



Obesity / Overweight and Chronic Disease / Pre-Diabetes

Key findings from the JHACH CHNA:

At least 1 in 3 children are overweight or obese. Among middle and high school students, also 1 in 3. This top health issue is more widespread in children than their parents realize. Experts are concerned over the lack of immediacy in addressing the problem.

- 80% of overweight children become obese adults.
- 11% of children are obese, yet only 5% report their children facing obesity as a health issue.
- 16% of children are overweight, yet only 9% of parents report their children being overweight as a health issue.
- 8% of parents report their children facing chronic diseases, including diabetes and other diseases that were previously only seen in adults in prior generations.
- Obesity and being overweight is linked to other top health issues in the CHNA (asthma and bullying that impacts mental health).

Outcome-Driven Activities:

Leverage Healthy School Teams

Pinellas County Schools and the Florida Department of Health-Pinellas took a giant step forward by creating a Healthy School Team in every school in our county. This came as a benefit of the Partnerships to Improve Community Health grant (2014-2017). While these teams now exist at every public school, each one operates with varying degrees of activity. Empowering and assisting the Healthy School Teams, parents and school staff to adopt health assessment recommendations at their schools and at the district level will result in healthier schools.



PROPOSED OBJECTIVES

1. Generate an age-specific tool kit for community providers (physicians, nurses, other practitioners) to utilize as a resource to evaluate, treat and educate school-aged children through adolescents by the 2019-2020 school year.
2. Implement a universal food insecurity screening tool at a minimum of two locations (medical providers, schools and/or community organizations) to minimize the compounding severity of life altering diseases (e.g., diabetes, high blood pressure and cholesterol levels) providing safe nutritional food.
3. Leverage Pinellas County Schools Healthy School Teams (HST's) to improve the food and beverage school environment by reducing availability of unhealthy foods, arranged and/or promoted by 3% over the next three years.

Due to overlapping ideas, the Obesity/Overweight and Chronic Disease/Pre-Diabetes Community Connector Groups merged.