

COALITION CHARTER

PURPOSE STATEMENT

*REDUCE CHILDHOOD OBESITY IN WASHINGTON STATE BY
MAKING THE HEALTHY CHOICE THE EASY CHOICE*

KEY CAMPAIGN OUTCOMES

- INCREASE THE NUMBER OF WASHINGTON CHILDREN THAT ARE PHYSICALLY ACTIVE ON A DAILY BASIS
- IMPROVE THE ACCESS TO AND THE DEMAND FOR HEALTHFUL FOODS ON BEHALF OF ALL WASHINGTON CHILDREN
- MAKE IT EASIER FOR FAMILIES TO BE PART OF AN ACTIVE COMMUNITY

GUIDING PRINCIPLES

- CREATION OF A CLEAR POLICY VISION TO IMPACT KIDS WHERE THEY LIVE, LEARN AND PLAY
- PROMOTE HEALTH EQUITY TO DRIVE POLICY PRIORITIES
- EMPHASIZE COORDINATED, COMPREHENSIVE, STATEWIDE, ACTION-ORIENTED APPROACH
- ENGAGE COMMUNITIES ACROSS WASHINGTON STATE
- PRIORITIZE POLICY AND PRACTICES ON BEST AVAILABLE SCIENTIFIC EVIDENCE AND PROMISING APPROACHES

THE CASE FOR POLICY AND SYSTEMS CHANGE

Changing personal behaviors is just plain hard work. But expecting our citizens and children to make healthier choices when they are surrounded by cheap and accessible unhealthy food and have limited access to daily physical activity is just not reasonable. We live in times where we as a society have engineered *out* our ability to make healthier choices. The result is our current epidemic of overweight and obesity.

So what can we do about it? We now know that “place” matters -- that one’s zip code can tell you as much or more about your health status than your access to health care. We need to make our “places” healthier – where we live, work, live, worship and play. This “place-based” approach needs policies and systems that are aligned with current research knowledge around health and prevention. This is the work of the COPC (and many other groups within Washington State).

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INTENTIONAL COLLABORATION

This effort is clearly a collaborative partnership, with shared goals and a leadership (steering) committee that is drawn from the coalition membership that sets our policy agenda on an annual basis.

COALITION MEMBER OBLIGATIONS

- Consistent participation in full Coalition meetings
- Participation in at least one of the topical committees
- Resources – provide either in-kind staffing resources and/or financial support to the coalition
- Engage own members and related networks with all relevant policy advocacy information

STRUCTURE

This coalition currently has the following organizational structure.

- **Organizational Membership**
As noted above, organizational membership does include specific obligations. Please note that this Coalition uses an “opt-out” process, which means that all membership organizations are included in all correspondence unless that organization specifically opts out by giving timely notice to COPC staff.
 - **Topical Workgroups**
These groups focus on substantive issues. Current workgroups include: *Healthy Beverages; Early Learning; Safe Routes to School & Food Procurement.*
 - **Leadership Committee**
The Leadership Committee has a dual purpose: one, to act as a policy committee that provides leadership and support to furthering the policy platform of the Coalition; and, two, to act as a steering committee when important organizational decisions are needed.
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APPROVAL

As of February 2015, the following 50 organizations pledge to be an active organizational member of this coalition.

ACTION FOR HEALTHY KIDS – WA CHAPTER
 AMERICAN ACADEMY OF PEDIATRICS – WA CHAPTER
 AMERICAN CANCER SOCIETY – CANCER ACTION NETWORK
 AMERICAN CANCER SOCIETY
 AMERICAN DIABETES ASSOCIATION
 AMERICAN HEART ASSOCIATION
 AMERICAN PLANNING ASSOCIATION (WA CHAPTER)
 ARTHRITIS FOUNDATION
 BEECHER’S FLAGSHIP FOUNDATION
 CASCADE BICYCLE CLUB EDUCATION FOUNDATION
 CHILDREN’S ALLIANCE
 COALITION FOR SAFETY AND HEALTH IN EARLY LEARNING
 EMPIRE HEALTH FOUNDATION
 FEET FIRST
 FORTERRA
 FOUNDATION FOR HEALTHY GENERATIONS¹
 GROUP HEALTH COOPERATIVE
 HOPE HEART INSTITUTE
 LET’S MOVE CHENEY
 MULTICARE HEALTH SYSTEMS
 NUTRITION FIRST
 ODESSA BROWN CHILDREN’S CLINIC
 PHYSICAL THERAPY ASSOCIATION OF WASHINGTON
 PUBLIC HEALTH ROUNDTABLE
 SCHOOL’S OUT WASHINGTON

SEAMAR COMMUNITY HEALTH SYSTEMS
 SEATTLE CHILDREN’S
 SEATTLE AND KING COUNTY PUBLIC HEALTH
 SEATTLE PARKS AND RECREATION
 SKAGIT COUNTY HEALTHY COMMUNITIES PROJECT
 SNOHOMISH HEALTH DISTRICT
 SPOKANE REGIONAL HEALTH DISTRICT
 TACOMA PIERCE COUNTY HEALTH DEPARTMENT
 TRANSPORTATION CHOICES
 WA ASSOC OF COMMUNITY & MIGRANT HEALTH CNTRS
 WASHINGTON BIKES
 WA COALITION FOR PROMOTING PHYSICAL ACTIVITY
 WASHINGTON DENTAL SERVICE FOUNDATION
 WASHINGTON RECREATION & PARK ASSOCIATION
 WASHINGTON SCHOOL NUTRITION ASSOCIATION
 WA STATE ASSN OF LOCAL PUBLIC HEALTH OFFICERS
 WA STATE ACADEMY OF NUTRITION & DIETETICS
 WASHINGTON STATE DAIRY COUNCIL
 WASHINGTON STATE PTA
 WASHINGTON STATE PUBLIC HEALTH ASSOCIATION
 WA SUSTAINABLE FOOD & FARMING NETWORK
 WASHINGTON TRAILS ASSOCIATION
 WITHINREACH
 YAKIMA VALLEY MEMORIAL HOSPITAL
 YMCA – GREATER SEATTLE

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¹ [Foundation for Healthy Generations](http://www.foundationforhealthygenerations.org) (formerly CHEF) also serves as the fiscal agent for the COPC.