## 2010 Annual Conference Cultivating Strong Communities American Planning Association Pennsylvania Chapter

Obesity and the Built Environment: Just What the Doctor Ordered

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Director Community Health Lancaster General Health



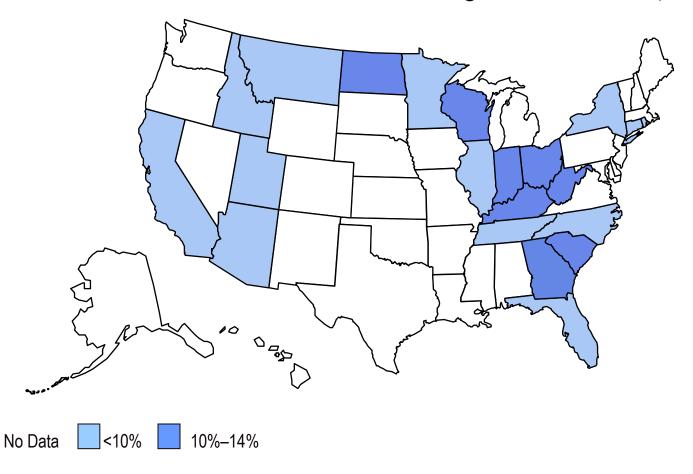


## Obesity: Where did it Start?





(\*BMI ≥30, or ~30 lbs overweight for 5' 4" woman)

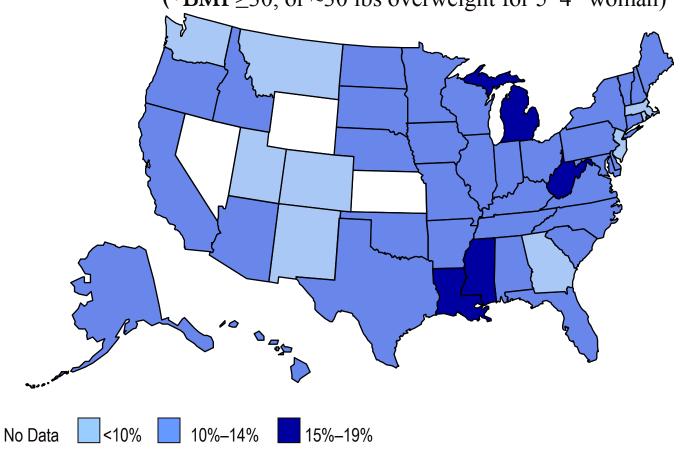


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(\*BMI  $\geq$ 30, or  $\sim$ 30 lbs overweight for 5' 4" woman)

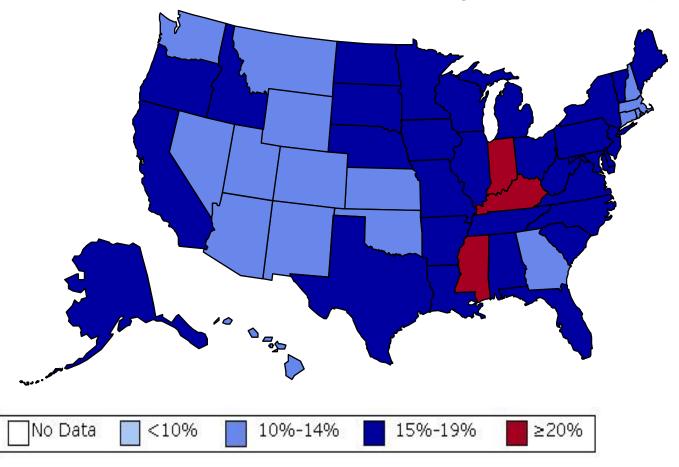


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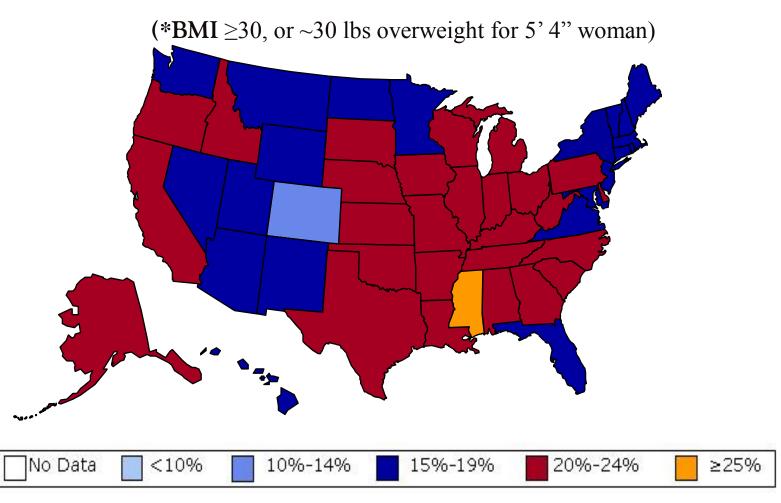
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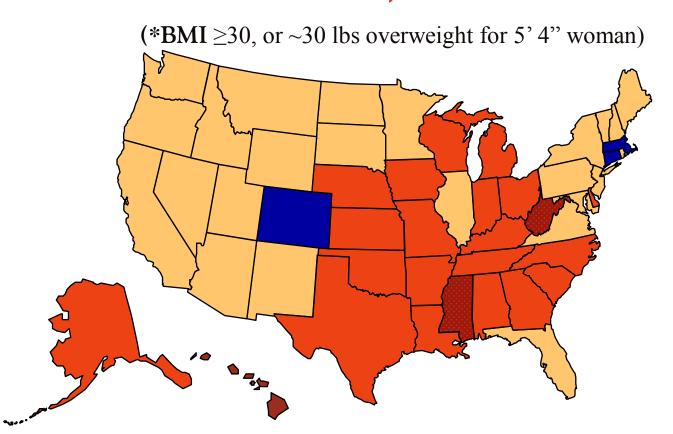


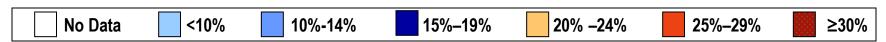






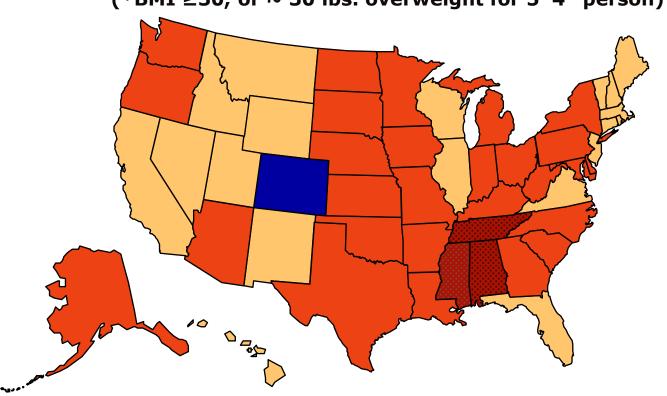








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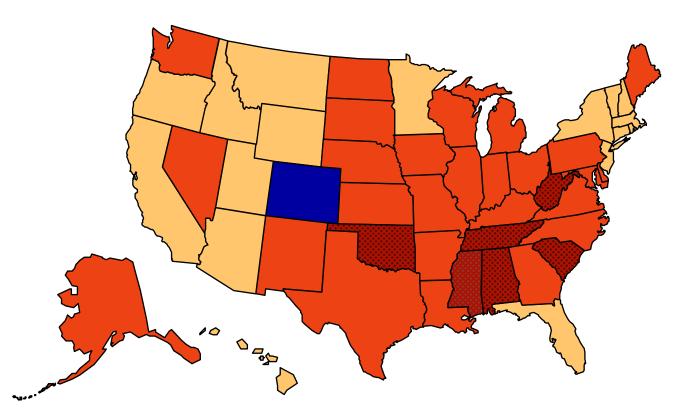




Lancaster General Health



BRFSS, 2008 (\*BMI ≥30, or ~ 30 lbs. overweight for 5′ 4″ person)







"We must intensify our efforts for early identification and early prevention of overweight and obesity, or we are going to have the first generation of children who do not live as long as their parents."





## Obesity: What does it do?





#### Obesity increases the risk of developing:

- Type 2 Diabetes
- Hypertension
- Heart disease
- Some forms of cancer
- Depression
- Musculoskeletal





#### **Economic Costs of Physical Inactivity and Obesity**

 Cost the U.S. \$69 billion - \$117 billion/year

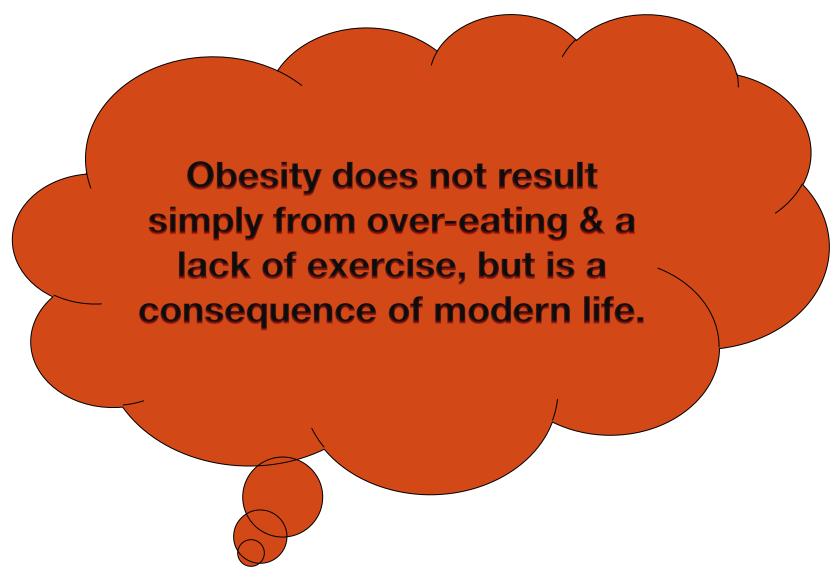
Lancaster General Health

 Between 1979 – 1999 obesity-associated hospital costs for children (6-17 years old) more than tripled, from \$35 million to \$127 million

# Obesity: What happened?











#### **Trends**

Children spend more time watching television than they spend on exercise or other physical activity.<sup>6</sup>

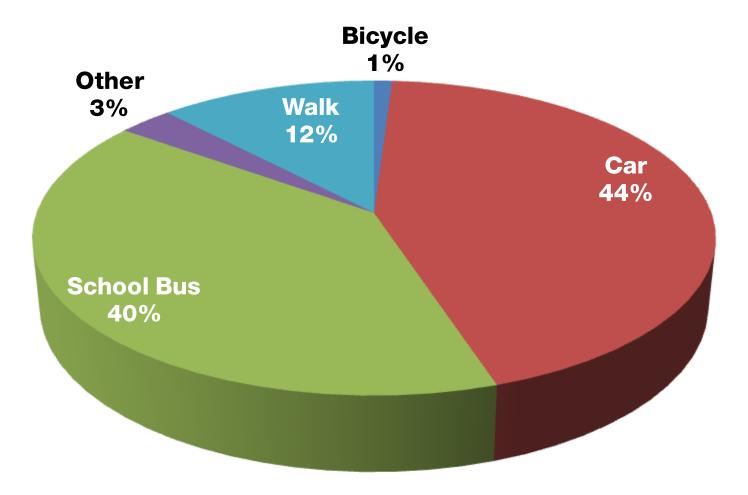


6 Anderson, R.E., Crespo, C. J., Bartlett, S. J., et al. Relationship of physical activity and television watch-ing with body weight and level of fatness among children: Results from the third national health and nutrition examination survey. *JAMA* 1998;279:938-942.





#### **How Kids Get to School, 2009**



Source: US Department of Transportation, Federal Highway Administration Office of Policy, National Household Survey, 2009









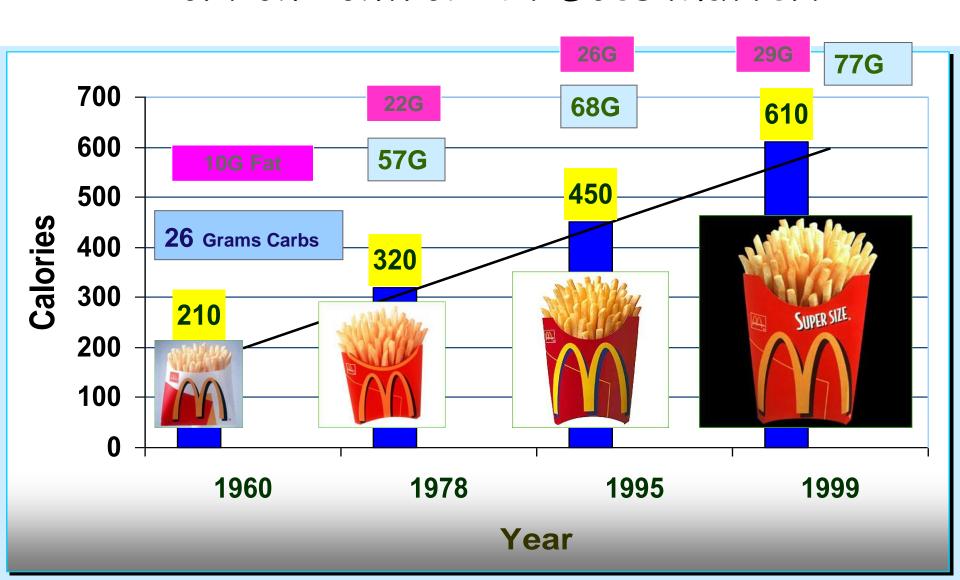




Remember Me?



## The Supersizing Phenomenon Portion Control - *It Does Matter!*



### "May I have a cup of coffee please?"

#### 20 Years Ago

## Coffee (with whole milk and sugar)



1965 - 10**♥** (~ 45 calories) 8 ounces





## "May I have a Venti Caramel Macchiato?" Today

Mocha Coffee (with steamed whole milk and mocha syrup)



2007 - \$4.25 + tax (350 calories) 16 ounces



## Join Our Smorgasbord Loyalty Club





#### **Gastric Bypass Surgery Discount Policy**

Year #1 - 50% discount off base price.

Year #2 – 10% discount off base price.

Year #3 - 0% discount off base price.

To receive this discount you must provide Photo ID & Gastric Bypass Card! Card must include, Patient Name, Date Of Original Surgery & Doctors Signature.

Without complete documentation on Gastric Bypass Card 0% discount.





## What happens when you ask people to make healthier choices when the environment looks like this?

- Fast food is the easiest and cheapest choice
- Food served in school, day care, after school, and summer camp is unhealthy
- There is little or no recess because teachers have pressure to fit everything in
- There is no place parents feel safe letting their children play
- The computer or video games are the only things kids want to do...



## **Obesity - solution**

- Increase everyday activity through the design of the built environment & transport systems
- 2) Shifting the drives of the food chain & consumer purchasing patterns to favor health options





## Make Healthy Easy





## **Promising Strategies**

#### **Healthy Eating:**

- Incentives to attract grocery stores to underserved areas
- Menu labeling in restaurants
- Strong nutrition standards for foods and beverages available in after-school programs, recreation centers, parks and childcare facilities
- Tax strategies to discourage foods and beverages that have minimal nutritional value
- Media campaigns utilizing print, radio, internet, television, social networking to promote healthy eating and active living





- Neighborhood scale development
- Parks & playgrounds within easy access of residential areas







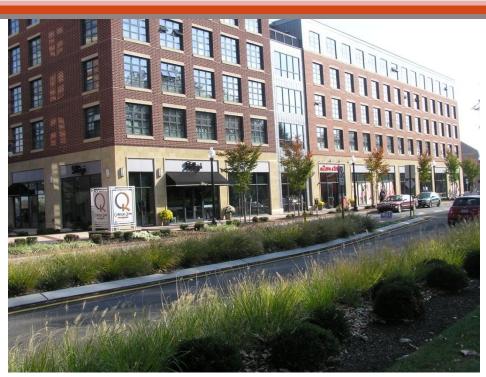


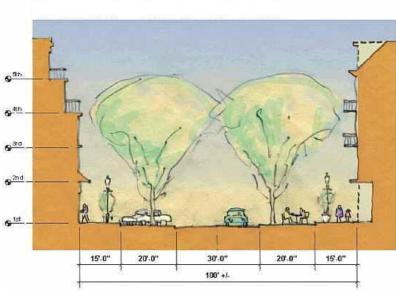




























Set aside and develop outdoor community spaces

















Facilitate walking and biking via use of trails and sidewalks that connect families to schools, grocery stores and other common destinations















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Zone for health-promoting development:

Amend zoning codes and ordinances to promote access to nutritious foods by facilitating the presence of grocery stores and farmers' markets with communities.





#### Preserve prime agricultural land:

Preserve farmland by zoning for agricultural use, establish an agricultural conservation easement program that includes right-to-farm provisions, establish growth boundaries and designated development areas.





Preserve prime agricultural land (Cont'd.):

Create tax disincentives to develop agricultural land and incentives for growing fresh fruits and vegetables.





Preserve prime agricultural land (Cont'd.):

Work with farmers to connect farmers to schools, hospitals or local grocery stores who can buy their produce.





Include health leaders in planning discussions:

Work with health officials to identify potential positive or negative health impacts of proposed designs.





## Promising Strategies

#### Physical Activity

- Complete Streets
- Community strategies that improve safety of streets and park use, especially in higher-crime neighborhoods
- Safe Routes to Schools programs
- •Parks that are safe and attractive in close proximity to where people live
- Joint use agreements
- •Policies mandating minimum play space, equipment and duration of play in preschool, afterschool and child-care programs



# Systemic Approach Summary

- Make healthy easy
- Create an environment for youth & adults to eat well and be physically active.





# Our Approach

- "Big P" Policy (Governmental Policies)
  examples: Physical Education, Child Nutrition
  Services, Zoning Regulations, etc.
- "Little P" (Policies that affect individuals, organizations or entities)
   examples: Churches, afterschool programs, YMCAs, Scouts, Boys and Girls Clubs, PTAs, worksites, healthcare providers



## "Little P"

#### PTA Workshops

- Starting Wellness Committees
- Incorporating physical activity into the school day
- Healthy Fundraising
- School Gardens

#### Local Foods advocacy

- Web resource for community gardens, farmer's markets, CSAs and roadside stands
- EBT at Farmer's Markets
- Technical assistance in starting community gardens
- Social Media



## "Little P"

- Non-motorized transportation advocacy
  - "SMART Stops"
  - Walking school bus
  - Neighborhood Watch
  - School Gardens
- Healthy snack and meal policies
- County-wide transition to healthy food policies in workplaces using physicians as advocates
- Website





## **State Policy**

- DOE Chapter 12 Revisions
- Complete Sheets
- **?**
- **-** ?





# **Local Policy**

- Zoning and land use changes that allow community gardens in most Lancaster County Municipalities
- Enforcement and strengthening of the Local Wellness Policy
- Worksite policies for government partners
- Smoke-free parks policy





## Together we can shape the future!

