

## High Obesity Program Recipients

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### **Alabama**

Recipient: Auburn University (Auburn)

State: Alabama

Counties: Barbour, Bullock, Butler, Choctaw, Dallas, Escambia, Etowah, Greene, Hale, Marengo, Perry, Russell, Sumter, and Wilcox

Principal Investigator contact information:

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Project Overview: Auburn University's Live Well Alabama Thriving Communities project is:

- Conducting landscape analyses for food service guidelines in local institutions.
- Planning to implement fruit and vegetable voucher incentive and produce prescription programs.
- Using the Go Nutrition and Physical Activity Self-Assessment for Child Care (Go NAPSACC) to improve nutrition, physical activity, and breastfeeding supports in early care and education settings.

Newly funded counties are developing active transportation action plans. Previously funded counties are determining low-cost projects to implement from existing active transportation plans.

### **Arkansas**

Recipient: University of Arkansas Cooperative Extension Service (Little Rock)

State: Arkansas

Counties: Bradley, Crittenden, Desha, Drew, Hempstead, Logan, Monroe, Phillips, Poinsett, Pope, and St. Francis

Principal Investigator contact information:

Jessica Vincent

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Project Overview: University of Arkansas' HOP is:

- Working with local businesses and state parks on food service guidelines.
- Aligning practices with the Healthy Eating Research guidelines through existing partnerships with food pantries.
- Expanding the reach of the Good Food Rx program and working with farmers markets and produce stands to accept SNAP and Double Up Food Bucks vouchers.
- Promoting trainings on Go Nutrition and Physical Activity Self-Assessment for Child Care (Go NAPSACC), breast milk handling, ways to increase physical activity time, and ways to increase healthy food offerings in early care and education settings.
- Collaborating with several city parks that have improvement grants from the state. They are also conducting walkability assessments with food pantries as a destination.

## **Georgia**

Recipient: University of Georgia (Athens)

State: Georgia

Counties: Calhoun, Clay, Dooly, Stewart, Taliaferro, Burke, Crisp, McDuffie, Richmond, Rockdale, Sumter, and Washington

Principal Investigator contact information:

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Project Overview: The University of Georgia's HOP is:

- Conducting landscape assessments to identify characteristics of the food environment and community design in each county.
- Working with community partners to adopt and implement food service guidelines, expand fruit and vegetable voucher incentives and produce prescription programs, and connect activity-friendly routes to everyday destinations.
- Working with statewide partners to explore ways to expand existing family healthy weight programs to reach more eligible families.

## **Iowa**

Recipient: Iowa State University

State: Iowa

Counties: Cedar, Clinton, Crawford, Franklin, Muscatine, and Pottawattamie

Principal Investigator contact information:

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Project Overview: The Iowa State University of Science and Technology's Leveraging Activities and Partnerships to Address Obesity team is:

- Supporting county extension offices with implementing strategies for nutrition and community design for physical activity.
- Supporting development, adoption, and application of food service guidelines policies and contracts in institutional settings and food pantries.
- Working with Extension-affiliated groups on healthy meeting guidelines.
- Collaborating with local health care partners to develop plans for a produce prescription program.
- Assisting communities and businesses with adopting activities for bicycle friendly communities by collaborating with Iowa Department of Transportation and City Planners.

### **Louisiana**

Recipient: Louisiana State University (Baton Rouge)

State: Louisiana

Counties: Madison, Tensas, East Carroll, Morehouse, St. Helena, Assumption, Catahoula, Claiborne, Winn, Washington, Terrebonne, and St. Martin

Principal Investigator contact information:

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Project Overview: The Louisiana State University Agricultural Center is:

- Building on previous work to increase access to healthier foods and safe places for physical activity.
- Training local partners, including food pantries, on healthy nutrition standards and food procurement practices.
- Providing technical assistance and training related to voucher and nutrition incentive programs to local producers, farmers markets, and food retailers.
- Working to establish a regional food policy council.
- Providing technical assistance on implementing Complete Streets and/or joint use agreement policies in parishes with established plans.

### **Mississippi**

Recipient: Mississippi State University (Starkville)

State: Mississippi

Counties: Bolivar, Chickasaw, Claiborne, Clay, Holmes, Humphreys, Issaquena, Kemper, Noxubee, Sharkey, Sunflower, Washington, Webster, and Yazoo

Principal Investigator contact information:

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Project Overview: Mississippi State University Extension Service is continuing work on HOP strategies under Advancing, Inspiring, and Motivating for Community Health through Extension (AIM for Change-2) to:

- Provide technical assistance on food service guidelines and healthy food procurement to food distributors and producers, food pantries, university and college concessions, and hospital wellness staff.
- Work to expand voucher incentives and produce prescription programs.
- Plan to pilot a Family Healthy Weight Program, collaborating with the University of Mississippi Medical Center.
- Assist with community planning and conducting environmental audits.

## **Missouri**

Recipient: The Curators of University of Missouri (Columbia)

State: Missouri

Counties: New Madrid, Mississippi, Scott, Stoddard, Ripley, Wayne, Howell, Wright, Crawford, and Washington

Principal Investigator contact information:

Jo-Britt Rankin

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Project Overview: The University of Missouri's HOP is:

- Expanding existing programs to improve nutrition, food security, develop Complete Streets, and implement Farm to early care and education (ECE) strategies.
- Guiding county coalitions through healthy food procurement and building capacity to enhance fruit and vegetable voucher and produce prescription programs.
- Training schools on healthy concessions for after-school activities with the Eat Smart in Parks toolkit.
- Training ECE providers on Farm to ECE strategies and the Nutrition and Physical Activity Self-Assessment for Child Care (Go NAPSACC). All Missouri ECE providers have access to the self-assessment through the Missouri State Physical Activity and Nutrition Program.
- Connecting transportation agencies and local public health agencies to trainings on Complete Streets, Vision Zero, and Safe Routes to School guidelines.

## **North Carolina**

Recipient: North Carolina State University (Raleigh)

State: North Carolina

Counties: Warren, Halifax, Northampton, Hertford, Bertie, Washington, Lenoir, Jones, Columbus, and Robeson

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Project Overview: North Carolina State Extension's HOP is:

- Working to strengthen obesity prevention in rural communities.
- Partnering with food hubs and clinical partners to pilot-test the PhytoRx Families produce prescription program.
- Planning to expand existing fruit and vegetable voucher incentive programs.
- Collaborating with the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program Education (SNAP-Ed) program to train food pantry staff to implement Healthy Eating Research Nutrition in Food Bank guidelines.
- Partnering with Head Start centers to strengthen obesity prevention standards in early care and education (ECE) settings by implementing Go Nutrition and Physical Activity Self-Assessment for Child Care (Go NAPSACC) and Farm to early care and education activities. NC HOP is working to increase access to physical activity through shared use policies and practices.

## **Ohio**

Recipient: The Ohio State University (Columbus)

State: Ohio

Counties: Lawrence and Fayette

Principal Investigator contact information:

Carol Smathers

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Project Overview: Ohio State University's HOP is:

- Collaborating with the Ohio Department of Health to implement HOP strategies.

- Planning to increase access to healthier foods by promoting Ohio's Good Food Here guidelines.
- Planning to coordinate uptake and expansion of produce prescriptions and fruit and vegetable voucher incentives.
- Planning to increase the number of early care and education (ECE) programs that are improved by Farm to ECE improvements.
- Planning to increase access to physical activity by developing policies and plans that support safe and accessible opportunities for people to be active.

## **Oklahoma**

Recipient: Oklahoma State University (Stillwater)

State: Oklahoma

Counties: Adair, Le Flore, Okfuskee, Lincoln, Craig, Okmulgee, Haskell, Muskogee, Kay, Nowata, and Sequoyah

Principal Investigator contact information:

Deana Hildebrand

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Project Overview: Oklahoma State University's HOP is:

- Collaborating with the Oklahoma Food is Medicine Coalition to enhance, expand, and sustain produce prescription and nutrition voucher incentive programs.
- Working with community partners to support Safe Routes to School and Complete Streets policies and plans to extend that work into the new HOP counties.

## **South Carolina**

Recipient: Clemson University (Clemson)

State: South Carolina

Counties: Marlboro, Dillon, Marion, Darlington, Florence, Lee, Orangeburg, Allendale, Bamberg, and Hampton

Principal Investigator contact information:

Sarah Griffin

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Project Overview: Clemson University's HOP is:

- Implementing evidence-based strategies related to nutrition standards, food service guidelines, and food access.

- Working with partners to create a Farm to early care and education task force to develop action plans.
- Working to implement family healthy weight programs in select counties.
- Working with county teams to develop walkability implementation plans that may be based on existing local plans.

### **South Dakota**

Recipient: South Dakota State University (Brookings)

State: South Dakota

Counties: Buffalo, Corson, Dewey, Mellette, Oglala Lakota, Todd, and Ziebach

Principal Investigator contact information:

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Project Overview: South Dakota State University HOP is:

- Establishing and strengthening community and school wellness coalitions to prevent and reduce obesity among children, youth, and their families.
- Working with coalitions on food service guidelines in places that serve, sell, or distribute food.
- Convening a state-level coalition to coordinate efforts related to nutrition incentive and produce prescription programs.
- Working to improve community design for physical activities such as Safe Routes to School, shared use, and signage.
- Working with counties to develop at least one Active People, Healthy Nation Action Plan.

### **Tennessee**

Recipient: The University of Tennessee (Knoxville)

State: Tennessee

Counties: Clay, Crockett, Decatur, Hancock, Hardeman, Haywood, and Henderson

Principal Investigator contact information:

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Project Overview: The University of Tennessee's HOP program is:

- Working with worksites, faith-based organizations, and food pantries to establish healthy nutrition standards.

- Working with the clinical sector to create a referral system, based on food insecurity assessments, to existing charitable food resources in the community.
- Working with the state health department to create regional/local coalitions supporting fruit and vegetable programs.
- Continuing active living workshops and walk audits to engage community members and determine the degree of activity and barriers to using the built environment for physical activity.
- Implementing the Mind, Exercise, Nutrition...Do it! (MEND) family healthy weight program.

## **Texas**

Recipient: Texas A&M (College Station)

State: Texas

Counties: Angelina, Cameron, Cherokee, Falls, Hidalgo, Houston, Maverick, Morris, Newton, San Augustine, Webb, Wharton, and Wilbarger

Principal Investigator contact information:

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Project Overview: Texas A&M AgriLife Extension Service HOP is:

- Continuing the Working on Wellness Environments (WOW-E) program to improve nutrition and community design for physical activity in select counties.
- Working with counties to conduct environmental assessments and identify priorities.
- Planning to provide technical assistance to local teams to make improvements based on assessment results.
- Offering healthy early care and education (ECE) conferences and access to policy training modules and professional development to build capacity for ECE work.
- Engaging with county organizations and partners to identify family healthy weight programs.
- Focusing on capacity building before selecting and implementing programs.

## **West Virginia**

Recipient: West Virginia University (Morgantown)

State: West Virginia

Counties: Braxton, Boone, Calhoun, Clay, Fayette, Lincoln, Logan, Mingo, Monroe, and Summers

Principal Investigator contact information:

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Project Overview: West Virginia University is working to improve access to physical activity opportunities and healthy foods.

- All counties are working on food service guidelines and healthy food procurement.
- The statewide SNAP-Ed and Produce Prescription coalition leaders are providing guidance to county-level coalitions on voucher incentives and referrals.
- Similar processes will determine community design action plans.
- Select counties will focus on work in early care and education settings while others will work on community readiness and implementation of Family Healthy Weight Programs.

## **Wisconsin**

Recipient: University of Wisconsin (Madison)

State: Wisconsin

Counties: Ashland and Menominee

Principal Investigator contact information:

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Project Overview: The University of Wisconsin-Madison is:

- Addressing access to healthy foods and physical activity opportunities among American Indians in two rural communities.
- Providing training and technical assistance on establishing and supporting nutrition standards for community sites and partners.
- Working with partners to address fruit and vegetable voucher incentive and produce prescription programs.
- Partnering with the Menominee Indian Tribe Community Development department to develop maps for community assessment activities in the Zoar community.
- Aligning and coordinating Farm to early care and education activities with state-level partners.