school-based nutrition research.
3. Identify potential sources of funding for research on school nutrition issues.
4. Contribute to action plans for working in partnership and coalitions on research for school nutrition.

Agenda

Time	Activity	Objective Served
8:00	Breakfast and coffee	
8:30	Welcome and Introductions	
9:00-9:15	Donna Johnson: <i>The NW Schools Obesity Prevention Consortium</i>	#3, #4
9:15-10:30	Kathleen Menkhaus: <i>School Nutrition Environment Interventions: The Gaps in Evidence-Based Research</i>	#1
10:30-10:45	Break	
10:45-11:45	Panel Discussion: <i>State and School Policy Initiatives</i> Invited Moderator: Shelley Curtis AFHK coordinators from WA, OR, ID	#2
11:45-12:30	Lunch	

12:30-1:30	Panel Discussion: <i>Working within the Realities of Schools</i> Invited Moderator: Joyce Dougherty Local school folks	#2
1:30-1:45	2 minute updates on Research/Evaluation Initiatives & One paragraph descriptions: Ethan Bergman – concept paper to Food Service Institute Donna Johnson –Policy Surveillance Grant, Renewal of Policy Impact grant WSU/UW Nursing Faculty	#3, #4
1:45 – 2:15	Potential Funding Resources: Table of Federal and Private funding sources. Description of top three potential opportunities for school nutrition funding	#3
2:15-2:30	Break	
2:30-4:00	Small group discussions: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ What are the most promising approaches for changes to the school food environment? ▪ What resources and policies are needed to make these approaches feasible in today’s elementary schools? ▪ If we implement these changes, what outcomes should we measure to determine if they make a difference? ▪ What are the advantages to schools in working with researchers to improve the school nutrition environment? ▪ How can we best approach schools to engage them in the research process? ▪ What are the specific next steps that academic researchers need to take to build a research portfolio in school settings? 	#4
4:30-5:00	Report Out and Wrap-up	#4