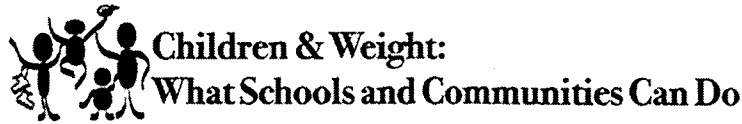


MARIN COUNTY CHILDREN AND WEIGHT COALITION



In response to the escalating rates of obesity and chronic disease in children, the Marin County Children and Weight Coalition was established in 2001 to improve nutrition and increase physical activity in Marin's youth. Developed under the direction of UC Berkeley's Center for Weight and Health, the Coalition is committed to improving the health of children and their families through the prevention of chronic disease and weight problems.

Since its inception, the Coalition has collaborated with schools, community agencies and organizations to provide educational activities that promote healthy eating and physical activity. These joint efforts have been visible at events such as the Prevention Pavilion at the Marin County Fair and the Annual Marin County Peer Summit.

The Marin County Children and Weight Coalition is eager to strengthen and support community projects with a similar mission such as the Children's Nutrition Collection. The Coalition membership is represented by various agencies from throughout the County, including the University of California Cooperative Extension Service, the American Academy of Pediatrics Chapter 1, Nutrition Wellness Program-Marin County Health and Human Services, Novato Unified School District School, Marin Head Start, American Cancer Society, and Kaiser Permanente. Members include educators, a school nurse, registered dietitians, pediatricians, and community program staff.

The Coalition and the Library's Children's Nutrition Collection Project share a common goal of serving the community by providing useful and practical information to improve the health and lives of County residents. The Coalition is pleased and proud to have provided professional expertise for reviewing books and other resources for the Children's Nutrition Collection, and to support the Library's efforts to promote literacy in the field of nutrition. As a result, the challenge of addressing childhood obesity has become a community effort to build a healthier environment for Marin residents.

Special thanks to:

Lynne Marie LoPresto, MS, RD, Nutrition Instructor, Dominican University of CA
Chris Berman, MPH, RD, Nutritionist, Marin Head Start
Beverly Busher, Executive Director, American Academy of Pediatrics, CA Chapter 1
Jane Chin Young, 4-H Development Advisor, UC Cooperative Extension
Ellen Szakal, MA, RD, Nutrition Wellness Program, Dept. of Health & Human Services
Laurel Yrun, RN, School Nurse, Novato Unified School District

For more information about the Marin County Children and Weight contact:
Co-Chairs: Jane Chin Young, 415-499-4207 or Beverly Busher, 415-479-9200