

MAKING KANE COUNTY FIT FOR KIDS

CASE REPORT

KANE COUNTY, ILLINOIS

Evaluation of the Healthy Kids, Healthy Communities National Program

December 2009 to December 2013



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For more information about the evaluation aims, methods, analyses, or products, please contact Laura Brennan (laura@transtria.com) or Allison Kemner (akemner@transtria.com).

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BACKGROUND

Healthy Kids, Healthy Communities National Program

With the goal of preventing childhood obesity, the Healthy Kids, Healthy Communities (HKHC) national program, funded by the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation (RWJF), provided grants to 49 community partnerships across the United States (Figure 1). Healthy eating and active living policy, system, and environmental changes were implemented to support healthier communities for children and families. The program placed special emphasis on reaching children at highest risk for obesity on the basis of race, ethnicity, income, or geographic location.¹

Project Officers from the HKHC National Program Office assisted community partnerships in creating and implementing annual workplans organized by goals, tactics, activities, and benchmarks. Through site visits and monthly conference calls, community partnerships also received guidance on developing and maintaining local partnerships, conducting assessments, implementing strategies, and disseminating and sustaining their local initiatives. Additional opportunities supplemented the one-on-one guidance from Project Officers, including peer engagement through annual conferences and a program website, communications training and support, and specialized technical assistance (e.g., health law and policy).

For more about the national program and grantees, visit www.healthykidshealthycommunities.org.

Figure 1: Map of Healthy Kids, Healthy Communities Partnerships



Evaluation of Healthy Kids, Healthy Communities

Transtria LLC and Washington University Institute for Public Health received funding from the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation to evaluate the HKHC national program. They tracked plans, processes, strategies, and results related to active living and healthy eating policy, system, and environmental changes as well as influences associated with partnership and community capacity and broader social determinants of health.

Reported “actions,” or steps taken by community partnerships to advance their goals, tactics, activities, or benchmarks from their workplans, formed community progress reports tracked through the HKHC Community Dashboard program website. This website included various functions, such as social networking, progress reporting, and tools and resources to maintain a steady flow of users over time and increase peer engagement across communities.

In addition to action reporting, evaluators collaborated with community partners to conduct individual and group interviews with partners and community representatives, environmental audits and direct observations in specific project areas (where applicable), and group model building sessions. Data from an online survey, photos, community annual reports, and existing surveillance systems (e.g., U.S. census) supplemented information collected alongside the community partnerships.

For more about the evaluation, visit www.transtria.com/hkhc.

Kane County Fit For Kids Partnership

In December 2009, the Kane County Health Department received a four-year, \$360,000 grant as part of the HKHC national program. This partnership focused on county-wide long-range planning along with local implementation of healthy eating and active living strategies predominately in five cities: Aurora, Batavia, Elgin, St. Charles, and Geneva. The Kane County Health Department was the lead agency for the Fit For Kids partnership. The partnership and capacity building strategies of the partnership included:

- **Funders Consortium:** A public-private partnership, the Fit For Kids Funders’ Consortium was established to efficiently and effectively raise and disperse funds to support the comprehensive, coordinated, community-based health promotion initiatives throughout Kane County.
- **Mini-Grants:** A mini-grant program was established through the Fit For Kids Funders’ Consortium designed to provide funding to local government and community-based organizations to implement policy and environmental strategies related to healthy eating and active living. The mini-grants offered an opportunity to begin implementing the county-wide long range planning products that were created as part of HKHC.

See Appendix A: Evaluation Logic Model and Appendix B: Partnership and Community Capacity Survey Results for more information.

Along with partnership and capacity building strategies, the Fit For Kids partnership incorporated assessment and community engagement activities to support the partnership and the healthy eating and active living strategies. The healthy eating and active living strategies of Fit For Kids included:

- **City/Comprehensive Plan:** Long range planning products were created and adopted to inform transportation, land use, and health over the next decade for Kane County.
- **Farmers’ Markets:** Three farmers’ markets started accepting LINK benefits; LINK was the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program for Illinois. Additionally, three markets expanded their hours to include winter markets, while one summer market adjusted its hours of operation to accommodate working families.
- **Community Gardens/Food Banks:** Kane County expanded to 1,398 garden plots available for lease, up from approximately 800 garden plots available in 2010. Agreements were made between specific garden locations and local food banks to donate a portion of the produce grown at the garden.
- **Active Transportation:** As a result of the transportation master plan being adopted and the mini-grants provided to communities, several infrastructure changes were made to enhance Safe Routes to School along with pedestrian, bicycle, and public transit infrastructure improvements.
- **Parks and Play Spaces:** Seven different parks and play spaces were enhanced throughout Kane county from key policy and environmental changes including playgrounds, climbing wall, other equipment, and land use policy designating space to be used for a park.
- **Child Care Nutrition and Physical Activity Standards:** Nutrition and physical activity standards (e.g., one hour of physical activity a day and five servings of fruits and vegetables) were piloted at six child care facilities.

COMMUNITY DEMOGRAPHICS

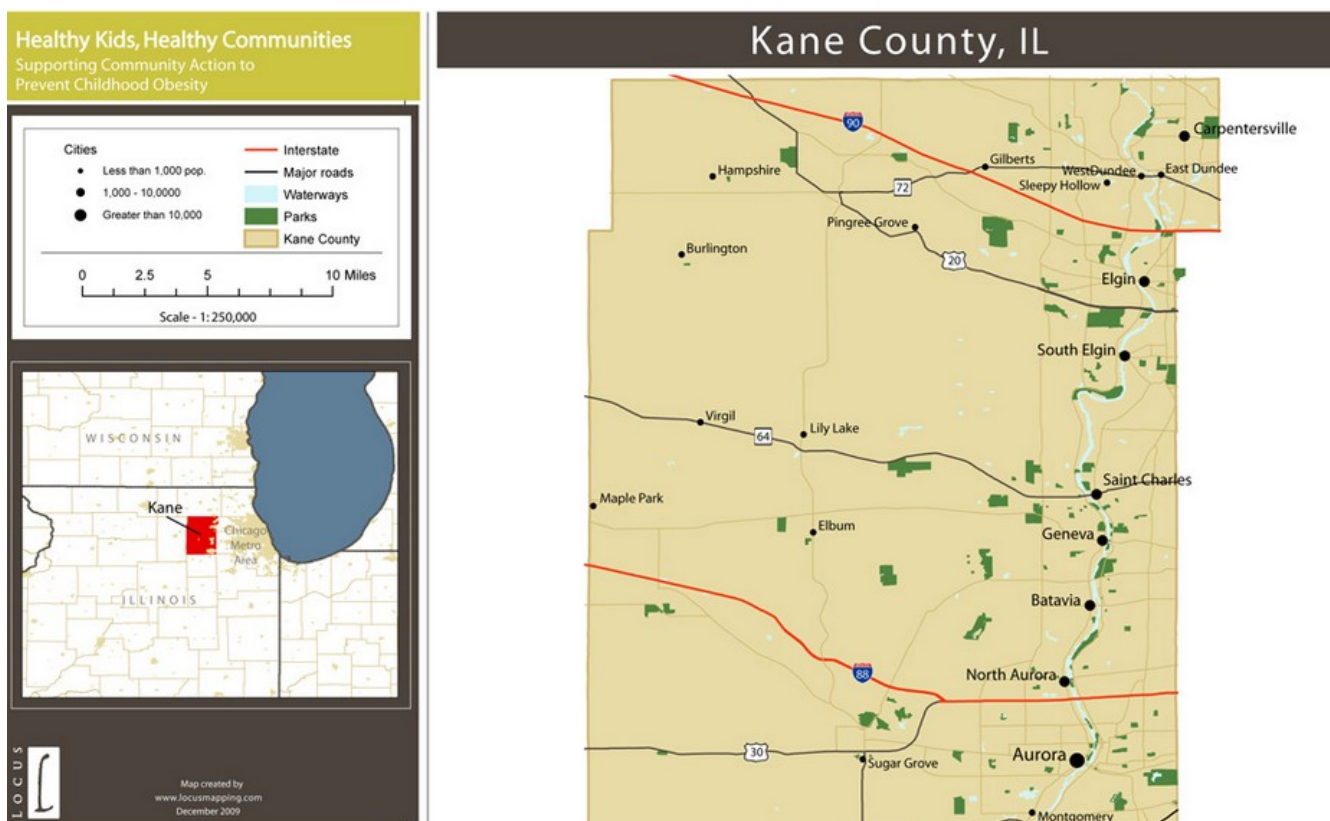
Kane County, Illinois is located 40 miles west of Chicago and is home to 507,000 people. Among Kane County's 27 municipalities are the second (Aurora, IL) and eighth (Elgin, IL) largest cities in Illinois, which form the core of a dense urban corridor in the eastern third of the county that follows the curve of the Fox River, flowing north to south through the entire county. The western two-thirds of the county is less densely populated and equally divided between suburban and rural communities.

The main population of Kane County is centered along the eastern part of the county along Fox River. The western edge of the county is rural with a lot of farmland. Kane County focused on three target community areas in the county with existing partnerships with local community coalitions. These community areas are Aurora and Elgin and the mid-county region known as the Tri-Cities which includes the small municipalities of St. Charles, Batavia, and Geneva as well as rural villages directly west of them. The three community areas account for more than 70% of Kane County's total population (see Table 1).

Table 1: Demographic Information for Kane County ^{2,3}

Community	Population	African American	Hispanic/Latino	White	Asian/Pacific Islander	American Indian/Native American	Percent Living Below Poverty Line
Kane County	515,269	5.7%	30.7%	74.8%	3.5%	0.6%	10.1%
Aurora	197,848	10.7%	41.3%	59.7%	6.7%	0.5%	12.8%
Batavia	26,045	2.4%	6.8%	91.9%	1.8%	0.2%	8.0%
Elgin	108,188	7.4%	43.6%	65.9%	5.4%	1.4%	12.3%
Geneva	21,495	0.5%	4.9%	94.8%	2.2%	0.1%	2.6%
St. Charles	32,919	2.5%	10.2%	88.8%	3.2%	0.2%	5.4%

Figure 2: Map of Kane County, Illinois ⁴



MAKING KANE COUNTY FIT FOR KIDS PARTNERSHIP

The Kane County, Illinois partnership was called Making Kane County Fit for Kids. The partnership was founded in April 2008 as a part of the county's comprehensive planning process. A county-wide assessment was completed, which determined chronic disease was the major threat to the community. Childhood obesity was prioritized because obesity was a major contributor to chronic disease. The goal was to have the healthiest county in the state of Illinois by 2030.

Lead Agency and Leadership Teams

The lead agency was the Kane County Health Department, which had been established in the county for over 25 years. The health department was also working closely with the Kane County Department of Development and Community Services on this initiative. Within the health department, the staff was separated into their own project areas. The department worked to increase communication and break down the silos, so that work was not being duplicated and all staff were aligned. It was a challenge because the department was a part of over 40 collaboratives and 9 partnerships, so fatigue was an issue with participants in these groups.

The leadership team, along with the Director of Development, and some people from the planning department worked well together. From the beginning, there was a strong emphasis on integration and environmental and policy change. The leadership team has benefited from having a complementary set of skills and backgrounds. Paul and Teresa were nurses, Janie was a dietician, and Mike was a public health educator. Each member of the leadership team utilized his/her personal and professional relationships from years of work in the community to strengthen the partnership. For two years of the grant, the leadership team had a Co-Project Director model where the Executive Director of Health and the Assistant Director for Community Health from the Kane County Health Department both served as Directors for the project. During this time, the responsibilities were split among four key staff:

- Principle Investigator and Co-Project Director, also served as the Executive Director of Health at the health department was with the partnership from its inception and worked at the health department for six years. His role in the partnership was to connect the day-to-day operations with the policy-makers. He worked to engage and inform the Fit for Kids Funders' Consortium members in the project. This position transitioned in 2012 as the Executive Director took a position with the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation.
- The Co-Project Director and Assistant Director for Community Health was with the health department for over 12 years and was involved with the grant since the beginning. He helped to manage the partnership and worked closely with the community coalitions, provided staffing for special initiatives and the Fit for Kids Funders' Consortium. The Co-Director became the only Project Director in 2012, when the staff transition took place.
- The Fit for Kids Project Coordinator was hired in January 2010 with HKHC funds. Her responsibilities included day-to-day operations of the various initiatives and to interface directly with mini-grantees and the local coalitions spread across all the communities.
- The Director of Health Promotion worked with the local coalitions in the different initiative areas that were not a primary focus of the HKHC efforts, such as the breastfeeding coalition. She was with the health department for 15 years and was working on Fit for Kids since November 2010.

See Appendix C for a list of all partners.

Organization and Collaboration

The Fit Kids 2020 Plan had nine different sectors, and the partnership developed partners across all ten of the sectors: built and natural environment, economic strength, faith community, family, culture and community, food policy, healthcare and medicine, mobility, recreation and lifestyle, and schools and education. The county departments involved in the partnership included development and community services, planning, and transportation.

PARTNERSHIP FUNDING

As part of the HKHC initiative, grantees were expected to secure a cash and/or in-kind match equal to at least 50% of what was provided by Robert Wood Johnson Foundation over the entire grant period. The main funding sources for this project were county funds. The development department funds came from the county general fund. Kane County's success with the Fit For Kids initiative raised the visibility of the project within the community, and in turn made it easier to acquire additional funds. Two factors would make it more difficult to acquire funding in the future: if the political environment changes and the county budget is cut, and if the economy continues to decline.

HKHC funds paid for the Fit for Kids Coordinator position, some staff time for individuals in the Department of Development and Community Services, and a data person who became the planner in the health department.

Fit For Kids Funders' Consortium was a public-private partnership that was created as a funding source for the Fit for Kids initiative. The United Way, Kane County Forest Preserve District, Regional Office of Education, Community Foundation of the Fox River Valley, and Kane County were all part of the Funders' Consortium.

The main funding source for the mini-grants was the Riverboat Fund, which came from casino revenue. Kane County received an American Public Health Association Power of Policy grant, and \$32,000 of the \$40,000 grant was used to create a set of mini-grants. Kane County received a Pew grant to conduct a Health Impact Assessment designed to analyze how an amendment to the ordinance establishing the Farmland Protection Program and the Farmland Preservation Commission would benefit from including small farms (producing fruits, vegetables, and meats) to help increase the availability of local, fresh products. It included research on the economic benefits of growing more fruits and vegetables and the best incentives to encourage more growers. The development and community services department took the lead on this program.

Mini-Grants

A mini-grants program was established to provide small pots of funding to local community-based organizations to carry out implementation of the Fit For Kids work in their communities including gardens, farmers' markets, parks, active transportation, and more. Thirteen new grant awards were made in December 2012, bringing the total award for implementation of mini-grants to \$220,000.

An important part of the success of Fit for Kids was the creation of the Fit for Kids Funders' Consortium, a public-private partnership. The Funders' Consortium was made up of partners focused on reversing obesity and improving health outcomes including Kane County Departments of Health, Transportation, and Development and the Kane County Forest Preserve, the Regional Office of Education, the United Way of Elgin, and the Community Foundation of the Fox River Valley. Pooling resources and resolve, the Funders' Consortium successfully obtained grant funding from outside sources. In turn, the Funders' Consortium then made funds available to community organizations as grants to implement the Fit Kids 2020 Plan. The grants were between \$250-\$10,000. More than \$420,000 was offered to the community as grants to 48 community organizations or local government and over 250 schools. The Funders' Consortium was the driver in the sustainability efforts of Fit for Kids.

See Appendix D: Sources and Amounts of Funding Leveraged for more information.

COMMUNITY ASSESSMENT

Food Access

The City of Elgin was researching a plan to bring a grocery store to the Northwest Side to an area where no grocery store was present. Butera Market was identified as a viable store and documentation was submitted. The city was reviewing the market application and plans for creating the store. The store was slated to open in 2014.

Farmers' Markets

Environmental audits were completed in ten farmers' markets throughout Kane County: Aurora, Batavia, Dundee, St. Charles, Sugar Grove, Geneva (n = 2), and Elgin (n = 3) to assess the presence or absence of different features as well as the quality or condition of the physical environment. The tool captured overall market operations (e.g., months, days, and hours of operation, accessibility, government nutrition assistance programs); vendor display areas (e.g., space and equipment), product signage and pricing (e.g., clear signs, unit and price labeled, discounts for larger sales); frozen/canned fruits and vegetables (e.g., quantity and variety of frozen or canned fruits and vegetables); other foods (e.g., availability of healthier options and foods with minimal nutritional value); and the availability, pricing, quality, and quantity of fresh fruits and vegetables. Data collection was completed between September 28 and October 14, 2012. See Appendix E for a full report. Some of the key findings included:

- Nine out of the ten farmers' markets were open during the summer months with the majority being open in the morning and/or afternoon hours.
- Only two markets provided signs advertising that WIC/SNAP/EBT or other discount payment options were accepted.
- Other nutritious foods were offered at the markets. Dairy foods were offered at six markets. High fiber/ whole grain foods were offered at four markets. Lean meats, fish, and poultry were for sale at three markets. However, other foods with minimal nutritional value such as salty foods (four markets), sweet foods (five markets), and candy/chocolate (three markets), were for sale as well.
- Canned fruit and frozen vegetables were not available at any of the markets. Canned vegetables were available in one market and frozen fruit was offered in two markets.
- The most common fresh fruit at the markets included apples (six markets), watermelons (three markets), and raspberries (three markets).
- The majority of produce was "good" quality.
- Prices ranged from \$0.50 per box/bag (e.g., mushrooms, corn) to \$9.00 each (e.g., watermelon).
- While price comparison across markets was difficult to determine due to variations in growing method, type, and individual size, notable price differences greater than or equal to \$2.00 were found for apples, raspberries, watermelons, asparagus, cabbage, carrots, cauliflower, kale, and mushrooms.

Health Impact Assessment

Northern Illinois Food Bank, Kane County Farm Bureau, and other partners applied for Illinois Department of Agriculture funds to complete a food hub feasibility study. The project was overseen by a steering committee consisting of the key partners of Kane County Health Department, Northern Illinois Food Bank, and Kane County Farm Bureau. Kane County was awarded a \$125,000 Health Impact Assessment (HIA) grant to study the benefits of preserving smaller farms as a way to preserve Kane County's rich farmland, while providing fresh fruits and vegetables to the residents. An [HIA report](#) was produced that highlighted recommendations to enhance the food environment in Kane County.

Safe Routes to School

Environmental audits were completed near Johnson School in Aurora to assess the presence or absence of

different features as well as the quality or condition of the physical environment. The tool captured land use (e.g., residential, retail, public, and recreational), street characteristics (e.g., traffic speed, traffic calming measures), public transportation (e.g., transit stops and amenities), safe places to walk (e.g., sidewalk presence and quality), safe places to bicycle (e.g., bike lanes and quality), and the quality of the environment (e.g., public art, litter). Twelve segments in three different townships were selected for assessment as representatives of the various townships. Five of the segments surveyed were in the Aurora Township, four in the Dundee Township, and three in the St. Charles Township. Three auditors (one for each township) completed the audits between November 7 and December 4 of 2012. The data was incorporated into a proposal for walkability funding, but the funding was denied. See Appendix F for a full report. Some of the key findings included:

- Only six segments had sidewalks; of these, only one segment had a sidewalk on both sides of the street.
- All sidewalks were in good condition.
- Little to no infrastructure supported safe cycling, such as bike lanes or bike route signs.
- These communities lacked amenities for pedestrians (e.g., benches, pedestrian-scale lighting), with tree shade on the walking area for only half of the segments.
- On streets with sidewalks, the moderate or steep slope could prohibit people with mobility constraints from active transportation.

Active Transportation

The Active Transportation Alliance was Chicagoland's voice for better biking, walking, and transit. As part of the organization's mission to promote multi-modal transportation, it embarked on the Kane County Complete Stations project. This study, funded by the Kane County Health Department, sought to analyze the accessibility of each Metra commuter rail station in the County. Kane County was chosen for this study because of the manageable number of stations (seven) and the variety of station area contexts.

The researchers created a proprietary analysis tool to determine the accessibility of each station for people of all travel modes. It included an analysis of bicycle access, pedestrian access, bus-rail transfers, and station house amenities. This report summarized the findings. Each station had a customized analysis. The report concluded with recommendations for policy and programming improvements to enhance access to stations.

Parks and Play Spaces

Direct observations were conducted in ten parks in Kane County: Bluff Street Park, Channing Park, Clifford Owasco Park, Cowherd Park, Lords Park, Greene Field Park, Martin Luther King, Jr. Park, Prairie Park, Union-Flagg Mini Park, and Wing Park to understand level of activity in the parks as well as types of activities. Data was collected on three days between May 29 and June 29, 2013 from 8:30 AM to 7:30 PM. See Appendix G for a full report.

Child Care Nutrition and Physical Activity

Nutrition and Physical Activity environmental audits were conducted at ten child care centers in Kane County. The audits were designed to understand presence or absence of the food and physical activity environment. See Appendix H for a full report. Some of the key findings included:

- There were two of ten child care facilities without food preparation environment or space. The eight remaining child care facilities had a refrigeration and/or cooling system; food preparation that included a sink and counter; cook top/stove/range; and sufficient equipment.
- Four child care facilities offered a salad bar with at least 3-4 types of fruits, green vegetables, orange vegetables, and red vegetables.
- A variety of indoor and outdoor recreational courts were present in seven of the ten child care facilities evaluated throughout Kane County. Four child care facilities had either an indoor or outdoor running/walking track, and two facilities had both an indoor and outdoor running/walking track.

PLANNING AND ADVOCACY EFFORTS

Funders Consortium

Fit For Kids was launched April 7, 2008 with a Leadership Summit convened by the Kane County Board Chairman and attended by more than 100 executive leaders from Kane County municipalities, school districts, park districts, businesses, the faith community, health care providers, health and social service agencies, and local and state elected officials. The Leadership Summit provided participants with an in-depth briefing on the childhood obesity epidemic and called for a sustained, county-wide mobilization through implementation of four strategic action principles that went to the heart of the policy, system, and environmental changes needed to reverse the epidemic. The strategic action areas were:

- Develop land use, planning and other public policies that foster and support physical activity for all in the communities;
- Assure that fresh fruits and vegetables are affordable and accessible to all families in the communities;
- Support a culture of wellness and health promotion in the workplaces, schools, homes, communities and other institutions;
- Provide parents and children with reliable, up-to-date information in multiple settings regarding healthy physical activity and eating habits.

Following the Summit, Fit For Kids Funders' Consortium was established by the Executive Directors of Kane County's Health and Development and Transportation departments, together with the Superintendent of Kane County's Regional Office of Education, the President of the Community Foundation of the Fox River Valley, and the President of the United Way of Elgin. By combining forces, these partners believed they could most efficiently and effectively raise and disperse funds to support the comprehensive, coordinated, community-based health promotion initiatives.

Each of the Fit For Kids (FFK) Funders' Consortium members committed to make an annual contribution of no less than \$10,000 to the Fit For Kids initiative, and each had one vote in making policy decisions for the Consortium. Policy decisions included designating a member as Convener, securing and overseeing a fiscal agent, oversight of FFK fundraising, making funding awards, and oversight of program management services. The Kane County Health Department was designated as convener and provided program management services while the Community Foundation of the Fox River Valley was the FFK Consortium's fiscal agent.

Programs/Promotions

Other Fit For Kids programs and promotional activities included a breastfeeding initiative. Kane County was partnering with Compañeros en Salud to help increase communication of FFK messaging to the Hispanic community.

The health department conducted screenings for about 1,600 employees to monitor improvements to health as a result of its employee wellness program. The health department saw an increase in health in most measures for those employees who had been tested multiple times. Promoting stair use was one of the components of the wellness program. Also, the health department created walking maps, which had walking routes of varying lengths in the surrounding area to encourage walking. The health department also had a weight watch and physical activity challenge. Participants in the physical activity challenge submitted their physical activity for the week and got points for every 30 minutes of activity completed. There was a weekly drawing for gift certificates as an incentive.

CITY/COMPREHENSIVE PLAN

Comprehensive planning had been a continuous function of Kane County government for over 50 years. Making Kane County Fit For Kids worked to integrate health, transportation, and land use together in the long range planning products.

Policy, Practice, and Environmental Changes

In 2011, Kane County released a Fit Kids 2020 Plan to reverse childhood obesity in the county over the next decade. In addition to guiding local practice to reduce childhood obesity, county leaders used the plan to inform County long-range plans. Resolutions were passed to endorse [Fit For Kids \(FFK\) 2020 Plan](#) throughout the county.

In 2012, the focus of long-range planning in Kane County changed. Building on the Fit Kids 2020 Plan, the new long-range plans integrated health and were adopted by the Kane County Board in 2012 including the [Kane County Community Health Improvement Plan](#), the 2040 Land Use Plan, and the [2040 Transportation Plan](#), all focused on creating Healthy People, Healthy Living and Healthy Communities, which were integrated into one [Quality of Kane 2040 Plan](#).

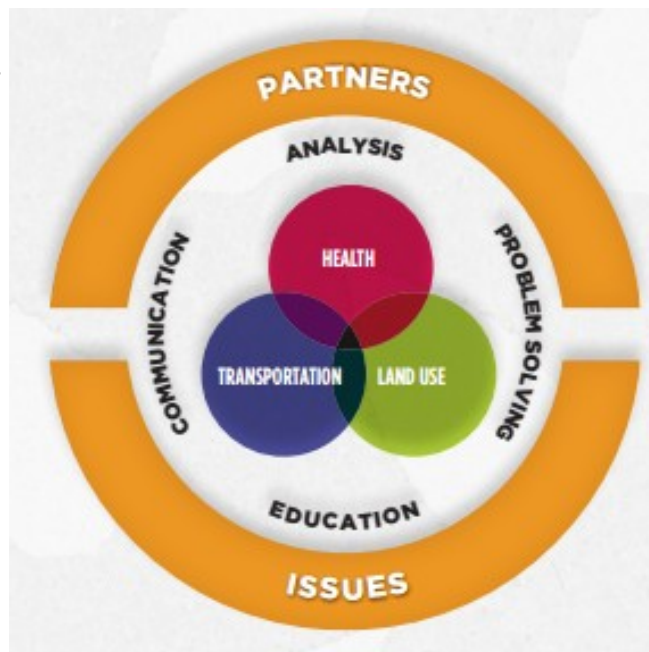
Implementation

There were five key planning staff that were involved with the comprehensive planning process along with the HKHC staff members. Expertise varied including economic development, health planning and farmland protection, public service management and community health, architecture, and transportation.

The Kane County Planning Cooperative was the central core of the 2040 long-range planning. The cooperative's goal was to encourage education and information sharing related to planning and to assist with local planning decisions. The cooperative was staffed primarily with county planners from three departments (development, health, and transportation). The primary goal was to fill the gaps for addressing current critical topics common to many of Kane County's municipal and other partners by providing a local forum for education, analysis, communication, and problem solving and by integrating health, transportation, and land use planning. The Kane County Planning Cooperative was a resource for municipalities and other local planning efforts by providing a forum for information and discussion on critical planning issues and emerging trends.

The 2012-2016 Kane County Community Health Improvement Plan reflected the understanding that the quality of the communities where residents live, work, and play was as important to achieving good health as going to the doctor for regular checkups, proper nutrition, and adequate physical activity. There were many factors that affected health and had a tremendous influence on health outcomes. The physical environment, social and economic factors, and clinical care all played roles in an individual's health and were all incorporated into the plan. It was adopted by the Kane County Board in April 2012.

The Kane County 2040 Transportation Plan was adopted by the Kane County Board in April 2012. The 2040 Transportation Plan was the long-term vision for Kane County that guided transportation development through the year 2040 including three elements: roadway plan, transit plan, and bike/pedestrian plan. It incorporated various planning efforts completed to date, and consisted of three elements that were updated concurrently: the Recommended Roadway Plan, the Bicycle and Pedestrian Plan and the Long Range Transit Plan. The bike/pedestrian plan was created using the regional bikeway network and trying to identify linkages within the county and promote bike and pedestrian activity. The bike/pedestrian plan incorporated all the municipalities' bike/pedestrian plans within the county. There was an effort in the transportation plan to create complete streets—the policy was not adopted, but the plan considered all users of the roadway when making improvements. A bike/pedestrian committee helped guide the bike/pedestrian plan.



The Kane County 2040 Comprehensive Plan was the first Kane County plan to integrate planning for community health with land use and transportation issues. The theme for the 2040 Plan was Healthy People, Healthy Living, and Healthy Communities, which recognized and emphasized the connection between the most important resource in Kane County with the opportunities and barriers for healthy living created by the built and natural environment, and how together they shaped the overall health of communities. The integrated plans, now known under the Quality of Kane, gave vision and direction from the Kane County Board and the County's 30 municipalities to plan for growth and to improve quality of life for Kane County residents. Designing healthy communities became a key directive. The plans worked together to respond to the challenges that needed to be addressed and integrated the planning efforts for land use, transportation, and health. This reaffirmed the County's commitment to Healthy People, Healthy Living, and Healthy Communities so that Kane County could continue to hold promise and opportunities for future generations.

Historically, the Kane County Board made the decision to protect and preserve agriculture as a land use. To achieve this goal, the county seldom allowed any commercial land uses, instead allowing the municipalities to take on those businesses. The county created an agricultural business classification, which allowed agriculture-related businesses like co-ops and feed and tack shops to be granted land use because they were supporting the agriculture community. An updated farmland protection ordinance was created as part of the 2040 Comprehensive Plan and was one of the first parts of the plan that the county planned to implement.

Six public forums were held to launch the Quality of Kane campaign. Two forums were held in each of the three transportation planning areas (north, central, and south). At each forum, there was a representative from each of the three departments of health, planning, and transportation. To increase participation, the forums were held at community centers or libraries, prizes were given away, and there was an area for children. A Quality of Kane website was created to help community members gain an understanding of the campaign. When the draft plans were completed, the county held two open houses to start the review of the draft plans. The partnership brought opportunities for the planning staff to engage with communities and professionals at health events that they may not have otherwise included in their planning efforts.

Sustainability

Kane County received the American Planning Association 2013 Best Practice award for the Kane County Planning Cooperative and the implementation of the 2040 Plan. Since the release of the Fit Kids 2020 Plan, the focus shifted to working with community members, organizations, and municipalities to implement the Fit Kids 2020 Plan. The Fit for Kids Funders' Consortium, a public-private partnership, funded 29 Requests for Funding in April and December of 2011 to implement the Fit Kids 2020 Plan with funding amounts ranging from \$500-10,000. This was one way to begin implementation of the long-range plans that were developed in Kane County.



FARMERS' MARKETS

Prior to HKHC, there was a directory of 36 Kane County farms that sold directly to consumers and 14 summer farmers' markets. Making Kane County Fit For Kids partnership worked to expand farmers' market locations and increase access at existing farmers' markets to utilize nutrition assistance including Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) or the LINK Card which was used in Illinois to provide SNAP benefits to lower-income residents.

Policy, Practice, and Environmental Changes

The Making Kane County Fit For Kids partnership was able to accomplish several policy and environmental changes through its direct partnership with other organizations and through the mini-grants, which provided seed funding to community-based organizations to implement changes.

- LINK benefits were expanded at three Aurora Farmers' Market locations and the Elgin Harvest Farmers' Market.
- Three markets—Heritage Prairie Farm, the Geneva Green Market, and the Elgin Winter Market—were expanded to offer locally grown foods during the winter months.
- Cottage Food Bill was passed, which allowed a person to legally bake and prepare non-potentially hazardous foods from his/her personal kitchen and sell them on a small scale, including farmers' markets.
- The Downtown Elgin Harvest Market hours were changed to 4 to 8pm to accommodate working families.



Source: Making Kane County Fit For Kids Partnership

Complementary Programs/Promotions

A woman from the community wanted to increase access to the farmers' market, especially to lower-income residents, so she spearheaded the effort to get LINK accepted at the market. An intern from Northern Illinois University helped her write and receive a grant to allow LINK at the market. The funding created a Double Coupon program, which allowed residents utilizing the LINK benefits to double the value up to \$20 at two market locations, Aurora and Elgin. Although funding was not secured to institutionalize the Double Coupon program, this was a way to increase awareness about the LINK benefits and participation in the farmers' markets. The market was looking to extend this program by asking local businesses for funding.

Some of the markets had activities to increase traffic including monthly themes, demonstrations around green initiatives, family and fitness activities, blood pressure checks, and nutrition education. Through a partnership with Northern Illinois University, dietetic students performed food demonstrations and food sampling at the farmers' market. Students used seasonal ingredients available at the market in their recipes. Students collected data and showed that there was a good correlation between foods used in their demonstrations and foods being purchased.

Implementation

The Elgin Farmers' Market was located behind the library. It eliminated the daytime market hours and was open Thursdays from 4 to 8pm to increase access to the market. There was decent accessibility to the market with public transit (train, bus) stops nearby. The market typically had about 10-20 vendors. The market accepted LINK (Illinois' cash/SNAP benefits card).

MAKING KANE COUNTY FIT FOR KIDS

A community champion recognized that the lower-income residents (predominantly African American and Hispanics) were not coming to the farmers' markets. The champion applied for a Fit For Kids mini-grant to get LINK accepted at the farmers' market. The market received the grant and accepted LINK. The market advertised the LINK acceptance with flyers in both English and Spanish at food pantries and service organizations along with information about how to use LINK at the market. An information booth was set up to explain the process Farmers' Market. Starting at the farmers' markets in 2011, LINK use at farmers' markets generated over \$10,600 to local producers in the first two years (2012 and 2013).



Source: Making Kane County Fit For Kids Partnership

Challenges and Lessons Learned

Barriers to the Hispanic community using the farmers' markets included the lack of familiarity with this farmers' market and perceptions that the farmers' markets were more expensive than grocery stores. Fit For Kids tried to eliminate the barriers by working with the farmers' markets to set up an information booth to explain the market and LINK process, as well as give cooking demonstrations and hold other events to draw customers to the market.

COMMUNITY GARDENS/FOOD BANKS

One goal of the partnership was to increase access to local foods through food production efforts. Although Kane County was a large farming community, much of the food produced was exported to other states, and other foods were imported for purchase and consumption. As acknowledged in the Fit For Kids 2020 Comprehensive Plan, farmland protection and local food production were big foci of the Fit For Kids partnership. Different strategies, some formal and others informal, were developed in the cities within Kane County to aid with the development of community gardens.



Source: Making Kane County Fit For Kids Partnership

Policy, Practice, and Environmental Changes

Kane County expanded to 1,398 garden plots available for lease, up from approximately 800 garden plots available in 2010. Gardens were located on vacant lots, faith-based properties, city properties, parks, and at other organizations. Additional policy, practice, and environmental changes occurred:

- Elgin adopted a policy allowing community members to lease long-term vacant lots for community gardens.
- Elgin Community Garden Network was established along with an agreement to provide a certain percentage of produce grown to local food pantries and soup kitchens.
- Noble Carrot Co-op in Pingree Grove was created and opened which used food grown at local garden plots and from local farmers.
- St. Charles Park District partnered with Northern Illinois Food Bank to provide fresh produce.
- Boys and Girls Club of Elgin signed a lease agreement with the City of Elgin for community garden.
- Four refrigerators were installed in food bank pantries serving under-sourced populations to increase produce for distribution: Feeding Greater Elgin Food Pantry, All Peoples Interfaith Food Pantry, and Elgin and Two Rivers Head Start in Aurora.
- Batavia City Council approved raising chickens in backyards of single family homes.
- Kane County adopted and implemented an amendment to the Farmland Protection Ordinance designed to broaden annual investments to include small farms and organic farmers producing fruits, vegetables, and meats. Also it is intended to increase availability of fresh produce in schools, farmers' markets, corner stores, and other sties in the community.

Implementation

Community gardens were started throughout Kane County and specifically in Elgin, Aurora, St. Charles, Geneva, and Batavia. Each city had its own structure for starting community gardens, some informal with agreements with city or organizations, and others established with a more formal community garden network.

Elgin Community Garden Network

In February 2009, the Elgin Community Garden Network, a non-profit organization with a mission to teach sustainable skills and feed the hungry, formed to assist with the development of community gardens in the City of Elgin. The Elgin Community Garden Network was a recipient of the Fit For Kids mini-grants, which helped it to establish more community gardens. Elgin school districts incorporated gardens for education purposes.

The Centre of Elgin was the main community recreation center with a pizza garden used for summer

MAKING KANE COUNTY FIT FOR KIDS

programming. The children planted the pizza ingredients in the garden and then used them at the end of the summer to make pizzas.

Highland Fellowship Church received a grant from Fit for Kids to purchase equipment to prepare its land for a community garden. The church had garden plots for both church members and surrounding lower-income housing residents. The church taught participants how to garden and preserve their food.

The Garfield Elementary garden was part of the Elgin Community Garden Network. The Elgin Firefighters Union funded, built, and helped maintain the garden. The garden was used for educational purposes at the school.

There was no mechanism to get the food from the garden into the school for consumption because the district viewed it as a food safety issue. In the summer, residents from the surrounding neighborhood maintained the garden and consumed the produce.

The City of Elgin had a lot of vacant lots for lease for \$10 per year to anyone who wanted to garden. There were 29 different sites included in the Elgin Community Garden Network. Each plot was made up of four or five, (4x4-foot) garden plots that were planted for community benefit, not individual use. The network used the square-foot garden method that allowed for over-planting and continually planting throughout the season to yield a large amount of food, despite the small size.

[Aurora Community Garden Network](#)

Fit for Kids funded the development of an Aurora Community Garden Network of vacant lots that were approximately the size of a house. These lots were used for the benefit of the community and transformed into multiple beds with multiple types of plants growing.

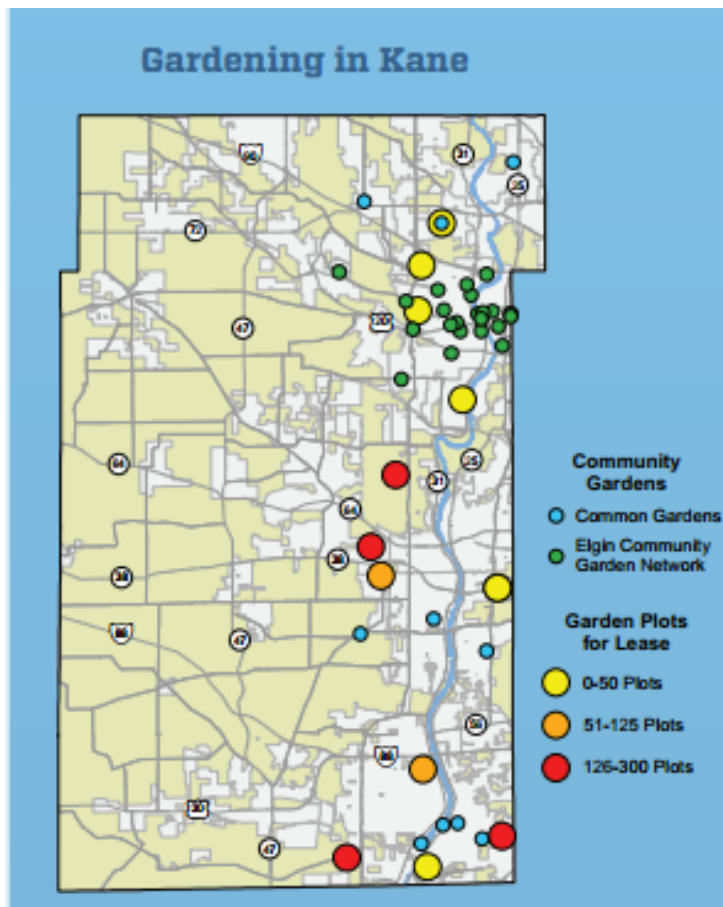
[Food Pantries](#)

The Northern Illinois Food Bank received funding to install refrigeration equipment at three local food pantries and one school. This expanded the capacity for the pantries and schools to provide fresh produce and dairy to lower-income community members. Northern Illinois Food Bank served 13 counties in northern Illinois by distributing food out to food pantries across the area. One of the food bank's goals was to increase the amount of fresh produce that it distributed to food pantries and youth feeding sites.

Funding through the Funders' Consortium mini-grants helped to expand five local food pantries. Facility improvements, including installation of refrigeration units to store fresh produce.

Food was donated from community gardens to local food banks. Some common gardens were exclusively grown for the benefit of the local food pantry with 100% of its yield donated. St. Charles used a box system to allow gardeners to donate excess produce. Through the Kane County Health Department garden plot, four plots produced between 200 and 300 pounds of produce that was donated to local food pantries in 2012.

One of the food pantries received a \$125,000 Riverboat grant that was used to install a large grocery system that included a new bank of refrigeration units allowing for storage of produce and protein foods. Although this specific example was not directly related to Fit For Kids funding, it was difficult to measure the impact of indirect links to advances within the local food system. One way in which this accomplishment was most likely influenced by HKHC activities was through the elected officials in Kane County, because they voted to direct these Riverboat funds.



Population Reach

Residents living throughout Kane County specifically in Elgin, Aurora, St. Charles, Geneva, and Batavia were directly targeted through the community gardens efforts. Emphasis was placed on reaching lower-income residents through the placement of gardens near affordable housing locations and through the program to donate produce to the local food pantries. Additionally, certain organizations were actively involved with gardening including community-based organizations, faith-based organizations, libraries, parks, schools, youth organizations, the county health department, and more.

Population Impact

Elgin Community Garden Network initially worked with Elgin Cooperative ministries to donate food from the gardens; it since teamed up with about 20 organizations (food pantries, soup kitchens, shelters). In 2010, Elgin Community Garden Network gave away 240 pounds of food; in 2011, it donated 668 pounds.

Since the spring of 2012, the Community Restitution Service workers maintained four 10x15 gardening plots sponsored by the Kane County Health Department Fit for Kids Community Garden. Over the last two years fresh produce donations totaled 620 pounds that were donated to the Aurora Interfaith Food Pantry with over 260 hours of dedicated service.

The Village of Sleepy Hollow received the Fit Kids 2020 Grant to expand giving gardens and add community garden plots, where in 2013, 700 pounds of produce was donated to a local food pantry.

Challenges

The community gardens initiative was extremely successful. There were about 400 new community garden opportunities in the community because of FFK. To increase safety, a parking permit was required in the parking lot near the garden and people were encouraged to walk in groups when visiting the garden. A barrier to gardening was at times lack of a water source. This problem could be solved with the use of rain barrels as water collection tanks.

Sustainability

Creation of an Agricultural Subcommittee of the Kane County Board helped to provide visibility and momentum for the work that was accomplished in this area. Community gardens continue to expand in Kane County.

ACTIVE TRANSPORTATION

Active transportation was a key component to the Fit for Kids work as outlined in the Fit Kids 2020 and Kane County 2040 comprehensive plans.

Policy, Practice, and Environmental Changes

As a result of the adoption of the Kane County Transportation Plan in 2012 and the Fit For Kids migrant opportunities, several Safe Routes to School infrastructure changes and other pedestrian, bicycle, and public transit infrastructure improvements were made;

- The Transportation Plan was adopted by the Kane County Board in 2012.
- A “No Idling” zone was implemented at Bell Graham School in St. Charles.
- Cell phone-free zones were created to enhance student safety around Freeman Elementary in Aurora and all elementary schools in the Community School District 300.
- Local governing bodies (e.g., schools and municipalities) applied to the Illinois Department of Transportation for bike racks resulting in a total of 100 bike racks to be installed across Kane County. Bike racks were also installed at Elgin schools.
- Installed 81 signs marking Safe Routes to School in eight elementary, middle, and high schools in the Batavia school district.
- Stearns Road Bridge was constructed, which allowed bike/pedestrian access to 3 regional bike trails, 3 miles of new multi-use paths, 216 acres of open space, 2 new multi-use trail underpasses, and 4 trail bridges.
- Traffic calming methods were installed in high-pedestrian areas throughout downtown Batavia. One streetscape project, called a “woonerf” was designed. A woonerf was a Dutch word used in traffic codes to describe curbsless roadways or plazas on which motorized traffic was restricted to a walking pace.
- A new Randall Road underpass was constructed along with other improvements, including construction of sidewalks, ADA pads, crosswalk markings, pedestrian push-button countdown timers, and bus shelters and pads.
- Kane County opened another bike connectivity intersection located at a major hospital at an underpass that ran under Randall Road.
- Fit For Kids Funders’ Consortium funded Sugar Grove to install countdown timers at high-volume intersections.
- Rotolo Middle School installed sidewalks and a pedestrian bridge.
- McLean Road northwest of Stearns Road at Intersection Nature Trail installed a boardwalk, in addition to preventing erosion through seeding and planting.
- JB Nelson Elementary installed intersection improvements, a sidewalk gap, and additional bike racks.
- HC Storm Elementary paved a pedestrian pass to connect to existing sidewalks and paths.
- Alice Gustafson Elementary installed a pedestrian pass and additional bike racks.
- The Kane County Board entered an agreement with the State of Illinois Department of Transportation to implement a Kane County-wide bicycle rack program. Installation of the bike racks was slated to take place in Spring 2014.
- On US 30 Roadway, a reconstruction project included 1.71 miles of multi-use path, pedestrian push-



Source: Making Kane County Fit For Kids Partnership

button timers, and crosswalk markings.

- New bridges were added across Fox River to expand recreation acreage, trail connectivity, and bike/pedestrian crossings.
- Batavia received three Safe Routes to School non-infrastructure grant and purchased equipment like trailers and bikes.

Complementary Programs/Promotions

In 2010, 46 Kane County schools took part in National Walk to School Day; and in 2011, 49 schools participated, and in 2012, 55 schools registered to participate. In October, the Fit for Kids Funder's Consortium sponsored International Walk to School Day. Fifty-three schools from eight of the nine county school districts participated. Over 20% of all Illinois schools participating in Walk to School Day were from Kane County. For many schools, Walk to School Day was a catalyst to other wellness initiatives. Batavia School District had the best participation of all school districts in Kane County.

A number of schools created opportunities for active living beyond Walk to School Day. Some schools celebrated Walk to School Week, Walk to School Wednesdays, and Walk to School Month. Walk-a-thons and Fun Runs were used by many schools as fund raisers, some replacing candy sales. Schools conducted organized lunchtime and before-school physical activity opportunities. Schools had instituted classroom fitness breaks during the school day in addition to recess. For walk/bike to school programs, parents were informed of the programs with email, flyers, and teacher notification.

Many schools received funding through Safe Routes to School or the Fit Kids mini-grants to support infrastructure improvements. When these projects were complete, maps of the walking routes were developed and distributed to parents. All crosswalks and stop signs on the walking routes were checked and updated if needed.

The City of Elgin Parks and Recreation Department hosted Bike for Life, a program created to help kids develop healthy lifestyle habits through bicycling, to raise money for bike racks for schools. Proceeds were used to buy bike racks for schools and print bike maps. The Fit Kids 2020 Implementation Grant helped to sponsor the event.

Implementation

Common partners involved in the Safe Routes to School initiative included the Public Works Department, Engineering Department, Police Department, and schools. Kane County Division of Transportation (KDOT) had a Bicycle and Pedestrian Coordinator who promoted walking and biking infrastructure on county roadways. KDOT served an informational role for Safe Routes to School. The communities of Batavia, Elgin, and Geneva had bike and pedestrian advisory committees to aid in the Safe Routes to School planning. Other groups brought together stakeholders to take the lead on the Safe Routes to School project. A travel plan was developed in order to be eligible for funding to improve infrastructure around the school or programming.

The police departments were involved in Walk to School events by monitoring intersections. The goal was to have police on bicycles participate in Bike to School events to help encourage participation.

Challenges

When attempting to work on Safe Routes to School, state regulation needed to be followed—for example, if the walking path/sidewalk was next to a golf course, then it was considered unsafe for students to walk. Many students were required by state law to be bused to school.

Some schools in the county were no-bus or all-bus schools. A no-bus school was when bussing was deemed hazardous because walking to the bus stop was unsafe. An all-bus school was when all students were required to bus (no walking).

There was a perception that if walking school buses/walking to school increased, bussing would be cut altogether. Additionally, one school district expressed concern that if it participated in the Walk to School Day and something tragic happened to the students, it would be held liable. There was a concern that whoever was promoting the program would be held liable for any issues that arose.

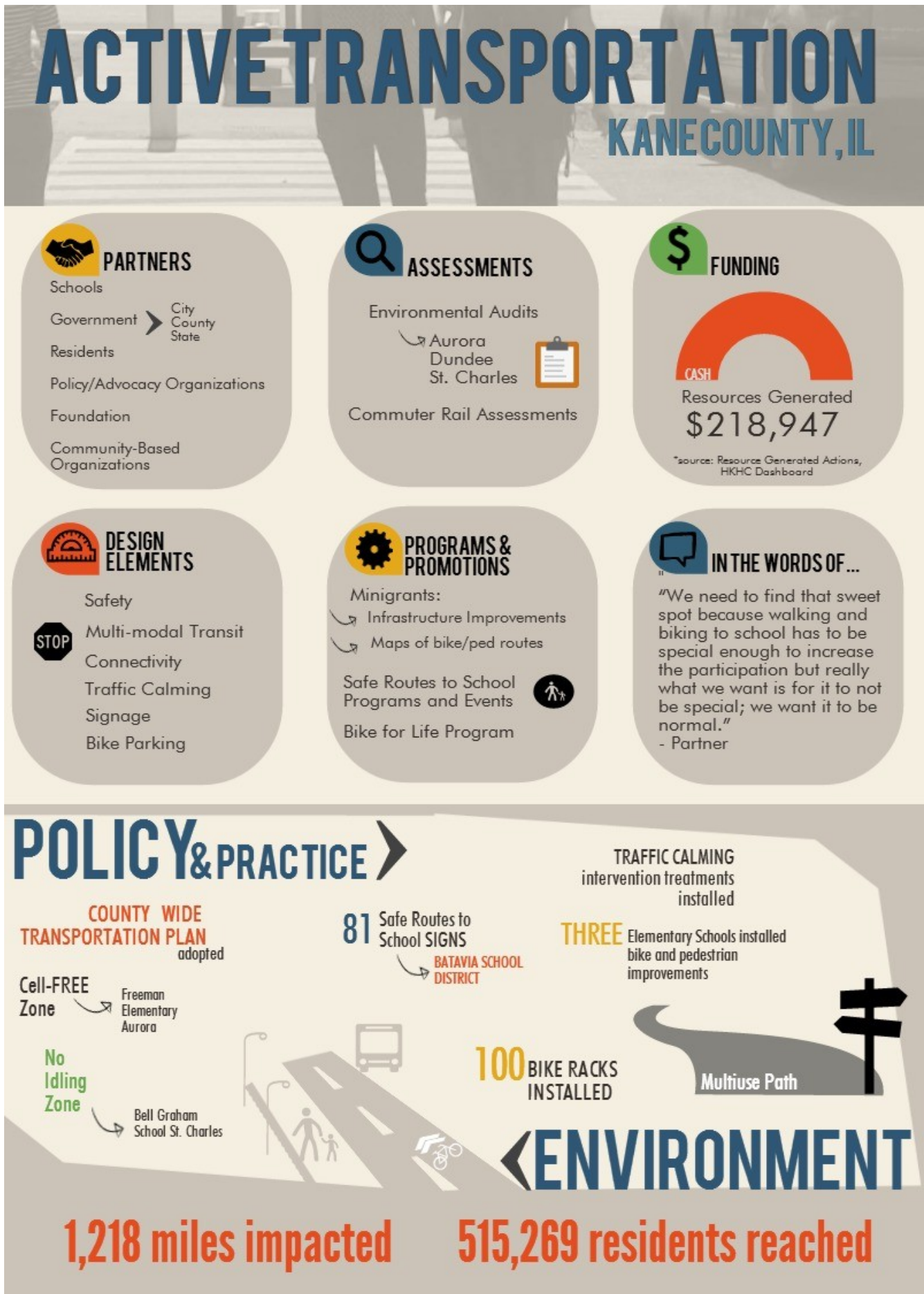
One challenge with police involvement was that the police departments were often short-staffed. Additionally, when police were unavailable, crossing guards were used in some school districts to increase safety for students walking to school. However, funding for crossing guards was cut, and it was difficult to get volunteers for these positions.

Sustainability

With the transportation master plan in place, improvements will continue to occur across Kane County that incorporate all modes of transportation (i.e., bike, car, bus, pedestrian).

See Figure 3: Active Transportation Infographic for more information.

See Figure 3: Active Transportation Infographic



PARKS AND PLAY SPACES

As a result of the Fit For Kids mini-grants, several community-based organizations and local government entities worked to increase opportunities for youth to be active through the enhancement of parks and play spaces.

Policy, Practice, and Environmental Changes

Seven different parks and play spaces were enhanced throughout Kane county from key policy and environmental changes:

- Funding from FFK Consortium was received to construct a shelter at Observatory Park.
- A climbing wall was installed to be used before and during school physical activity and cross-curricular learning at Bardwell Elementary School.
- Playground equipment was installed at three locations: Aurora Township, Storm Elementary School, and Batavia-Assi-Homes, near lower-income apartments.
- Land was donated to the City of Elgin for park space.
- Play area and equipment additions were made to South Elgin Business Association Park in the Village of South Elgin.

Complementary Programs/Promotions

The Elgin Park District started publishing a quarterly newsletter, Healthy Families, in 2013 that spotlighted programming and healthy eating and lifestyle messages (e.g., eating out choices). This publication was distributed to 45,000 families.

Implementation

The economic downturn resulted in an unexpected land donation to the City of Elgin, which was planned to be designated as park space.

The physical environment was also changing. A playground was installed at a school that also served an adjacent low-income neighborhood. A grand opening was held for a new Fit for Kids playground completing the transformation of a vacant lot to usable recreation space. A climbing wall was installed at a school that integrated into the curriculum and used for before- and after-school and community events.

FFK funding was used to install new playground equipment at Storm Elementary. The school was located near a lower-income housing development that did not have any playground equipment. This equipment was accessible to both students at the school and residents of the housing development through an informal joint use agreement.

Population Reach

The parks and play spaces work targeted youth and residents living near lower-income apartments and schools all throughout Kane County with emphases on Aurora, Batavia, and Elgin.

Challenges

In Elgin, there was a concern that there were not enough pocket parks within walking distance to residents. In Aurora, there was a perceived fear of safety in the parks because they had a history of criminal activity.



Source: Making Kane County Fit For Kids Partnership

CHILD CARE/SCHOOL NUTRITION AND PHYSICAL ACTIVITY STANDARDS

Because of the existing partnerships with local child care organizations and schools, the opportunity arose to create healthier guidelines for children within those settings.

Policy, Practice, and Environmental Changes

The 5-4-3-2-1 GO Campaign was piloted in six Aurora child care centers serving Latino populations, which included the following policies: five servings of fruits and vegetables a day, four servings of water a day, three servings of low-fat dairy a day, two or less hours of screen time a day, and one or more hours of physical activity a day. Classroom fitness breaks were added during the school day, and Hill Middle School added a salad bar.

Implementation

The 5-4-3-2-1 Go pilot program and curriculum was implemented in early spring and summer 2013. A pre-post evaluation component was currently being analyzed to help determine next steps. Although project staff were not directly involved in this program, one potential avenue of impact along with the program benefit was its value as a marketing vehicle to keep the Kane County Fit For Kids' name and information present in the overall community and especially among health care providers. The original goal of this program was to enhance the patient data collection system to allow federally qualified health care centers the ability to generate ongoing reports documenting BMI changes in patients of these centers, but also to provide immediate feedback to these children to make lifestyle changes. Staff turnover at a partnering clinic delayed achievement of this project goal; activities are still in progress.

A state-level taskforce researched more rigorous physical education standards in Illinois schools. Project staff and an AmeriCorps member attended local meetings in December 2013 focused on organizing/ appointing two physical education roundtable discussions on how to implement these new standards and measure progress. In addition, this taskforce made recommendations to change the learning standards that focused on presenting the strong research evidence showing the linkage between physical health and the brain to a targeted audience filled with key decision-makers within the education system (i.e., superintendents, school boards). Other opportunities for policy-focused changes (e.g., dual-use field and gym policies) could develop from the local taskforce bringing together education stakeholders from across Kane County for the first time; though relationship building efforts and additional opportunities to increase the level of county-wide dialog would need to be prioritized.

Hill Middle School installed a salad bar, expanding the capacity for fruits and vegetables served to students. This was the school's first step in meeting the Healthier US School Challenge criteria.

SUSTAINABILITY OF THE PARTNERSHIP AND INITIATIVE

Ownership of Making Kane County Fit For Kids was directed toward the community through the mini-grant structure. This was intentional from the onset of the HKHC grant in order to develop a structure for community members to invest their ideas, time, and efforts into projects that could be sustainable.

A major strength of the Fit For Kids partnership was the tremendous amount of cooperation between departments when dealing with land use and transportation. Communication between departments and staff contributed to the partnership's success.

Political transitions influenced the Fit For Kids partnership, including the Executive Director of the health department leaving his position during the project. The partnership lost a strong leader and original proponent of starting Fit For Kids and applying for HKHC funding through the RWJF. This change in leadership lost some momentum that was building for Fit For Kids. Additionally, political leadership in Kane County (e.g., county board members) transitioned in December 2012. More emphasis was needed to engage these new political representatives around Fit For Kids initiatives. While there is still confidence around accomplishing workplan goals, the actual process has become less clear because new relationships are yet to be established with new political leaders.

Regional and statewide initiatives around healthy eating and active living in Illinois are still maturing, but directing more partnership-level involvement may help develop synergy between Fit For Kids initiatives and these broader projects.

Sustaining project staff for an additional year beyond the original grant period through direct funding to the health department from the Funders' Consortium was approved late in 2013. With funding to support the Project Coordinator's position, efforts will continue to focus on the Fit Kids 2020 Plan.

Efforts will need to be directed at reconvening workgroups (e.g., active living, healthy eating workgroup). Special meetings, such as the Fit For Kids meeting with all the partners held in March 2013, were not scheduled to continue. The monthly meetings in which partners and project staff schedule time to actually work on project activities will continue and hopefully even expand.

During the final year of the project, the Fit For Kids partnership worked to increase partner diversity and resources within the Funders' Consortium by bringing in hospital and municipality stakeholders to not only contribute financially, but to play a role in leadership and decision-making.

Discussion around sustaining the Fit For Kids Funding Consortium led to a proposal for an annual \$10,000 voting member buy-in policy that would refresh the funds each year. This proposal is theoretically based on a system in which Kane County would pay the buy-in fee, and then allow each of the county departments an opportunity to sit at the decision-making table.

Although Fit For Kids brought together a broad-based group from across the community, there is not a formal sub-group within these community representatives that has taken responsibility for implementing and evaluating initiatives. Establishing a formal group of community members and stakeholders is one sustainability option the Fit For Kids partnership has identified for how to sustain project activities and partners.

Future Funding

The partnership is looking for ways to diversify its funding structure in order to sustain its efforts in the community. It feels the county has the infrastructure in place to sustain its efforts through the Fit For Kids Funders' Consortium and mini-grant opportunities. Kane County was in the running for a Center for Disease Control (CDC) fellow from the Public Health Preventive Services, which would provide staff support for two years.

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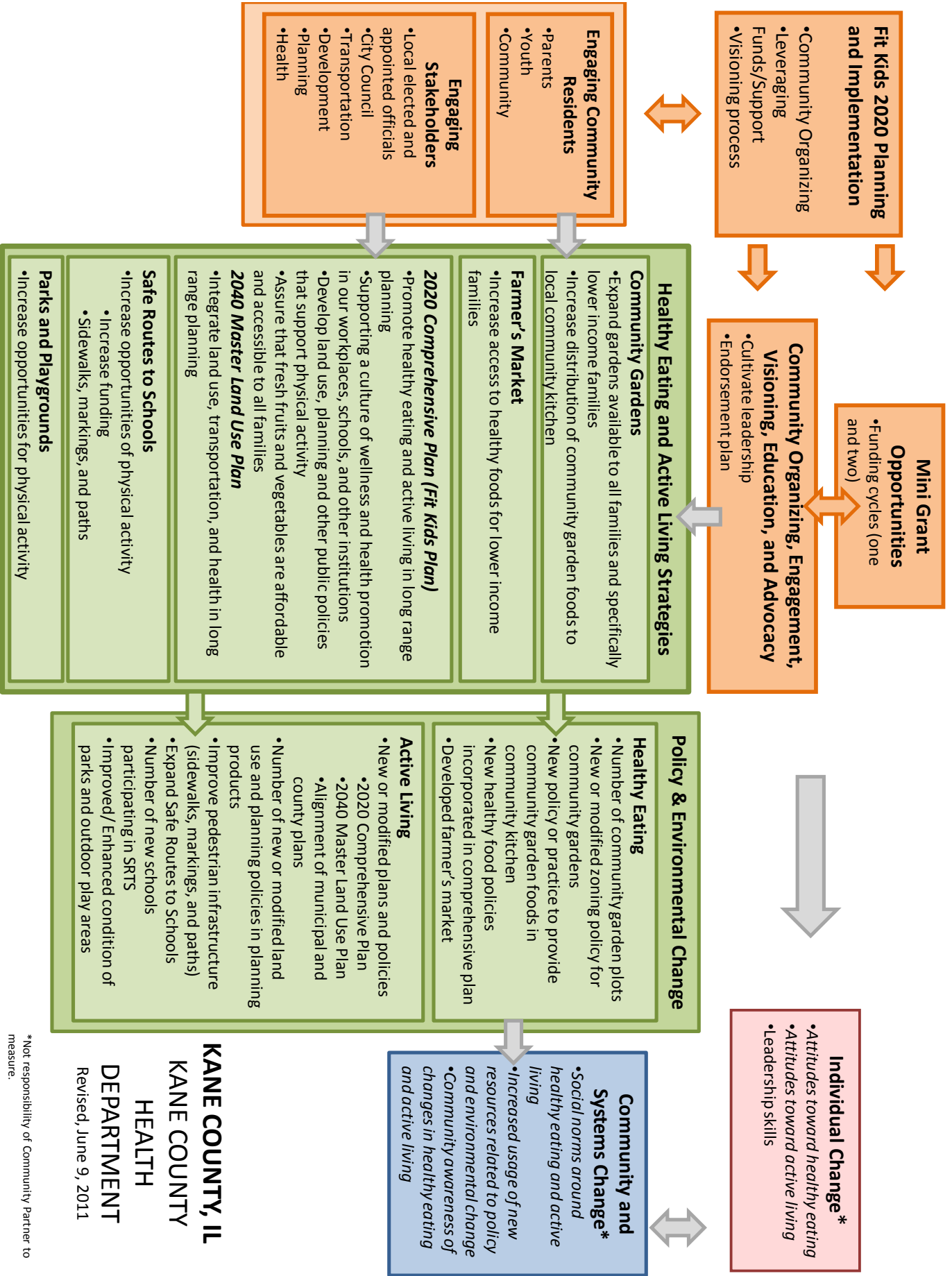
APPENDIX A: EVALUATION LOGIC MODEL

In the first year of the grant, this evaluation logic model identified short-term, intermediate, and long-term community and system changes for a comprehensive evaluation to demonstrate the impact of the strategies to be implemented in the community. This model provided a basis for the evaluation team to collaborate with the Making Kane County Fit For Kids partnership to understand and prioritize opportunities for the evaluation. Because the logic model was created at the outset, it does not necessarily reflect the four years of activities implemented by the partnership (i.e., the workplans were revised on at least an annual basis).

The healthy eating and active living strategies of Fit For Kids partnership included:

- *City/Comprehensive Plan:* Long range planning products were created and adopted to inform transportation, land use, and health over the next decade for Kane County.
- *Farmers' Markets:* Three farmers' markets started accepting LINK benefits; LINK was the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program for Illinois. Additionally, three markets expanded their hours to include winter markets, while one summer market adjusted its hours of operation to accommodate working families.
- *Community Gardens/Food Banks:* Kane County expanded to 1,398 garden plots available for lease, up from approximately 800 garden plots available in 2010. Gardens were located on vacant lots, faith-based properties, city properties, parks, and at other organizations. Agreements were made between specific garden locations and local food banks to donate a portion of the produce grown at the garden.
- *Active Transportation:* As a result of the transportation master plan being adopted and the mini-grants provided to communities, several infrastructure changes were made to enhance Safe Routes to School along with pedestrian, bicycle, and public transit infrastructure improvements.
- *Parks and Play Spaces:* Eight different parks and play spaces were enhanced throughout Kane county from key policy and environmental changes including playgrounds, climbing wall, other equipment, and land use policy designating space to be used for a park.
- *Child Care Nutrition and Physical Activity Standards:* Nutrition and physical activity standards (e.g., one hour of physical activity a day and five servings of fruits and vegetables) were piloted at six child care facilities.

APPENDIX A: EVALUATION LOGIC MODEL



KANE COUNTY, IL
KANE COUNTY
 HEALTH
 DEPARTMENT
 Revised, June 9, 2011

*Not responsibility of Community Partner to measure.

APPENDIX B: PARTNERSHIP AND COMMUNITY CAPACITY SURVEY RESULTS

Partnership and Community Capacity Survey

To enhance understanding of the capacity of each community partnership, an online survey was conducted with project staff and key partners involved with the Kane County Fit for Kids partnership during the final year of the grant. Partnership capacity involves the ability of communities to identify, mobilize, and address social and public health problems.¹⁻³

Methods

Modeled after earlier work from the Prevention Research Centers and the Evaluation of Active Living by Design⁴, an 82-item partnership capacity survey solicited perspectives of the members of the Kane County Fit for Kids partnership on the structure and function of the partnership. The survey questions assisted evaluators in identifying characteristics of the partnership, its leadership, and its relationship to the broader community.

Questions addressed respondents' understanding of Kane County Fit for Kids in the following areas: structure and function of the partnership, leadership, partnership structure, relationship with partners, partner capacity, political influence of partnership, and perceptions of community members. Participants completed the survey online and rated each item using a 4-point Likert-type scale (strongly agree to strongly disagree). Responses were used to reflect partnership structure (e.g., new partners, committees) and function (e.g., processes for decision making, leadership in the community). The partnership survey topics included the following: the partnership's goals are clearly defined, partners have input into decisions made by the partnership, the leadership thinks it is important to involve the community, the partnership has access to enough space to conduct daily tasks, and the partnership faces opposition in the community it serves. The survey was open between September 2013 and December 2013 and was translated into Spanish to increase respondent participation in predominantly Hispanic/Latino communities.

To assess validity of the survey, evaluators used SPSS to perform factor analysis, using principal component analysis with Varimax with Kaiser Normalization (Eigenvalue >1). Evaluators identified 15 components or factors with a range of 1-11 items loading onto each factor, using a value of 0.4 as a minimum threshold for factor loadings for each latent construct (i.e., component or factor) in the rotated component matrix.

Survey data were imported into a database, where items were queried and grouped into the constructs identified through factor analysis. Responses to statements within each construct were summarized using weighted averages. Evaluators excluded sites with ten or fewer respondents from individual site analyses but included them in the final cross-site analysis.

Findings

Structure and Function of the Partnership (n=5 items)

A total of 19 individuals responded from Kane County Fit for Kids partnership. Of the sample, 10 were female (53%) and 9 were male (47%). Respondents were between the ages of 26-45 (6, or 32%), or 46-65 (13, or 68%). Survey participants were also asked to provide information about race and ethnicity. Respondents identified with one or more from the following race and ethnicity categories: African American, American Indian/Alaskan Native, Asian, Native Hawaiian/Pacific Islander, White, Other race, Hispanic or Latino, Not Hispanic or Latino, Ethnicity unknown/unsure, or Refuse to provide information about race or ethnicity. Of the 19 responses, 79% were White, 11% were Hispanic or Latino, and 10% were another ethnicity. No other races or ethnicities were identified.

Respondents were asked to identify their role(s) in the partnership or community. Of the 24 identified roles, seven were representative of the Community Partnership Lead (29%) and eight were Community Partnership Partners (33%). Three respondents self-identified as a Community Leaders (13%), and three as Community Members (13%). Individuals participating in the survey also identified their organizational affiliation. Fifty-eight percent of respondents (n=11) indicated affiliation to a local government agency (city, county), while two (11%) claimed affiliation to health care organizations. Two respondents (11%) self-identified with other types of organizations not listed as response options, and one (5%) did not respond. The remaining three respondents affiliated to a faith- or community-based organization (1, or 5%), a neighborhood organization (1, or 5%), and a university or research/evaluation organization (1, or 5%). No respondents associated to schools/school district, advocacy organizations, or child care or afterschool organizations.

APPENDIX B: PARTNERSHIP AND COMMUNITY CAPACITY SURVEY RESULTS

Leadership (n=8 items)

All responses showed agreement or strong agreement (100% total) to statements suggesting that the partnership had an established group of core leaders who had the skills to help the partnership achieve its goals. Responses also indicated that participants in the survey felt the core leadership is organized and retains the skills to help the partnership and its initiatives succeed. All respondents strongly agreed or agreed (100%) that leaders worked to motivate others, worked with diverse groups, showed compassion, and strived to follow through on initiative promises. Responses to the survey showed at least one member of the leadership team lived in the community (89% agree/strongly agree), but 11% of respondents were not sure. When asked if they agreed with statements suggesting that at least one member of the leadership team retained a respected role in the community, 95% of respondents agreed or strongly agreed, while 5% did not know.

Partnership Structure (n=24 items)

A majority of the respondents generally felt that the partnership adequately provided the necessary in-kind space, equipment and supplies for partners to conduct business and meetings related to partnership initiatives (65% agree/strongly agree). Yet, 32% felt unsure provision of space and equipment was sufficient and 2% disagreed. Most (80%) also agreed that the partnership has processes in place for dealing with conflict, organizing meetings, and structuring goals, although 15% responded “I don’t know”, indicating a lack of familiarity in this area, and 5% felt these processes were not established. Partnership members (leadership and partners) were generally perceived by respondents to be involved in other communities and with various community groups, bridging the gaps between neighboring areas and helping communities work together (91%), though 4% did not know and 3% did not agree.

Though the majority (76%) of respondents indicated agreement with statements about the partnership’s effectiveness in seeking learning opportunities, developing the partnership, and planning for sustainability, 14% of responses disagreed, and 10% were not aware of partnership activities specific to development and sustainability.

Relationship with Partners (n=4 items)

Ninety-seven percent of responses to statements about leadership and partner relationships were positive (agree/strongly agree), indicating that the majority of respondents felt the partners and leadership trusted and worked to support each other.

Partner Capacity (n=18 items)

Nearly all responses (95% agree/strongly agree) indicated that respondents felt partners possess the skills and abilities to communicate with diverse groups of people and engage decision makers (e.g., public officials, community leaders). Furthermore, 89% of individuals responding to the survey felt that partners were dedicated to the initiative, interested in enhancing a sense of community, and motivated to create change.

Political Influence of Partnership (n=2 items)

Respondents felt that the leadership is visible within the community, with 92% of responses supporting statements that the leadership is known by community members and works directly with public officials to promote partnership initiatives. Eight percent of respondents were not sure about the leadership’s role with community members and public officials.

Perceptions of Community and Community Members (n=22 items)

Statements suggesting that the community was a good place to live, with community members who share the same goals and values, help each other, and are trustworthy were supported by 80% of survey responses, while 3% of respondents disagreed and 16% indicated a lack of knowledge about these community attributes. Respondents also strongly supported suggestions that community members help their neighbors, but may take advantage of others if given the opportunity (85% agree/strongly agree). In contrast, respondents were less convinced that community members would intervene on behalf of another individual in their community in cases of disrespect, disruptive behavior, or harmful behavior. While 51% agreed or strongly agreed, 39%

APPENDIX B: PARTNERSHIP AND COMMUNITY CAPACITY SURVEY RESULTS

disagreed/strongly disagreed. Ten percent of responses indicated that some respondents did not know how community members would act in these situations.

Most survey participants (79%) felt community members were aware of the partnership's initiatives and activities, though 11% disagreed. The majority of respondents (95%) agreed that the partnership equally divides resources among different community groups in need (e.g., racial/ethnic minorities, lower-income), 5% were not sure.

Overall, respondents agreed or strongly agreed that partners and members of the community maintained active involvement in partnership decisions and activities (85%), and also agreed that partners and residents have the opportunity to function in leadership roles and participate in the group decision-making process (91%).

References

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4. Baker E, Motton F. Is there a relationship between capacity and coalition activity: The road we've traveled. American Public Health Association 131st Annual Meeting. San Francisco, CA; 2003.

APPENDIX B: PARTNERSHIP AND COMMUNITY CAPACITY SURVEY RESULTS

Partnership and Community Capacity Survey Respondent Summary

Community Partnership

Kane County

Respondents (n= 19)

Respondent Characteristics

Gender		Identified Race/Ethnicity				Identified Role	
Female	10	American Indian or Alaskan Native	0	Hispanic or Latino	2	Community Partnership Lead	7
Male	9	Asian	0	Not Hispanic or Latino	0	Community Partnership Partner	8
No response	0	White	15	Don't know/ Unsure ethnicity	0	Community Leader	3
Age Range		African American/ Black	0	Refused to identify ethnicity	0	Community Member	3
18-25	0	Pacific Islander/ Native Hawaiian	0	Other ethnicity	2	Public Official	1
26-45	6					Other role	2
46-65	13						
66+	0						
No response	0						

Type of Affiliated Organization

Faith- or Community Based Organization	1	5.3%	(1)
School (district, elementary, middle, high)	0	0.0%	(2)
Local Government Agency (city, county)	11	57.9%	(3)
University or Research/Evaluation Organization	1	5.3%	(4)
Neighborhood Organization	1	5.3%	(5)
Advocacy Organization	0	0.0%	(6)
Health Care Organization	2	10.5%	(7)
Child Care or Afterschool Organization	0	0.0%	(8)
Other	2	10.5%	(10)
No response	1	5.3%	(999)

Color	Count
Blue	1
Red	3
Green	4
Yellow	5
Purple	7
Orange	10
Dark Blue	999

Partnership and Community Capacity Data

Provision of required space and equipment

Participants provided level of agreement to statements indicating the community partnership provided adequate space, equipment, and supplies to conduct business and meetings.

Strongly agree	21.64%	Strongly disagree	0.00%
Agree	43.27%	I don't know	32.16%
Disagree	2.34%	No response	0.58%

Partner skills and communication

Participants provided level of agreement to statements supporting partner skills and ability to communicate with and engage multiple types of people (e.g., public officials, community leaders).

Strongly agree	36.84%	Strongly disagree	0.00%
Agree	57.89%	I don't know	4.78%
Disagree	0.00%	No response	0.48%

APPENDIX B: PARTNERSHIP AND COMMUNITY CAPACITY SURVEY RESULTS

Community Partnership

Community and community members			
Participants provided level of agreement to statements suggesting the communities are good places to live, and that community members are helpful, can be trusted, and share the same goals or values.			
Strongly agree	11.96%	Strongly disagree	0.00%
Agree	68.42%	I don't know	15.79%
Disagree	2.87%	No response	0.96%
Partner and community involvement			
Participants provided level of agreement to statements indicating partners and the community were actively involved in partnership activities, meetings, and decisions.			
Strongly agree	42.11%	Strongly disagree	0.00%
Agree	43.16%	I don't know	7.37%
Disagree	2.11%	No response	5.26%
Partner and partnership development			
Participants provided level of agreement to statements suggesting the partnership and its partners seek ways learn, develop, and enhance sustainability.			
Strongly agree	12.63%	Strongly disagree	0.00%
Agree	63.16%	I don't know	13.68%
Disagree	10.53%	No response	0.00%
Partnership structure, organization, and goals			
Participants provided level of agreement to statements suggesting partnership has processes in place related to structure, meeting organization, and goals.			
Strongly agree	24.56%	Strongly disagree	0.00%
Agree	55.26%	I don't know	14.91%
Disagree	5.26%	No response	0.00%
Relationship between partners and leadership			
Participants provided level of agreement to statements indicating the leadership and partners trust and support each other.			
Strongly agree	39.47%	Strongly disagree	0.00%
Agree	57.89%	I don't know	2.63%
Disagree	0.00%	No response	0.00%
Community members intervene			
Participants provided level of agreement to statements indicating that community members can be counted on intervene in instances where someone is disrespectful, disruptive, or harmful to another community member.			
Strongly agree	7.02%	Strongly disagree	14.04%
Agree	43.86%	I don't know	10.53%
Disagree	24.56%	No response	0.00%
Leadership motivation			

APPENDIX B: PARTNERSHIP AND COMMUNITY CAPACITY SURVEY RESULTS

Community Partnership

Participants provided level of agreement to statements suggesting the leadership is motivated to help others, work with diverse groups, shows compassion, and follows through.

Strongly agree	43.42%	Strongly disagree	0.00%
Agree	56.58%	I don't know	0.00%
Disagree	0.00%	No response	0.00%

Community member and partner participation

Participants provided level of agreement to statements indicating that community members and partners have opportunities to serve in leadership roles and participate in group decision-making.

Strongly agree	33.33%	Strongly disagree	0.00%
Agree	57.89%	I don't know	5.26%
Disagree	0.00%	No response	3.51%

Involvement in other communities

Participants provided level of agreement to statements suggesting leadership and partners are involved in other communities and various community groups, and help communities work together.

Strongly agree	31.58%	Strongly disagree	0.00%
Agree	59.21%	I don't know	3.95%
Disagree	2.63%	No response	2.63%

Community member willingness to assist

Participants provided level of agreement to statements suggesting most community members help neighbors and solve community problems. It also suggested some community members may take advantage of others.

Strongly agree	35.53%	Strongly disagree	0.00%
Agree	50.00%	I don't know	11.84%
Disagree	2.63%	No response	0.00%

Core leadership and leadership skills

Participants provided level of agreement to statements suggesting the community partnership has a core leadership group organizing efforts, and that leaders have the skills to help the partnership achieve its goals.

Strongly agree	47.37%	Strongly disagree	0.00%
Agree	52.63%	I don't know	0.00%
Disagree	0.00%	No response	0.00%

Partner motivation

Participants provided level of agreement to statements indicating that partners won't give up in their efforts to create change and increase sense of community through the partnership.

Strongly agree	26.32%	Strongly disagree	0.00%
Agree	63.16%	I don't know	10.53%
Disagree	0.00%	No response	0.00%

Visibility of leadership

Participants provided level of agreement to statements suggesting the leadership is known in the community and works with public officials.

Strongly agree	36.84%	Strongly disagree	0.00%
Agree	55.26%	I don't know	7.89%
Disagree	0.00%	No response	0.00%

APPENDIX B: PARTNERSHIP AND COMMUNITY CAPACITY SURVEY RESULTS

Community Partnership

Leadership lives in the community			
Participants provided level of agreement to a statement indicating that at least one member of the leadership resides within the community.			
Strongly agree	42.11%	Strongly disagree	0.00%
Agree	47.37%	I don't know	10.53%
Disagree	0.00%	No response	0.00%
Leadership has a respected role in the community			
Participants provided level of agreement to a statement that suggests at least one member of the leadership team has a respected role in the community.			
Strongly agree	47.37%	Strongly disagree	0.00%
Agree	47.37%	I don't know	5.26%
Disagree	0.00%	No response	0.00%
Community partnership initiatives are known			
Participants provided level of agreement to a statement suggesting that community members are aware of the partnership's initiatives and activities.			
Strongly agree	15.79%	Strongly disagree	0.00%
Agree	63.16%	I don't know	10.53%
Disagree	10.53%	No response	0.00%
Division of resources			
Participants provided level of agreement to a statements suggesting that resources are equally divided among different community groups (e.g., racial/ethnic, lower income).			
Strongly agree	36.84%	Strongly disagree	0.00%
Agree	57.89%	I don't know	5.26%
Disagree	0.00%	No response	0.00%

APPENDIX C: PARTNER LIST

Type	Partner Name
Business/Industry/ Commercial	Aunt Martha's Youth Center & Health Center
	Delnor Community Hospital
	Dryer Medical Clinic
Civic Organization	Northern Illinois Food Bank
	Slow Food City's Edge-local chapter
	YMCA
Colleges/Universities	University of Illinois Extension Service Bill Shoemaker
Community Residents/ Representatives	Forest Ridge Resident Association Linda Hughes
Elected/Appointed Officials	Alderman Schaquita Hart-Burns
Foundation	Fit For Kids Funders Consortium
Government	Chicago Metropolitan Planning Agency (CMPA)
	Kane County Forest Preserve District
	Kane County Health Department *
	Regional Health Commission, Kane County/Regional Planning Commission
Other Community Based Organizations	Activate Elgin
	Calvary Church
	Elgin Community Garden Network
	Harvest Bible Church
	Highland Fellowship Church
	Southern Garden Network
	Wayside Cross Ministries/Lifespring Center
Other Research/Evaluation Organizations	Healthy Living Council of Aurora
	Saint Charles Horticulture Research Center
Policy/Advocacy Organization	Active Transportation Alliance
	Kane County Farm Bureau
School	Kane County Schools/Districts

*Denotes the lead agency for the partnership

APPENDIX D: SOURCES AND AMOUNTS OF FUNDING LEVERAGED

Sources of Revenue			
Community Partnership	Kane County		
Resource source	Amount	Status	
Business	Year		
Other			
	2011	Annual total	\$10,300.00
		\$10,300.00	Accrued
	2012	Annual total	\$4,500.00
		\$3,500.00	Accrued
		\$1,000.00	Accrued
	2013	Annual total	\$8,500.00
		\$750.00	Accrued
		\$750.00	Accrued
		\$7,000.00	Accrued
Sum of revenue generated by resource source		\$23,300.00	
Local government	Year		
Matching funds			
	2010	Annual total	\$110,896.00
		\$3,000.00	Accrued
		\$5,383.00	Accrued
		\$96,551.00	Accrued
		\$2,962.00	Accrued
		\$3,000.00	Accrued
	2011	Annual total	\$147,202.00
		\$1,195.00	Accrued
		\$129,061.00	Accrued
		\$2,961.00	Accrued
		\$10,985.00	Accrued
		\$3,000.00	Accrued
	2012	Annual total	\$284,417.00
		\$1,350.00	Accrued
		\$2,466.00	Accrued
		\$110,000.00	Accrued
		\$2,961.00	Accrued

APPENDIX D: SOURCES AND AMOUNTS OF FUNDING LEVERAGED

Community Partnership	Kane County		
Resource source		Amount	Status
		\$167,640.00	Accrued
	2013		Annual total \$295,566.00
		\$15,000.00	Accrued
		\$110,000.00	Accrued
		\$162,665.00	Accrued
		\$3,000.00	Accrued
		\$1,940.00	Accrued
		\$2,961.00	Accrued
	Other		
	2012		Annual total \$66,400.00
		\$5,800.00	Accrued
		\$600.00	Accrued
		\$10,000.00	Accrued
		\$50,000.00	Accrued
	2013		Annual total \$1,000.00
		\$1,000.00	Accrued
Sum of revenue generated by resource source		\$905,481.00	
State government	Year		
	Other		
	2013		Annual total \$67,200.00
		\$67,200.00	Accrued
Sum of revenue generated by resource source		\$67,200.00	
Foundation	Year		
	HKHC funds		
	2009		Annual total \$114,400.00
		\$44,361.00	Accrued
		\$1,507.00	Accrued
		\$795.00	Accrued
		\$67,737.00	Accrued
	2010		Annual total \$90,868.00
		\$41,996.00	Accrued
		\$1,194.00	Accrued

APPENDIX D: SOURCES AND AMOUNTS OF FUNDING LEVERAGED

Community Partnership		Kane County		
Resource source			Amount	Status
			\$1,295.00	Accrued
			\$46,383.00	Accrued
	2011			Annual total
				\$91,553.00
			\$44,528.00	Accrued
			\$43,057.00	Accrued
			\$2,466.00	Accrued
			\$1,502.00	Accrued
	2012			Annual total
				\$86,579.00
			\$31,067.00	Accrued
			\$8,500.00	Accrued
			\$2,012.00	Accrued
			\$45,000.00	Accrued
		Matching funds		
	2012			Annual total
				\$125,000.00
			\$125,000.00	Accrued
Sum of revenue generated by resource source			\$508,400.00	
Non-profit organization		Year		
		Matching funds		
	2012			Annual total
				\$40,000.00
			\$40,000.00	Accrued
		Other		
	2012			Annual total
				\$10,000.00
			\$10,000.00	Accrued
Sum of revenue generated by resource source			\$50,000.00	
Grand Total				\$1,554,381.00

APPENDIX E: FARMERS' MARKETS ENHANCED EVALUATION REPORT

APPENDIX F: STREET DESIGN ENHANCED EVALUATION REPORT

APPENDIX G: PARKS AND PLAY SPACES ENHANCED EVALUATION REPORT

APPENDIX H: CHILD CARE PHYSICAL ACTIVITY AND NUTRITION ENHANCED EVALUATION REPORT

Making Kane County Fit for Kids

Farmers' Markets Environmental Audits

Summary Report

Prepared by Transtria LLC



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Overview

Making Kane County Fit for Kids, one of 49 Healthy Kids, Healthy Communities partnerships, is part of a national program of the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation whose primary goal is to implement healthy eating and active living policy, system, and environment change initiatives. In order to better understand the impact of their work on farmers' markets, representatives of Kane County collected environmental audit data on ten farmers' markets throughout the Partnership's catchment area. These markets were located across Kane County in the following townships: Aurora, Batavia, Dundee, St. Charles, Sugar Grove, Geneva (n = 2), and Elgin (n = 3).

Results across all Markets

Operations

- All ten markets provided room for people with wheelchairs to maneuver around the market, yet one market did not provide a wheelchair-accessible entrance. Only four markets provided seating and four markets provided an information booth/table at the market.
- Farmers' markets had between 1 and 29 total vendors. Of these, two markets had between one or two fresh produce vendors, four markets had three or four fresh produce vendors, and two markets had between five and nine fresh produce vendors. Only two markets offered canned or frozen fruits and/or vegetables. Two markets didn't have any produce due to the weather.
- More than 25 % of vendors displayed clear signs indicating the farmer/business name as well as the products' prices and units at the majority of the markets. Only two markets provided signs advertising that WIC/SNAP/EBT or other discount payment options were accepted.

Availability of nutrient-dense and minimally nutritious foods

- Six out of ten of the markets offered healthier dairy foods (e.g., cottage cheese, low-fat yogurt). However, only four markets offered high-fiber, whole grain foods (e.g., whole wheat bread), and only three markets offered lean meats, fish, and poultry.
- While only one market offered regular to high-fat prepared meals (e.g., fried chicken, burgers, hot dogs), five of the markets offered sweet foods (e.g., cakes, cookies, doughnuts), and three markets offered salty foods (e.g., potato chips, corn chips, popcorn).

Availability and quality of fresh produce

- The largest variety of fruits for sale at an individual market was 13 different fruits (Downtown Elgin Harvest Market). No fruits were available for purchase at four markets (Batavia Farmers' Market, Elgin Farmers' Market, Geneva French Market, and Old Dundee Farmers' Market), one fruit was available at another market (Heritage Prairie Farm), and two fruits were available at two other markets (Geneva Green Market, Sugar Grove French Market).
- The largest variety of vegetables for sale at a single market was 20 different vegetables (Downtown Elgin Harvest Market) followed closely by another market selling 17 different vegetables (Aurora Farmers' Market). Three markets were selling 9, 12, and 13 different types of vegetables (Sugar Grove French Market, St. Charles Farmers' Market, and Batavia Farmers' Market, respectively). No vegetables were available at two markets (Elgin

Farmers' Market, Old Dundee Farmers' Market) and one vegetable was for sale at another market (Geneva French Market).

- The most common fruits available for purchase at the greatest number of markets included apples (six markets), watermelons (three markets), and raspberries (three markets.) Tropical-type fruits were not available at any of the markets (e.g., bananas, kiwis, mangos, papayas, pineapples).
- The most common vegetables for sale at the markets included red peppers (seven markets) and corn and tomatoes (six markets each).
- All fruits available at all markets were rated to have 'good' quality. While the majority of vegetables were also rated to have 'good' quality across all markets, two vegetables (i.e., carrots, green beans) were rated to have 'poor' quality at one of the markets (i.e., Downtown Elgin Harvest Market).

Cost of produce

- Watermelons were the highest priced fruit listed at \$9.00 each (Geneva Green Market). The second highest priced fruit was raspberries at \$6.00 per box/bag (St. Charles Farmers' Market). The lowest-priced fruit was \$2.00 per pound for apples or grapes (Downtown Elgin Harvest Market, Heritage Prairie Market) and \$2.00 each for honeydew melons (St. Charles Farmers' Market, Downtown Elgin Harvest Market). The second lowest-priced fruit was priced at \$3.49 per pound for grapes, nectarines, peaches, pears, and plums (Downtown Elgin Harvest Market).
- The lowest price for any-sized unit of vegetables was \$0.50 per unit (i.e., box/bag/bunch/each) and included corn, green peppers, and red peppers (Aurora Farmers' Market) as well as mushrooms (St. Charles Farmers' Market). The highest-priced vegetables were priced at \$5.00 per bunch for corn (Downtown Elgin Harvest Market) and asparagus (Geneva French Market).
- The two markets selling the largest variety of fruits and vegetables were compared for price differences across the 21 types of fruits (n = 4) and vegetables (n = 17) available for purchase at both markets. Aurora Farmers' Market priced 11 different fruits (n = 3) and vegetables (n = 8) higher compared to the prices listed at the Downtown Elgin Harvest Market. The Downtown Elgin Harvest Market priced seven different fruits (n = 1) and vegetables (n = 6) higher when compared to the prices listed at Aurora Farmers' Market. Three vegetables were priced exactly the same.

Results by Market

Aurora Farmers' Market

- Aurora Farmers' Market is open from June through October on Saturday mornings and afternoons.
- Five to nine vendors were selling fresh produce.
- Fresh fruits for sale included: apples, pears, raspberries, and watermelons.
- Fresh vegetables for sale included: broccoli, cabbages, carrots, cauliflower, celery, corn, green beans, green and red peppers, potatoes, romaine lettuce, mushrooms, onions, radishes, spinach, sweet potatoes, and tomatoes.
- Prices for fresh produce ranged from \$0.50 to \$5.00.

Batavia Farmers' Market

- Batavia Farmers' Market is open from June through October on Saturday mornings and afternoons.
- One to two vendors were selling fresh produce.
- No fresh fruits were for sale.
- Fresh vegetables for sale included: broccoli, brussel sprouts, cabbages, cauliflower, corn, green beans, green and red peppers, kale, potatoes, romaine lettuce, radishes, and tomatoes.
- Prices for fresh produce ranged from \$1.00 to \$3.00.

Downtown Elgin Farmers' Market

- Downtown Elgin Harvest Market is open from June through October on Thursday evenings.
- Five to nine vendors were selling fresh produce.
- Fresh fruits for sale included: apples, blackberries, blueberries, cantaloupes, grapes, honeydew melons, nectarines, peaches, pears, plums, raspberries, strawberries, and watermelons.
- Fresh vegetables for sale included: asparagus, broccoli, brussel sprouts, cabbages, carrots, cauliflower, celery, corn, green beans, green and red peppers, kale, potatoes, romaine lettuce, mushrooms, onions, radishes, spinach, sweet potatoes, and tomatoes.
- Prices for fresh produce ranged from \$0.50 to \$5.00.

Elgin Farmers' Market

- Elgin Farmers' Market is open from October through January on Saturday mornings and afternoons.
- Due to rainy weather conditions during the audit, no vendors were selling fresh produce.

Geneva French Market

- Geneva French Market is open from April through November on Sunday mornings and afternoons.
- Three to four vendors were selling fresh produce.
- No fresh fruits were for sale.
- Asparagus was the only fresh vegetable for sale at \$5.00 per bunch, one of the highest-priced vegetables for sale across the markets.

Geneva Green Market

- Geneva Green Market is open from June through October on Thursday mornings and afternoons.
- Three to four vendors were selling fresh produce.
- Fresh fruits for sale included apples and watermelons.

- Fresh vegetables for sale included: broccoli, cabbage, carrots, corn, green beans, green and red peppers, kale, onions, potatoes, and tomatoes.
- Prices for fresh produce ranged from \$0.75 to \$9.00.

Heritage Prairie Farms Market

- Heritage Prairie Farm is open all 12 months of the year at various times from Wednesday through Sunday.
- Three to four vendors were selling fresh produce.
- Apples were the only fresh fruit for sale.
- Fresh vegetables for sale included: kale, romaine lettuce, red peppers, and spinach.
- Prices for fresh produce ranged from \$2.00 to \$4.00.

Old Dundee Farmers' Market

- Old Dundee Farmers' Market is open from May through October on Saturday mornings and afternoons.
- Due to weather conditions, no foods were for sale during the audit.

St. Charles Farmers' Market

- St. Charles Farmers' Market is open during the months from June through October on Friday mornings and afternoons.
- Three to four vendors were selling fresh produce.
- Fresh fruit for sale included: apples, honeydew melons, and raspberries.
- Fresh vegetables for sale included: cabbage, corn, green beans, iceberg lettuce, kale, mushrooms, onions, radishes, red peppers, potatoes, sweet potatoes, and tomatoes.
- Prices for fresh produce ranged from \$0.50 up to \$6.00.

Sugar Grove French Market

- Sugar Grove French Market is open during the months from June through October on Saturday mornings and afternoons.
- One to two vendors were selling fresh produce.
- Fresh fruit for sale included apples and pears.
- Fresh vegetables for sale included: broccoli, brussel sprouts, corn, green and red peppers, onions, potatoes, sweet potatoes, and tomatoes.
- Prices for fresh produce ranged from \$0.75 up to \$5.00.

Background

Healthy Kids, Healthy Communities (HKHC) is a national program of the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation (RWJF) whose primary goal is to implement healthy eating and active living policy, system, and environmental change initiatives that can support healthier communities for children and families across the United States. HKHC places special emphasis on reaching children who are at highest risk for obesity on the basis of race/ethnicity, income,

and/or geographic location. For more information about HKHC, please visit www.healthykidshealthycommunities.org.

Kane County, IL was selected as one of 49 communities to participate in HKHC, and the Kane County Health Department is the lead agency for their community partnership, *Making Kane County Fit for Kids*. Kane County focuses its work on the following healthy eating and active living strategies: comprehensive plans, Safe Routes to School, parks and recreation, and community gardens.

Transtria LLC, a public health evaluation and research consulting firm located in St. Louis, Missouri, is funded by the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation to lead the evaluation and dissemination activities from April 2010 to March 2014. For more information about the evaluation, please visit www.transtria.com/hkhc.

This supplementary evaluation focuses on the six cross-site HKHC strategies, including: parks and play spaces, street design, farmers' markets, corner stores, physical activity standards in childcare settings, and nutrition standards in childcare settings. Communities are trained to use two main methods as part of the enhanced evaluation, direct observation and environmental audits. Tools and training are provided by Transtria staff (see www.transtria.com/hkhc).

In order to better understand the impact of their work on farmers' markets, representatives of Kane County chose to participate in the enhanced evaluation, using the environmental audit method.

Methods

The Farmers' Market Environmental Audit Tool was modified from three existing environmental audit tools including the Farmers' Market Vendor Evaluation (created by Monika Roth), Farmers' Market Evaluation, Mystery Shopping-Farmers' Market (created by marketumbrella.org), and Nutrition Environment Measurement Survey-NEMS (created by Glanz et al.). Environmental audits assess the presence or absence of different features as well as the quality or condition of the physical environment. The tool captures overall market operations (e.g., months, days and hours of operation, accessibility, government nutrition assistance programs), vendor display areas (e.g., space and equipment), product signage and pricing (e.g., clear signs, unit and price labeled, discounts for larger sales), frozen/canned fruits and vegetables (e.g., quantity and variety of frozen or canned fruits and vegetables), other foods (e.g., availability of healthier options and foods with minimal nutritional value) and the availability, pricing, quality, and quantity of fresh fruits and vegetables.

Each audit tool was completed for one farmers' market. Ten markets were selected throughout Kane County for data collection. These markets were located across Kane County in the following townships: Aurora, Batavia, Dundee, St. Charles, Sugar Grove, Geneva (n = 2), and Elgin (n = 3). An Evaluation Officer from Transtria LLC trained community members and partnership staff on proper data collection methods using the tool and data collection was completed between September 28 and October 14, 2012. Transtria staff performed data entry and validation, including double data entry to ensure accuracy of the data. Agreement of data entry was 99.5% and all errors were fixed.

Results

Overall Results

Operations

Nine of the ten farmers' markets surveyed were open during the Summer months from June through September, with the majority (nine) of these markets operating one day a week, which was predominantly Saturday mornings and afternoons (six locations).

Only one of the markets (i.e., Elgin Farmers' Market) did not have a large, legible sign identifying the market. All of the markets provided room for people using wheelchairs to maneuver around the market and all except one market had a wheelchair accessible entrance.

Only two markets (i.e., Downtown Elgin Harvest Market, Aurora Farmers' Market) displayed signs advertising that WIC/SNAP/EBT or other discount payment options were accepted. Four of the markets provided seating (i.e., St. Charles Farmers' Market, Geneva Green Market, Downtown Elgin Harvest Market, Aurora Farmers' Market) and information booths (i.e., Batavia Farmers' Market, Geneva Green Market, Downtown Elgin Harvest Market, Aurora Farmers' Market) for customers and two of the markets advertised that other events/activities, such as yoga or concerts, were being held at the market (i.e., St. Charles Farmers' Markets, Aurora Farmers' Markets).

Farmers' markets had between 1-29 vendors, however only a fraction of these vendors offered fresh fruits and vegetables. Two of the markets had between one to two fresh produce vendors (i.e., Batavia Farmers' Markets, Sugar Grove French Market), four markets had between three to four fresh produce vendors (St. Charles Farmers' Market, Geneva Green Market, Heritage Prairie Farm, Geneva French Market), and two markets had between five

Key Takeaways (10 farmers' markets)

- Nine out of the ten farmers' markets were open during the summer months with the majority being open in the morning and/or afternoon hours.
- Only two markets provided signs advertising that WIC/SNAP/EBT or other discount payment options were accepted.
- Other nutritious foods were offered at the markets. Dairy foods were offered at six markets. High fiber/whole grain foods were offered at four markets. Lean meats, fish, and poultry were for sale at three markets. However, other foods with minimal nutritional value, such as salty foods, sweet foods, and candy/ chocolate, were for sale in four, five, and three (respectively) markets as well.
- Canned fruit and frozen vegetables were not available at any of the markets. Canned vegetables were available in one market and frozen fruit was offered in two markets.
- The most common fresh fruit at the markets included: apples (6 markets), watermelons (3 markets), and raspberries (3 markets).
- The majority of produce was of 'good' quality.
- Prices ranged from \$0.50 per box/bag (e.g., mushrooms, corn) to \$9.00 each (e.g., watermelon).
- While price comparison across markets are difficult due to variations in growing method, type, and individual size, notable price differences greater than or equal to \$2.00 were found for: apples, raspberries, watermelons, asparagus, cabbage, carrots, cauliflower, kale, and mushrooms.

and nine fresh produce vendors (Downtown Elgin Harvest Market, Aurora Farmers' Market).

Seven of the ten markets had more than 25% of the vendors present, displaying clear signs documenting farmer/business name. Eight of the markets were rated as having greater than 25% of the vendor's display labels for products which include name and price, and seven of the markets were rated as displaying labels for product units. Only two markets were rated to have more than 25% of vendors display signs indicating discount pricing for large volume purchases, although four other markets were rated as having between 1% and 25% of vendors display signs indicating discount prices for larger volume purchases.

Availability of nutrient-dense and minimally nutritious foods

There were only two markets offering canned and/or frozen fruits and vegetables. One market (i.e., Geneva French Market) offered a few canned vegetable and a few frozen fruit products, and another (i.e., Geneva Green Market) offered only frozen fruit products.

A slight majority (i.e., six out of ten) of the markets offered healthier dairy foods (e.g., cottage cheese, low-fat yogurt). However, only four markets offered high-fiber, whole grain foods, and only three markets offered lean meats, fish, and poultry. Other foods with minimal nutritional value were also available in some of the markets: half of the markets offered sweet foods, three markets offered salty foods, another three markets offered candy/chocolate, and one market offered regular to high-fat prepared meals.

Availability and quality of fresh produce

The most common fruits available across all the markets included apples (available at six markets), watermelons, and raspberries (three markets). The most commonly available vegetables were red peppers (available at seven markets), and corn and tomatoes (both available at six markets).

The quality of the fruits and vegetables available in all the markets was rated to be 'good' except for two vegetables. Carrots and green beans available for purchase during the audit at the Downtown Elgin Harvest Market were rated as having 'poor' quality.



Cost of produce

Cost data for produce available at eight out of the ten markets shows some price variation across markets for fruits and vegetables. (See Appendix B: Cost comparison across farmers' markets table). The highest price reported for any-sized unit of fruit was \$9.00 each for watermelons at the Geneva Green Market. The second highest-priced fruit was \$6.00 per box/bag of raspberries offered at the St. Charles Farmers' Market. Other higher-priced fruit included: \$5.20 per pound apples (Geneva Green Market), \$5.00 per unit blueberries, raspberries, blackberries, and strawberries (Downtown Elgin Harvest Market), and \$5.00 each for watermelon (Aurora Farmers' Market). The lowest price for any-sized unit of fruit was \$2.00 per pound apples (Downtown Elgin Harvest Market, Heritage Prairie Farm) and \$2.00 each honeydew melons (St. Charles Farmers' Market, Downtown Elgin Harvest Market).

The highest price for any-sized unit of vegetables was \$5.00 per box/bag or bunch of corn (Sugar Grove French Market, Downtown Elgin Harvest Market) and \$5.00 per bunch of asparagus (Geneva French Market). The second highest-price vegetable was \$4.00 per pound for red peppers (Heritage Prairie Farm). Other higher-priced vegetables included: \$3.00 each for cabbage (St. Charles Farmers' Market, Geneva Green Market) \$3.00 per pound or box/bag for green beans (Batavia Farmers' Market, Geneva Green Market, Aurora Farmers' Market), \$3.00 per bunch of kale (Geneva Green Market, Heritage Prairie Farm) and \$3.00 per box/bag of potatoes (St. Charles Farmers' Market, Batavia Farmers' Market), and \$3.00 per box/bag of sweet potatoes (Sugar Grove French Market).

The lowest-price for any-sized unit of vegetables was \$0.50 per unit (i.e., box/bag/bunch/each) and included corn (Aurora Farmers' Market), green peppers (Downtown Elgin Harvest Market, Aurora Farmers' Market), mushrooms (St. Charles Farmers' Market), and red peppers (Aurora Farmers' Market). The second lowest-priced vegetables were priced at \$0.75 each for green and red peppers (Sugar Grove French Market, Geneva Green Market). Other lower-priced vegetables included prices at \$1.00 per bunch/each of kale (St. Charles Farmers' Market), red peppers (St. Charles Farmers' Market, Batavia Farmers' Market), broccoli (Batavia Farmers' Market), cabbages (Downtown Elgin Harvest Market), cauliflower (Batavia Farmers' Market), green peppers (Batavia Farmers' Market), mushrooms (Downtown Elgin Harvest Market), onions (Sugar Grove French Market, Downtown Elgin Harvest Market), radishes (Batavia Farmers' Market, Aurora Farmers' Market), red peppers (Batavia Farmers' Market, Downtown Elgin Harvest Market), and tomatoes (Batavia Farmers' Market). The highest-priced vegetable was corn priced at \$5.00 per bunch/box/bag (Sugar Grove French Market, Downtown Elgin Harvest Market).

There were price differences for the same produce items at different markets. While different unit sizes for sale at the different markets can explain some of the price differential (e.g., prices each compared to prices listed per pound, per box/bag, per bunch), there are still some notable variations in prices across markets. For example, apples were priced at \$2.00 per pound at both the Downtown Elgin Harvest Market and the Heritage Prairie Farm, whereas the price was three dollars more for apples (i.e., \$5.00 per pound) at Sugar Grove French Market. However, type of apple (e.g., Granny Smith, Golden Delicious), growing method (e.g., organic), and size of individual produce may prevent exact price comparison across markets even when unit price is the same. Other notable price variations (i.e., difference \geq \$2.00 per unit) include: raspberries (\$3.49 per pound at the Downtown Elgin Harvest Market versus \$6.00 per box/bag at the St. Charles Farmers' Market), watermelons (\$4.00 each at the Downtown Elgin Harvest Market versus \$9.00 each at Geneva Green Market), asparagus (\$3.00 per bunch at the Downtown Elgin Harvest Market versus \$5.00 at the Geneva French Market), cabbages (\$1.00 each at the Downtown Elgin Harvest Market versus \$3.00 each at both the Geneva Green Market and the St. Charles Farmers' Market), carrots (\$1.50 per bunch at the Geneva Green Market versus \$3.00 per bunch at the Downtown Elgin Harvest Market), cauliflower (\$1.00 each at the Batavia Farmers' Market versus \$3.00 each at the Downtown Elgin Harvest Market), kale (\$1.00 per bunch at the St. Charles Farmers' Market versus \$3.00 per bunch at the Heritage Prairie Farm and the Geneva Green Market), mushrooms (\$0.50 per box/bag at the St. Charles Farmers' Market, versus \$4.00 per box/bag at the Aurora Farmers' Market).

The two markets selling the largest variety of fruits and vegetables were compared for trends in price differences across the 21 types of fruits (4) and vegetables (17) available for purchase at both markets. Aurora Farmers' Market priced 11 different fruits (3) and vegetables (8) higher compared to the prices listed at the Downtown Elgin Harvest Market. The Downtown Elgin Harvest Market priced seven different fruits (1) and vegetables (6) higher when compared to the prices listed at Aurora Farmers' Market. These price differences ranged from a \$0.50 difference for cabbages and red peppers up to a \$3.00 difference for apples and mushrooms. Ten

Table 1: Cost comparison across two markets offering the largest variety of fruits and vegetables

Produce Item	Aurora Farmers' Market		Downtown Elgin Harvest Market	
	Price	Unit	Price	Unit
<i>Fruits:</i>				
Apples	*\$5.00	Per bag/box	\$2.00	Per pound
Pears	*\$4.00	Per box/bag	\$3.49	Per pound
Raspberries	\$4.00	Per box/bag	*\$5.00	(blank)
Watermelons	*\$5.00	Each	\$4.00	Each
<i>Vegetables:</i>				
Broccoli	*\$2.40	Per pound	\$2.00	Per pound
Cabbages	*\$1.50	Each	\$1.00	Each
Carrots	\$2.00	Bunch	*\$3.00	Bunch
Cauliflower	\$2.00	Per pound	*\$3.00	Each
Celery	\$2.00	Each	*\$3.00	Bunch
Corn	\$0.50	Each	*\$5.00	Bunch
Green beans	*\$3.00	Per box/bag	\$2.00	Per pound
Green peppers	\$0.50	Each	\$0.50	Each
Lettuce - Romaine	\$2.00	Per box/bag	\$2.00	Per box/bag
Mushrooms	*\$4.00	Per box/bag	\$1.00	Per box/bag
Onions	*\$2.00	Per box/bag	\$1.00	Each
Radishes	\$1.00	Bunch	*\$2.00	Bunch
Red peppers	\$0.50	Each	*\$1.00	Each
Spinach	\$2.00	Per box/bag	\$2.00	Per box/bag
Sweet potatoes	*\$3.00	Per box/bag	\$2.00	Per pound
Tomatoes	*\$3.00	Per box/bag	\$2.00	Per pound
Other: Potatoes	*\$2.00	Per box/bag	\$1.20	Per pound

**Denotes items with the higher price*

comparisons between the prices for fruits and vegetables across the two markets showed a difference of \$1.00 (raspberries, strawberries, carrots, cauliflower, celery, green beans, onions, radishes, sweet potatoes, and tomatoes). Three vegetables were priced the same for both markets (green peppers, romaine lettuce, and spinach). See Table 1 for details.

Supply and demand characteristics

There were four markets (St. Charles Farmers' Market, Geneva Green Market, Downtown Elgin Harvest Market, Aurora Farmers' Market) reporting a greater supply of produce than demand from customers. One market (Batavia Farmers' Market) reported having more demand from customers than supply (producers and vendors), and another market (Heritage Prairie Farm) reported a good match between supply at the market and demand from the customers. The remaining markets left this audit question blank.

Aurora's Farmers' Market was the only market to be rated as 'very successful' across all seven additional market productivity indicators created by the Making Kane County Fit For Kids Partnership. These indicators were level of sales, number of customers, number of producers/vendors, diversity of products offered, community support, growth in number of repeat customers, growth in number of producers/vendors. St. Charles Farmers' Market was rated as 'very successful' for each of these indicators except for two (level of sales, number of customers) which were rated as 'successful'. Geneva Green Market's ratings were the least favorable with five of the indicators rated as only 'somewhat successful' (level of sales, number of customers, community support, growth in number of repeat customers, growth in number of producers/vendors) and two 'successful' ratings (number of producers/vendors, diversity of products offered).

Results by Farmers' Market

Aurora Farmers' Market

Market operations

Aurora Farmers' Market was open one day a week, on Saturday mornings and afternoons, during the Summer/Fall months from June through October. The market had a legible sign identifying the market and a wheelchair accessible entrance as well as room for customers in wheelchairs to maneuver around the market. There was an information booth or table at the market, seating for customers, and signs advertising other events, such as yoga or concerts, taking place at the market.

Vendor characteristics

A total of 15-19 vendors were selling goods at the market, although only five to nine of these vendors were selling fresh produce. There were signs advertising that WIC/SNAP/EBT or other discount payment options were accepted. More than 25% of the vendor displays were rated as clean and well organized. No vendors were reported to have taped power cords down as a safety measure to prevent tripping.



Food samples provided at the Aurora Market.

Product signage and pricing

Between 1 and 25% of the vendors provided clear signs identifying farmer/business name and displayed signs advertising discounts for large volume purchases. More than 25% of the vendors provided signs with product name and price, but only between 1 and 25% of the vendors labeled signs with the appropriate unit of sale for produce.

Nutrient-dense and minimally nutritious food product availability

Canned and frozen fruits and vegetables were not available for purchase at the market. Nutrient-dense foods including low-fat or non-fat dairy foods, such as milk/yogurt/cheese were available for purchase. High-fiber, whole grain foods, such as bread/oatmeal/flour, and lean meats/fish/poultry were not available for purchase. Foods with limited nutritional value available for purchase included salty foods, such as potato chips, corn chips, and popcorn. Other nutrient-limited foods including sweet foods, such as cakes, cookies, quick breads, donuts, candies, and chocolates, and regular to high-fat prepared meals were not being offered.

Fruit and vegetable availability, price, quantity, and quality

There were four types of fruit listed on the audit tool were available for purchase at the market including apples, pears, raspberries, and watermelon. The highest price for any type of fruit was \$5.00 per box/bag or each of apples and watermelon. The lowest price for any type of fruit was \$4.00 per box/bag for pears and raspberries. The quantity of pears, raspberries, and

watermelon available for purchase was rated as ‘a few’, whereas the amount of apples available for purchase was rated as ‘a lot’.

There were 17 different vegetables available for purchase: broccoli, cabbages, carrots, cauliflower, celery, corn, green beans, green and red peppers, potatoes, romaine lettuce, mushrooms, onions, radishes, spinach, sweet potatoes, and tomatoes. The quality of each of the vegetables for sale was rated as ‘good’. The quantity available for each vegetable varied. Six vegetables available for purchase were rated as having a large amount: green beans, green peppers, onions, red peppers, sweet potatoes, and tomatoes. The other 10 vegetables were rated as only having ‘a few’ available for purchase. Prices for vegetables ranged from \$0.50 each for corn and green and red peppers up to \$3.00 per box/bag for green beans, with a majority of vegetables (9) priced between \$1.00 (radishes, cabbages/\$1.50) and \$2.00 (broccoli/\$2.40, carrots, cauliflower, celery, romaine lettuce, onions, radishes, spinach, potatoes) per unit (varies).

Supply, demand, and sales ratings

Aurora’s Farmers’ Market was the only market to be rated as ‘very successful’ across all seven additional market productivity indicators created by the Making Kane County Fit For Kids Partnership. These indicators were level of sales, number of customers, number of producers/vendors, diversity of products offered, community support, growth in number of repeat customers, growth in number of producers/vendors. This market was rated as having more supply (i.e., products and/or vendors) than demand (i.e., buyers) and is in need of more customers.

Key Takeaways (Aurora Farmers’ Market)

- Aurora Farmers’ Market is open from June through October on Saturday mornings and afternoons.
- Between five and nine vendors were selling fresh produce.
- There were signs showing that WIC/SNAP/EBT or other discount payment options were accepted by produce vendors.
- Other foods for sale with limited nutrients included salty foods (e.g., potato chips), sweet foods (e.g., cookies), and candy/chocolate, and regular to high-fat prepared meals (e.g., fried chicken).
- Other nutrient-dense foods for sale included low-fat or non-fat dairy foods (e.g., milk/yogurt/cheese).
- Fresh fruits for sale included: apples, pears, raspberries, and watermelons.
- Fresh vegetables for sale included: broccoli, cabbages, carrots, cauliflower, celery, corn, green beans, green and red peppers, potatoes, romaine lettuce, mushrooms, onions, radishes, spinach, sweet potatoes, and tomatoes.
- Prices for fresh produce ranged from \$0.50 to \$5.00. None of the prices for the fresh produce were the highest for any fruit or vegetable when compared to other markets. Three vegetables were noted as being the lowest priced across markets: corn, and green and red peppers, priced at \$0.50 each.

Batavia Farmers' Market

Market operations

Batavia Farmers' Market was open one day a week, on Saturday mornings and afternoons during the Summer/Fall months from June through October. The market had a legible sign identifying the farmers' market and a wheelchair accessible entrance as well as room for customers in wheelchairs to maneuver around the market. There was an information booth or table at the market, but there was not seating for customers nor were there signs advertising other events, such as yoga or concerts, taking place at the market.

Vendor characteristics

A total of 10-14 vendors were selling goods at the market, although only one or two of these vendors was/were selling fresh produce. There were no signs advertising that WIC/SNAP/EBT or other discount payment options were accepted. More than 25% of the vendor displays were rated as clean and well organized. No vendors were reported to have taped power cords down as a safety measure to prevent tripping.

Product signage and pricing

More than 25% of the vendors provided clear signs identifying farmer/business name, product name, price, and unit of sale. Between 1% and 25% of the vendors displayed signs advertising discounts for large volume purchases.

Nutrient-dense and minimally nutritious food product availability

Both canned and frozen fruit and vegetables were available for purchase at the market. Nutrient-dense foods including high-fiber, whole grain foods, such as bread/oatmeal/flour, and lean meats/fish/poultry were also not offered at the market. However, low-fat or non-fat dairy foods, such as milk/yogurt/cheese were available for purchase. Foods with limited nutritional value available for purchase included salty foods, such as potato chips, corn chips, and popcorn and sweet foods, such as cakes, cookies, quick breads, donuts, candies, and chocolates.

Fruit and vegetable availability, price, quantity, and quality

None of the 23 fruits listed on the survey were being offered at the market. The farmers' market auditor noted that the absence of fruit for sale at the market was due to an 'odd growing season and issues farmers had with fruit.'

There were thirteen different vegetables available for purchase: broccoli, brussel sprouts, cabbages, cauliflower, corn, green beans, green and red peppers, kale, potatoes, romaine lettuce, radishes, and tomatoes. The quality of each of the vegetables for sale was rated as 'good'. The quantity available for each vegetable varied. Four vegetables available for purchase were rated as having a large amount: corn, green beans, green peppers, and tomatoes. The other vegetables were rated as only having a few available for purchase. Prices for vegetables ranged from \$1.00 each/per bunch for broccoli, cauliflower, green peppers, radishes, red



peppers, and tomatoes to \$3.00 per pound/box/bag for green beans and potatoes.

Supply, demand, and sales ratings

The diversity of products and community support of farmers' market were both rated as 'very successful'. The number of customers and producers/vendors and the growth in number of repeat customers for this market were all rated as 'successful'. The growth in number of producers/vendors was rated as 'somewhat successful'. This market was rated as having more demand (i.e., buyers) than supply (i.e., products and/or vendors) and is in need of more producers/vendors.

Key Takeaways (Batavia Farmers' Market)

- Batavia Farmers' Market is open from June through October on Saturday mornings and afternoons.
- Between one and two vendors were selling fresh produce.
- There were no signs showing that WIC/SNAP/EBT or other discount payment options were accepted by produce vendors.
- Other foods for sale with limited nutrients included salty foods (e.g., potato chips), sweet foods (e.g., cookies), and candy/chocolate.
- Other nutrient-dense foods for sale included low-fat or non-fat dairy foods (e.g., milk/yogurt/cheese).
- No fresh fruits listed on the audit tool were being offered due to a problem during the growing season.
- Fresh vegetables for sale included broccoli, brussel sprouts, cabbages, cauliflower, corn, green beans, green and red peppers, kale, potatoes, romaine lettuce, radishes, and tomatoes.
- Prices for fresh produce ranged from \$1.00 to \$3.00. None of the prices were the highest for any vegetable when compared to other markets. One vegetable was noted as being the lowest priced across markets, cauliflower, priced at \$1.00 each.

Downtown Elgin Harvest Market

Market operations

Downtown Elgin Harvest Market was open one day a week, on Thursday evenings, during the Summer/Fall months from June through October. The market had a legible sign identifying the market and a wheelchair accessible entrance as well as room for customers in wheelchairs to maneuver around the market. There was an information booth or table at the market and seating for customers, but there were not signs advertising other events, such as yoga or concerts, taking place at the market.

Vendor characteristics

A total of 10-14 vendors were selling goods at the market, although only five to nine of these vendors were selling fresh produce. There were signs advertising that WIC/SNAP/EBT and other discount payment options were accepted. More than 25% of the vendor displays were rated as clean and well organized. No vendors were reported to have taped power cords down as a safety measure to prevent tripping.

Product signage and pricing

Between 1% and 25% of the vendors provided clear signs identifying farmer/business name and displayed signs advertising discounts for large volume purchases. More than 25% of the vendors provided signs with product name, price, and unit of sale.



Nutrient-dense and minimally nutritious food product availability

Canned and frozen fruits and vegetables were not available for purchase at the market. Nutrient-dense foods including high-fiber, whole grain foods, such as bread/oatmeal/flour, and low-fat or non-fat dairy foods, such as milk/yogurt/cheese were available for purchase. Lean meats/fish/poultry were not offered. Foods with limited nutritional value available for purchase included salty foods (e.g., potato chips, corn chips, and popcorn), sweet foods (e.g., cakes, cookies, quick breads, donuts), candies (e.g., chocolates), and regular to high-fat prepared meals.

Fruit and vegetable availability, price, quantity, and quality

There were 13 types of fruit available for purchase at the market including apples, blackberries, blueberries, cantaloupes, grapes, honeydew melons, nectarines, peaches, pears, plums, raspberries, strawberries, and watermelon. The highest price for any type of fruit was \$5.00 per box/bag of blackberries, blueberries, raspberries, and strawberries. The lowest price for any type of fruit was \$2.00 per pound or each for apples and honeydew melons. The quantity of apples, blackberries, blueberries, and pears available for purchase was rated as a large amount, whereas the amount of watermelons available for purchase was rated as 'a few'.

There were 20 different vegetables available for purchase: asparagus, broccoli, brussel

sprouts, cabbages, carrots, cauliflower, celery, corn, green beans, green and red peppers, kale, potatoes, romaine lettuce, mushrooms, onions, radishes, spinach, sweet potatoes, and tomatoes. The quality of each of the vegetables for sale was rated as 'good', except for two, carrots and green beans, which were rated as 'poor'. The quantity available for each vegetable varied. Ten vegetables available for purchase were rated as having a large amount: asparagus, broccoli, corn, green beans, green peppers, mushrooms, spinach, regular/sweet potatoes, and tomatoes. The other 10 vegetables were rated as only having 'a few' available for purchase. Prices for vegetables ranged from \$0.50 each for green peppers up to \$5.00 per bunch for corn, with a majority of vegetables (13) priced between \$1.00 (cabbages, mushrooms, onions, red peppers, potatoes/\$1.20) and \$2.00 (broccoli, green beans, kale, romaine lettuce, radishes, spinach, sweet potatoes, tomatoes) per unit (varies).

Supply, demand, and sales ratings

The level of sales, number of producers/vendors, diversity of products, and community support were all rated as 'successful', whereas number of customers, growth in number of repeat customers, and growth in number of producers/vendors were all rated as 'somewhat successful'. This market was rated as having more supply (i.e., products and/or vendors) than demand (i.e., buyers) and is in need of more customers.

Key Takeaways (Downtown Elgin Harvest Market)

- Downtown Elgin Harvest Market is open from June through October on Thursday evenings.
- Between five to nine vendors were selling fresh produce.
- There were signs showing that WIC/SNAP/EBT or other discount payment options were accepted by produce vendors.
- Other foods for sale with limited nutrients included salty foods (e.g., potato chips), sweet foods (e.g., cookies), candy/chocolate, and regular to high-fat prepared meals (e.g., fried chicken).
- Other nutrient-dense foods for sale included low-fat or non-fat dairy foods (e.g., milk/yogurt/cheese) and high-fiber, whole grain foods (e.g., bread).
- Fresh fruits for sale included apples, blackberries, blueberries, cantaloupes, grapes, honeydew melons, nectarines, peaches, pears, plums, raspberries, strawberries, and watermelon.
- Fresh vegetables for sale included asparagus, broccoli, brussel sprouts, cabbages, carrots, cauliflower, celery, corn, green beans, green and red peppers, kale, potatoes, romaine lettuce, mushrooms, onions, radishes, spinach, sweet potatoes, and tomatoes.
- Prices for vegetables ranged from \$0.50 each for green peppers up to \$5.00 per bunch for corn. The price for corn was one of the highest priced vegetables across markets. Several other vegetables were priced at some of the lowest as well including: green peppers priced at \$0.50 each. Fruits listed at some of the lowest prices included: apples at \$2.00 per pound and honeydew melons at \$2.00 each.

Elgin Farmers' Market

Market operations

Elgin Farmers' Market was an indoor market open one day a week, on Saturday mornings and afternoons during the Fall/Winter months from October through January. The market did not have a large and legible sign identifying the farmers' market. There was a wheelchair accessible entrance as well as room for customers in wheelchairs to maneuver around the market. The market did not have an information booth or table, nor was there seating for customers or signs advertising other events, such as yoga or concerts, taking place at the market.

Vendor characteristics

Due to rainy weather conditions on the day this market was audited, only one vendor was selling goods at the market and this vendor was not selling fresh produce or other food product. There were no signs advertising that WIC/SNAP/EBT or other discount payment options were accepted. More than 25% vendor displays were rated as clean and well organized and vendors had taped power cords down as a safety measure to prevent tripping.

Product signage and pricing

The vendor provided clear signs identifying farmer/business name, product name, price, and unit of sale. The vendor did not provide signs indicating discounts for larger volume purchases.

Nutrient-dense and minimally nutritious food product availability

Canned and frozen fruits and vegetables were not available for purchase at the market. There was no food being offered during the audit.

Fruit and vegetable availability, price, quantity, and quality

There was no fresh produce being offered during the audit.

Supply, demand, and sales ratings

These questions were left blank.

Key Takeaways (Elgin Farmers' Market)

- Elgin Farmers' Market is open from October through January on Saturday mornings and afternoons.
- Due to rainy weather conditions during the audit, no vendors were selling fresh produce.
- There were no signs showing that WIC/SNAP/EBT or other discount payment options were accepted by produce vendors.
- No types of food were for sale during the audit.

Geneva French Market

Market operations

Geneva French Market was open one day a week, on Sunday mornings and afternoons, during the Spring/Summer/Fall months from April through November. The market had a legible sign identifying the farmers' market and a wheelchair accessible entrance as well as room for customers in wheelchairs to maneuver around the market. There was not an information booth or table at the market, seating for customers, or signs advertising other events, such as yoga or concerts, taking place at the market.

Vendor characteristics

A total of 20-29 vendors were selling goods at the market, although only three to four of these vendors were selling fresh produce. The market auditor noted that 12 vendors were absent from the market due to weather conditions.

There were no signs advertising that WIC/SNAP/EBT or other discount payment options were accepted. More than 25% of the vendor displays were rated as clean and well organized and were reported to have taped power cords down as a safety measure to prevent tripping.

Product signage and pricing

More than 25% of the vendors provided clear signs identifying farmer/business name, product name, price, and unit of sale and displayed signs advertising discounts for large volume purchases.

Nutrient-dense and minimally nutritious food product availability

Canned and frozen fruits and vegetables were not available for purchase at the market. Nutrient-dense foods including high-fiber, whole grain foods (e.g., bread), lean meats/fish/poultry, and low-fat or non-fat dairy foods (e.g., milk/yogurt/cheese) were available for purchase at the market. Other nutrient-dense foods that were specified at the market include olives, spices, granola, eggs, tomato sauce, and chicken. Foods with limited nutritional value available for purchase included sweet foods (e.g., cookies). Other foods with limited nutritional value, such as salty foods (e.g., potato chips) were not being offered at the market.

Fruit and vegetable availability, price, quantity, and quality

There were no fruits listed on the survey as being offered at the market. The farmers' market auditor noted that twelve of the vendors were absent due to weather conditions.

The only vegetable available for purchase was asparagus which was priced at \$5.00 per bunch. The auditor did not rate the quality of the asparagus, but did note that one of the vendors brings in products from other grocery/wholesale.

Supply, demand, and sales ratings

These questions were left blank.

Key Takeaways (Geneva French Market)

- Geneva French Market is open from April through November on Sunday mornings and afternoons.
- Between three to four vendors were selling fresh produce.
- There were no signs showing that WIC/SNAP/EBT or other discount payment options were accepted by produce vendors.
- Other foods for sale with limited nutrients sweet foods (e.g., cookies).
- Other nutrient-dense foods for sale included low-fat or non-fat dairy foods (e.g., milk/yogurt/cheese) and high-fiber, whole grain foods (e.g., bread).
- No fresh fruits listed on the audit tool were for sale.
- Asparagus was the only fresh vegetable for sale at \$5.00 per bunch, one of the highest-priced vegetables for sale across the markets.

Geneva Green Market

Market operations

Geneva Green Market was open one day a week, on Thursday mornings and afternoons during the Summer/Fall months from June through October. The market had a large, legible sign identifying the farmers' market and a wheelchair accessible entrance as well as room for customers in wheelchairs to maneuver around the market. There was an information booth or table at the market and seating for customers. There were not signs advertising other events, such as yoga or concerts, taking place at the market.

Vendor characteristics

A total of five to nine vendors were selling goods at the market, with three to four of them selling fresh produce. There were no signs advertising that WIC/SNAP/EBT or other discount payment options were accepted. More than 25% of the vendor displays were rated as clean and well organized. No vendors were reported to have taped power cords down as a safety measure to prevent tripping.

Product signage and pricing

More than 25% of the vendors provided clear signs identifying farmer/business name, product name, price, and unit of sale. Between 1% and 25% displayed signs advertising discounts for large volume purchases.

Nutrient-dense and minimally nutritious food product availability

Canned and frozen vegetables and canned fruit were not available for purchase at the market. However, a large amount of frozen fruit (e.g., blueberries) was available for purchase for \$25 per 5 pounds. Nutrient-dense foods including high-fiber, whole grain foods, such as bread/oatmeal/flour, and lean meats/fish/poultry were offered at the market. However, other nutrient-dense/low-fat or non-fat dairy foods, such as milk/yogurt/cheese were not available for purchase. No additional foods with limited nutritional value were available for purchase.

Fruit and vegetable availability, price, quantity, and quality

There were two fruits available for purchase at the market apples and watermelons. Apples were priced at \$5.20 per pound and watermelons were priced at \$9.00 each. The quality for each of these fruits was rated as 'good'. The quantity of apples available was rated as a large amount, whereas the amount of watermelons available for purchase was rated as 'a few'.



There were 11 different vegetables available for purchase broccoli, cabbage, carrots, corn, green beans, green and red peppers, kale, onions, potatoes, and tomatoes. The quality for each type of vegetables for sale was rated as 'Good'. There was a large amount of green peppers and tomatoes available for purchase. A smaller quantity for each of the other vegetables was available for purchase.

Prices for vegetables ranged from \$0.75 each for green and red peppers up to \$3.00 per pound/bunch/each for green beans/kale/cabbages.

Supply, demand, and sales ratings

The number of producers/vendors and diversity of products were rated as ‘successful’. The level of sales, number of customers, community support, growth in number of repeat customers, and growth in number of producers/vendors were each rated as ‘somewhat successful’. This market was rated as having more supply (i.e., products and/or vendors) than demand (i.e., buyers), and is in need of more customers.

Key Takeaways (Geneva Green Market)

- Geneva Green Market is open from June through October on Thursday mornings and afternoons.
- Between three to four vendors were selling fresh produce.
- There were no signs showing that WIC/SNAP/EBT or other discount payment options were accepted by produce vendors.
- No other foods with limited nutrients were for sale.
- Other nutrient-dense foods for sale included high-fiber, whole grain foods (e.g., bread) and lean meats/fish/poultry. Other frozen fruit (i.e., blueberries) was for sale for \$25 per 5 pounds.
- Two fresh fruits were for sale: apples and watermelons.
- Fresh vegetable for sale included: broccoli, cabbage, carrots, corn, green beans, green and red peppers, kale, onions, potatoes, and tomatoes.
- Prices for fresh produce ranged from \$0.75 to \$9.00. Watermelons were the highest priced produce item across all markets, listed at \$9.00 each. Cabbages, green beans were the highest price for each across the markets, listed at \$3.00 each/per pound/bunch (respectively).

Heritage Prairie Farm

Market operations

Heritage Prairie Farm was open at various times from Wednesday through Sunday, all twelve months of the year. However, the farmers' market was only open on Saturday mornings and afternoons. The market had a large, legible sign identifying the farmers' market. Although there was room for customers in wheelchairs to maneuver around the market, there was not a wheelchair accessible entrance. There was not an information booth or table at the market or seating for customers. Also, there were not signs advertising other events, such as yoga or concerts, taking place at the market.

Vendor characteristics

A total of five to nine vendors were selling goods at the market, with three to four of them selling fresh produce. There were no signs advertising that WIC/SNAP/EBT or other discount payment options were accepted. More than 25% of the vendor displays were rated as clean and well organized. No vendors were reported to have taped power cords down as a safety measure to prevent tripping.

Product signage and pricing

More than 25% of the vendors provided clear signs identifying farmer/business name, product name, price, and unit of sale. No vendors displayed signs advertising discounts for large volume purchases.

Nutrient-dense and minimally nutritious food product availability

Canned and frozen fruits and vegetables were not available for purchase at the market. However, nutrient-dense foods including lean meats/fish/poultry and low-fat dairy (e.g., milk/yogurt/cheese) were available for purchase at the market. High-fiber, whole grain foods (e.g., bread/oatmeal/flour), were not for sale at the market. Other foods with limited nutritional value, such as sweet foods (e.g., cookies) and salty foods (e.g., potato chips) were available for purchase.

Fruit and vegetable availability, price, quantity, and quality

Apples were the only type of fruit available for purchase at the market for \$2.00 per pound. The quality of the apples was rated as 'good' and the quantity was rated as 'few'.

There were four different vegetables available for purchase: kale, romaine lettuce, red peppers, and spinach. The quality for each type of vegetables for sale was rated as 'good' and the amount of each vegetable available was rated as 'few'. Prices for vegetables ranged from \$3.00 each for kale and romaine lettuce up to \$4.00 per pound for red peppers.

Supply, demand, and sales ratings

The level of sales was rated as 'very successful'. The number of customers, community support, and growth in number of repeat customers was rated as 'successful'. The number of producers/vendors, diversity of products, and growth in number of producers/vendors was rated as 'somewhat successful'. This market was rated as having a matched supply (i.e., products

and/or vendors) and demand (i.e., buyers).

Key Takeaways (Heritage Prairie Farm)

- Heritage Prairie Farm is open all 12 months of the year at various times from Wednesday through Sunday.
- Between three to four vendors were selling fresh produce.
- There were no signs showing that WIC/SNAP/EBT or other discount payment options were accepted by produce vendors.
- Other foods for sale with limited nutrients included: sweet foods (e.g., cookies) and salty foods (e.g., potato chips).
- Other nutrient-dense foods for sale included low-fat or non-fat dairy foods (e.g., milk/yogurt/cheese) and high-fiber, whole grain foods (e.g., bread).
- Apples were the only fresh fruit for sale. The price for apples was listed at \$2.00 per pound and is one of the lowest-priced fruits for sale across the markets.

Old Dundee Farmers' Market

Market operations

Old Dundee Farmers' Market was open one day a week, on Saturday mornings and afternoons during the Summer/Fall months from May through October. The market had a large, legible sign identifying the farmers' market and a wheelchair accessible entrance as well as room for customers in wheelchairs to maneuver around the market. There was not an information booth or table at the market or seating for customers. There were no signs advertising other events, such as yoga or concerts, taking place at the market.

Vendor characteristics

One vendor was selling non-food products at the market. No vendors were selling fresh produce. There were no signs advertising that WIC/SNAP/EBT or other discount payment options were accepted. No vendor displays were rated as clean and well organized.

Product signage and pricing

More than 25% of the vendors provided clear signs identifying farmer/business name, product name, and price. No vendors displayed signs advertising discounts for large volume purchases or units of sale.

Nutrient-dense and minimally nutritious food product availability

Canned and frozen fruits and vegetables were not available for purchase at the market. There was no food being offered during the audit.

Fruit and vegetable availability, price, quantity, and quality

There was no fresh produce being offered during the audit.

Supply, demand, and sales ratings

These questions were left blank.

Key Takeaways (Old Dundee Farmers' Market)

- Old Dundee Farmers' Market is open from May through October on Saturday mornings and afternoons.
- There were no signs showing that WIC/SNAP/EBT or other discount payment options were accepted by produce vendors.
- No types of food were for sale during the audit.

St. Charles Farmers' Market

Market operations

St. Charles Farmers' Market was open one day a week, on Friday mornings and afternoons during the Summer/Fall months from June through October. The market had a large, legible sign identifying the farmers' market and a wheelchair accessible entrance as well as room for customers in wheelchairs to maneuver around the market. There was seating in the market and advertising for other events, such as yoga or concerts, that would be taking place at the market.

Vendor characteristics

A total of 10-14 vendors were selling goods at the market with three or four of these vendors selling fresh produce. There were no signs advertising that WIC/SNAP/EBT or other discount payment options were accepted. More than 25% of the vendor displays were rated as clean and well organized and had power cords taped down as a safety measure to prevent tripping.

Product signage and pricing

More than 25% of the vendors provided clear signs identifying farmer/business name, product name, price, and unit of sale. Between 1% and 25% vendors provided signs indicating discounts for larger volume purchases.

Nutrient-dense and minimally nutritious food product availability

Canned and frozen fruits and vegetables were not available for purchase at the market. Lean meats/fish/poultry, nuts/seeds/legumes, and low-fat prepared foods, such as baked chicken or steamed vegetables, were also not available for purchase. However, other nutrient-dense foods including high-fiber, whole grain foods (e.g., bread) and low-fat or non-fat dairy foods (e.g., milk/yogurt/cheese) could be purchased. Foods with limited nutritional value available for purchase included sweet foods (e.g., cookies).

Fruit and vegetable availability, price, quantity, and quality

There were three fruits available at the market: apples, honeydew melons, and raspberries. The quality for each of these fruits was rated as 'good'. The quantity available for each fruit varied. There was a large amount of apples, but only a few honeydew melons and raspberries were available for purchase. Prices for these fruit ranged from \$2.00 each for honeydew melons up to \$6.00 per pint for raspberries.

There were twelve different vegetables available for purchase: cabbage, kale, lentils, iceberg lettuce, mushrooms, potatoes, and sweet potatoes. The quality for each of the vegetables for sale was rated as 'good'. The quantity available for each vegetable varied. There was a large amount of three vegetables available for purchase potatoes, red peppers, and



tomatoes. Only a few of all the other vegetables were available for purchase. Prices for vegetables ranged from \$0.50 per box/bag for mushrooms to \$3.00 per box/bag for potatoes.

Supply, demand, and sales ratings

The level of sales and number of customers for this market were rated as ‘successful’. The number of producers/vendors, diversity of products, community support of farmers’ market, growth in number of repeat customers, and growth in number of producers/vendors were all rated as ‘very successful’. This market was rated as having more supply (i.e., products and/or vendors) than demand (i.e., buyers), and is in need of more customers.

Key Takeaways (St. Charles Farmers’ Market)

- St. Charles Farmers’ Market is open during the months from June through October on Friday mornings and afternoons.
- Between three to four vendors were selling fresh produce.
- There were no signs showing that WIC/SNAP/EBT or other discount payment options were accepted by produce vendors.
- Other foods for sale with limited nutrients included sweet foods (e.g., cookies).
- Other nutrient-dense foods for sale included low-fat or non-fat dairy foods (e.g., milk/yogurt/cheese) and high-fiber, whole grain foods (e.g., bread).
- Fresh fruit for sale included: apples, honeydew melons, and raspberries.
- Fresh vegetables for sale included: cabbage, corn, green beans, iceberg lettuce, kale, mushrooms, onions, radishes, red peppers, potatoes, and sweet potatoes, and tomatoes.
- Prices ranged from \$0.50 up to \$6.00. The price of mushrooms listed at \$0.50 per box/bag is the lowest price listed for mushrooms across markets. While the price of \$6.00 per pint for raspberries is the highest price listed across markets, honeydew melons were listed at \$2.00 each, one of the lowest prices for any fruit across markets. Cabbages and potatoes were priced at \$3.00 each/per box/bag (respectively) were the highest price listed for each type of vegetable across markets.

Sugar Grove French Market

Market operations

Sugar Grove French Market was open one day a week, on Saturday mornings and afternoons during the Summer/Fall months from June through October. The market had a large, legible sign identifying the market and a wheelchair accessible entrance as well as room for customers in wheelchairs to maneuver around the market. There was not an information booth or table at the market or seating for customers. There were no signs advertising other events, such as yoga or concerts, taking place at the market.

Vendor characteristics

There were one to two vendors selling products and/or fresh produce. There were no signs advertising that WIC/SNAP/EBT or other discount payment options were accepted. Vendor displays were rated as clean and well organized.

Product signage and pricing

Vendors provided clear signs identifying farmer/business name, product name, and price. No vendors displayed signs advertising discounts for large volume purchases or units of sale.

Nutrient-dense and minimally nutritious food product availability

Canned and frozen fruits and vegetables were not available for purchase at the market. Nutrient-dense foods including high-fiber, whole grain foods (e.g., bread), lean meats/fish/poultry, and low-fat or non-fat dairy foods (e.g., milk/yogurt/cheese) were also not available for purchase. Foods with limited nutritional value, such as salty foods (e.g., potato chips) and sweet foods (e.g., cookies) were also not being offered at the market.

Fruit and vegetable availability, price, quantity, and quality

There were two fruits available for purchase at the market: apples and pears. The quality for each of these fruits was rated as 'good' and there was a large amount of each type of fruit available. Apples were priced at \$5.00 per pound and pears were \$4.00 each.

There were nine different vegetables available for purchase: broccoli, brussel sprouts, corn, green and red peppers, onions, potatoes, sweet potatoes, and tomatoes. The quality for each type of vegetable for sale was rated as 'good'. The amount of each vegetable available for purchase varied. There was a large amount of three types of vegetables for sale: broccoli, corn, and tomatoes. A smaller quantity was available for purchase for each of the other vegetables. Prices for vegetables ranged from \$0.75 each for green and red peppers up to \$5.00 per box/bag for corn.



Supply, demand, and sales ratings

These questions were left blank.

Key Takeaways (Sugar Grove French Market)

- Sugar Grove French Market is open during the months from June through October on Saturday mornings and afternoons.
- Between one to two vendors were selling fresh produce.
- There were no signs showing that WIC/SNAP/EBT or other discount payment options were accepted by produce vendors.
- No other foods for sale with limited or dense nutrients.
- Fresh fruit for sale included apples and pears.
- Fresh vegetables for sale included broccoli, brussel sprouts, corn, green and red peppers, onions, potatoes, sweet potatoes, and tomatoes.
- Prices ranged from \$0.75 up to \$5.00. The price of corn listed at \$5.00 per box/bag and sweet potatoes listed at \$3.00 per box/bag are each the highest price listed across markets for those vegetables. Onions were priced at \$1.00 which is the lowest price across markets for this vegetable.

Other characteristics *not* found in farmers' markets:

Overall market:

Days of operation: Monday
Days of operation: Tuesday
Market is open on Sunday evening
Market is open on Monday morning
Market is open on Monday afternoon
Market is open on Monday evening
Market is open on Tuesday morning
Market is open on Tuesday afternoon
Market is open on Tuesday evening
Frequency of operation: Daily
Frequency of operation: 1-3 days a month
Features: Security
Features: ATM
Features: Market maps
Features: Other
Sign for WIC
Sign for SNAP/Food stamps

Vendor display areas:

Amount of produce sufficient for vendor space: No vendors
Amount of produce sufficient for vendor space: Few vendors
Amount of produce sufficient for vendor space: A lot of vendors
Power cords taped down to prevent tripping: Few vendors

Product signage and pricing:

Products are identified by name: No vendors
Clear signs document the price: No vendors

Nutritious canned/frozen produce:

Few canned fruits
A lot of canned fruits
A lot of canned vegetables
Few frozen vegetables
A lot of frozen vegetables
A lot of canned vegetables
Healthier foods: Nuts, seeds, or dry beans
Healthier foods: Low-fat prepared meals

Foods with minimum nutritional value:

Foods with minimal nutritional value: Other

Appendix A: Environmental Audit Tool

Tool edits: The following items were on the original tool, but were removed from the current version (item numbers used are from original tool, not version attached).

- 4. Indoor market
- 4. License/permits displayed (e.g. state, business)
- 5. Sign for EBT
- 6. How many vendors sell goods at the farmers' market?
- 7. How many vendors sell fresh produce at the farmers' market?
- 8. Adequate size for displays?
- 9. Efficient use of display spaces?
- 10. Stable displays?
- 11. If roof absent at market, tent/canopy to protect products?
- 13. Tents and/or signs tied down (wind/weather)?
- 20. Proper product labeling as required by law (e.g. packaged foods)?
- Section D: Customer service
- Section E: Sales and handling

The following items were added to the original tool (and so not captured in this audit):

- 4.d. On-site market manager
- 4.k. Public transit stop visible from the farmer's market
- 4.l. Parking lot adjacent to farmers' market
- 4.m. On-street parking adjacent to farmers' market
- 5.c. WIC/SNAP/EBT customers use tokens to make purchases at the market.
- 6. How many vendors sell only produce?
- 7. How many vendors sell produce and other products?
- 8. How many vendors sell no produce?
- 9.a. Amount of produce sufficient for vendor space?
- 18. Is milk sold?
- 18.a. Skim milk
- 18.b. 1%
- 18.c. 2%
- 18.d. Whole or Vitamin D milk
- 18.e. Flavored whole milk
- 18.f. Flavored skim, 1%, or 2% milk
- 18.g. Rice milk
- 18.h. Soy milk
- 18.i. Lactaid

Farmers' Market Environmental Audit Tool

Farmers' market name: _____
 Address: _____
 Number of vendors: _____
 Auditor 1: _____
 Auditor 2: _____

Farmers' market ID (for Transtria use only): _____
 Community partnership: _____
 Date: _____
 Audit start time: ____ : ____ ○ AM ○ PM
 Audit end time: ____ : ____ ○ AM ○ PM

Section A: Overall market					Section A: Overall market (cont.)					
1. What are the market months of operation?					4.c. Security features (security guard(s) and/or security camera(s))					
1.a. January	<input type="checkbox"/> No	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	1.g. July	<input type="checkbox"/> No	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes			<input type="checkbox"/> No	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	
1.b. February	<input type="checkbox"/> No	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	1.h. August	<input type="checkbox"/> No	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	4.d. On-site market manager		<input type="checkbox"/> No	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	
1.c. March	<input type="checkbox"/> No	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	1.i. September	<input type="checkbox"/> No	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	4.e. Legible signs to identify the market		<input type="checkbox"/> No	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	
1.d. April	<input type="checkbox"/> No	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	1.j. October	<input type="checkbox"/> No	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	4.f. Seating (e.g., benches, tables/chairs)		<input type="checkbox"/> No	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	
1.e. May	<input type="checkbox"/> No	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	1.k. November	<input type="checkbox"/> No	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	4.g. Events/activities (e.g., yoga, live music)		<input type="checkbox"/> No	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	
1.f. June	<input type="checkbox"/> No	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	1.l. December	<input type="checkbox"/> No	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	4.h. ATM		<input type="checkbox"/> No	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	
2. What are the market days and hours of operation?					4.i. Information booth/table					
2.a. Sunday (Check yes or no.) Enter operating hours (open/close):					<input type="checkbox"/> No	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	4.j. Market maps (e.g., maps with directions to market, site map with vendors)		<input type="checkbox"/> No	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes
2.b. Monday (Check yes or no.) Enter operating hours (open/close):					<input type="checkbox"/> No	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	4.k. Public transit stop visible from the farmers' market		<input type="checkbox"/> No	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes
2.c. Tuesday (Check yes or no.) Enter operating hours (open/close):					<input type="checkbox"/> No	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	4.l. Parking lot adjacent to farmers' market		<input type="checkbox"/> No	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes
2.d. Wednesday (Check yes or no.) Enter operating hours (open/close):					<input type="checkbox"/> No	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	4.m. On-street parking adjacent to farmers' market		<input type="checkbox"/> No	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes
2.e. Thursday (Check yes or no.) Enter operating hours (open/close):					<input type="checkbox"/> No	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	4.n. Other, specify:		<input type="checkbox"/> No	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes
2.f. Friday (Check yes or no.) Enter operating hours (open/close):					<input type="checkbox"/> No	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	5. Does the market accept WIC/SNAP/EBT? (If no, skip to Question 6)		<input type="checkbox"/> No	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes
2.g. Saturday (Check yes or no.) Enter operating hours (open/close):					<input type="checkbox"/> No	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	5.a. Sign for WIC		<input type="checkbox"/> No	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes
3. What is the frequency of operation? (Circle one.)					5.b. Sign for SNAP/Food stamps					
Daily		2-6 days a week					5.c. WIC/SNAP/EBT customers use tokens to make purchases at the market.		<input type="checkbox"/> No	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes
1 day a week		1-3 days a month					5.d. Other discount, specify:		<input type="checkbox"/> No	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes
4. What features are present in the market?					Section B: Vendor characteristics					
4.a. Accessible entrance (allows entry for strollers and wheelchairs)					<input type="checkbox"/> No	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	Fill in the appropriate number of vendors for the next three items.			
4.b. Room to maneuver around market (e.g., wheelchairs, strollers)					<input type="checkbox"/> No	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	6. How many vendors sell only produce?			
					7. How many vendors sell produce and other products?					
					8. How many vendors sell no produce?					

Comments?

Evaluation of Healthy Kids, Healthy Communities

Section B: Vendor characteristics (cont.)				Section D: Frozen or canned fruits/vegetables (cont.)			
9. Circle the most appropriate response for each item.				14. How many types of frozen vegetables are available? (Circle one.)			
9.a. Amount of produce sufficient for vendor space				None (0)	Limited (1-3 types)	Variety (4+ types)	
None	Some	Most	All	Section E: Other foods			
9.b. Visible signs with farmers'/ businesses' names				15. Are any high-fiber, whole grain foods offered (e.g., whole wheat bread or pasta, brown rice)?		<input type="checkbox"/> No	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes
None	Some	Most	All	16. What other types of <u>healthier</u> foods are offered?			
9.c. Clean and well-organized displays				16.a. Cottage cheese or low-fat yogurt		<input type="checkbox"/> No	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes
None	Some	Most	All	16.b. Lean meats, fish, poultry		<input type="checkbox"/> No	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes
9.d. Power cords taped down to prevent tripping				16.c. Nuts, seeds, or dry beans		<input type="checkbox"/> No	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes
None	Some	Most	All	16.d. Low-fat prepared meals (e.g., baked chicken)		<input type="checkbox"/> No	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes
Section C: Product signage and pricing (for fresh fruits and vegetables only)				16.e. Other, specify:		<input type="checkbox"/> No	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes
10. Circle the most appropriate response for each item.				17. What other types of foods with minimal nutritional value are offered?			
10.a. Products are identified by name.				17.a. Salty foods (e.g., potato chips, popcorn)		<input type="checkbox"/> No	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes
None	Some	Most	All	17.b. Ice cream/frozen desserts		<input type="checkbox"/> No	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes
10.b. Clear signs document the price.				17.c. Sweet foods (e.g., cookies, cakes)		<input type="checkbox"/> No	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes
None	Some	Most	All	17.d. Candy/chocolate		<input type="checkbox"/> No	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes
10.c. Units are appropriately labeled (e.g., weight, box, bunch).				17.e. Regular to high-fat prepared meals (e.g., fried chicken)		<input type="checkbox"/> No	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes
None	Some	Most	All	17.f. Other, specify:		<input type="checkbox"/> No	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes
10.d. Discounts for larger sales				18. Is milk sold? (If no, audit is complete.)		<input type="checkbox"/> No	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes
None	Some	Most	All	18.a. Skim milk		<input type="checkbox"/> No	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes
Go to the Attachments for Section C: Fresh fruits: Fruit availability, price, quality, and quantity; and Fresh vegetables: Vegetable availability, price, quality, and quantity				18.b. 1%		<input type="checkbox"/> No	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes
Section D: Frozen or canned fruits/vegetables				18.c. 2%		<input type="checkbox"/> No	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes
11. How many types of canned fruits are available? (Circle one.)				18.d. Whole or Vitamin D milk		<input type="checkbox"/> No	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes
None (0)	Limited (1-3 types)	Variety (4+ types)		18.e. Flavored whole milk		<input type="checkbox"/> No	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes
12. How many types of canned vegetables are available? (Circle one.)				18.f. Flavored skim, 1%, or 2% milk		<input type="checkbox"/> No	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes
None (0)	Limited (1-3 types)	Variety (4+ types)		18.g. Rice milk		<input type="checkbox"/> No	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes
13. How many types of frozen fruits are available? (Circle one.)				18.h. Soy milk		<input type="checkbox"/> No	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes
None (0)	Limited (1-3 types)	Variety (4+ types)		18.i. Lactaid		<input type="checkbox"/> No	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes

Comments?

Attachment for Section C: Fresh fruit availability, price, quality, and quantity

Fruit	a. Not Available	b. Lowest price	c. Unit/Weight				d. Quality		e. Quantity			f. Comments
			Per pound (lb)	Per box/bag	Each	Bunch	Avg./Good	Poor	A lot 10+	Some 3-9	Few <3	
19. Apples												
20. Bananas												
21. Blackberries												
22. Blueberries												
23. Cantaloupes												
24. Cherries												
25. Cranberries												
26. Grapefruits												
27. Grapes												
28. Honeydew melons												
29. Kiwis												
30. Mangos												
31. Nectarines												
32. Oranges												
33. Papayas												
34. Peaches												
35. Pears												
36. Pineapples												
37. Plums												
38. Raspberries												
39. Strawberries												
40. Tangerines												
41. Watermelons												
42. Other:												
43. Other:												
44. Other:												

Attachment for Section C: Fresh vegetable availability, price, quality, and quantity

Vegetable	a. Not Available	b. Lowest price	c. Unit/Weight				d. Quality		e. Quantity			f. Comments
			Per pound (lb)	Per box/bag	Each	Bunch	Avg./Good	Poor	A lot 10+	Some 3-9	Few <3	
45. Artichokes												
46. Asparagus												
47. Avocados												
48. Broccoli												
49. Brussels sprouts												
50. Cabbages												
51. Carrots												
52. Cauliflower												
53. Celery												
54. Collard greens												
55. Corn												
56. Green beans												
57. Green peppers												
58. Kale												
59. Lentils												
60. Lettuce – Romaine												
61. Lima beans												
62. Mushrooms												
63. Okra												
64. Onions												
65. Radishes												
66. Red peppers												
67. Spinach												
68. Summer squash												
69. Sweet potatoes												
70. Tomatoes												
71. Other:												
72. Other:												
73. Other:												

Farmers' Market Environmental Audit

Introduction

This tool and protocol were developed by the evaluation team from Transtria LLC (Laura Brennan, PhD, MPH, Principal Investigator; Allison Kemner, MPH; Tammy Behlmann, MPH; Jessica Stachecki, MSW, MBA; Carl Filler, MSW) and Washington University Institute for Public Health (Ross Brownson, PhD, Co-Principal Investigator; Christy Hoehner, PhD, MSPH), with feedback from national advisors and partners. This tool and protocol were adapted from Farmers' Market Vendor Evaluation (created by Monika Roth), Farmers' Market Evaluation, Mystery Shopping-Farmers' Market (created by marketumbrella.org), and Nutrition Environment Measurement Survey-NEMS (created by Glanz et al.).

Funding was provided for the *Evaluation of Healthy Kids, Healthy Communities* by a grant from the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation (#67099). Transtria LLC is leading the evaluation and dissemination activities from April 2010 to March 2014. For more information about the evaluation, please contact Laura Brennan (laura@transtria.com) or Allison Kemner (akemner@transtria.com).

Prior to conducting the audit

- Assess the safety of the environment for auditing before entering the area. If dangerous or suspicious activities are taking place, leave the premises, notify the Project Director or Coordinator, and determine whether to schedule a new observation.
- Introduce the audit team to the market manager and ask for permission to collect data. Be prepared to provide background information on the project and to share a letter from the Project Director or Coordinator explaining the reason for data collection. Offer to share data with them, if desired.
- Items to remember
 - Pencils, a copy of the paper tools for all data collectors, clipboards
 - Comfortable shoes
 - Data collectors' contact information (in case of emergency)
 - List and map of market for data collection
 - Letter from the Project Director or Coordinator explaining the reason for data collection
 - Transportation to and from the market for observers, if needed

Farmers' Market Environmental Audit (Instruction Sheet)

Top of the Farmers' Market Environmental Audit form

- Farmers' market name: Print the name of the farmers' market.
- Address: Print the street address, city, state, and zip code for the farmers' market.
- Number of vendors: Print the number of vendors that sell goods at the farmers' market.
- Auditor 1: Print the first and last name of Auditor #1
- Auditor 2: Print the first and last name of Auditor #2
- Farmers' market ID (for Transtria use only): Transtria will assign an ID for this farmers' market for the data analysis.
- Community partnership: Print the name of your community partnership for *Healthy Kids, Healthy Communities*.
- Date: Print the date of data collection.
- Audit start time: Print the time that the data collection process starts.
- Audit end time: Print the time that the data collection process ends.

Section A: Overall market

For Questions 1 – 2, place an **X** in the appropriate box () corresponding to Yes or No.

1. What are the market months of operation?
 - 1.a. – 1.l.: Indicate whether or not the market is open for each month of the year.
2. What are the market days and hours of operation?
 - 2.a. – 2.g.: Indicate whether or not the market is open for each day of the week.
 - For each day that the market is open (Yes), enter the market's operating hours (e.g., 7am-7pm).
3. What is the frequency of operation? Circle the best response.
 - Daily: The market is open every day.
 - 2-6 days a week: The market is open more than once a week but not every day.
 - 1 day a week: The market is open once a week.
 - 1 day a month: The market is open one day a month.

For questions 4 – 5, place an **X** in the appropriate box () corresponding to Yes or No.

4. What features are present in the market?
 - 4.a. Accessible entrance (allows entry for strollers and wheelchairs): The market entrance is accessible to all customers. Consider individuals that may be in wheelchairs or pushing strollers.
 - 4.b. Room to maneuver around market (e.g., wheelchairs, strollers): The market area provides enough room between vendors and product displays for customers to move around in the market. Consider individuals that may be in wheelchairs or pushing strollers.
 - 4.c. Security features (security guard(s) and/or security camera(s)): The market has a security guard present, a police sub-station on site, or a video camera surveillance in use.
 - 4.d. On-site market manager: The market is overseen by a market manager who is present during market operating hours.
 - 4.e. Legible signs to identify the market: A visible sign that identifies the name of the market.
 - 4.f. Seating (e.g., benches, tables/chairs): Is there somewhere to sit down?
 - 4.g. Events/activities (e.g., yoga, live music): The market sponsors special events or other activities to encourage attendance.
 - 4.h. ATM: An ATM is available for use inside the market.
 - 4.i. Information booth/table: There is a designated place for customers to ask questions or receive information about the market.
 - 4.j. Market maps: Maps or signs direct customers to the location of different types of products at the market.
 - 4.k. Public transit stop visible from the farmers' market: There is a public transit stop (e.g., bus, train, light-rail) visible from the market entrance.
 - 4.l. Parking lot adjacent to farmers' market: There is a parking lot alongside the market.
 - 4.m. On-street parking adjacent to farmers' market: There is on-street parking available alongside the market.
 - 4.n. Other: Note any items of interest present at the market not listed above.

5. Does the market accept WIC/SNAP/EBT?
- 5.a. Sign for WIC: Is there at least one (1) sign indicating that Women, Infants, and Children (WIC) payments are accepted?
 - 5.b. Sign for SNAP/Food stamps: Is there at least one (1) sign indicating that Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) or food stamps payments are accepted?
 - 5.c. WIC/SNAP/EBT customers use tokens to make purchases at the market: Customers using nutritional assistance program benefits use tokens to pay for their purchases.
 - 5.d. Other discount: Are there signs that indicate other discounts or payments (e.g., double bucks, Benefit Security Card) are accepted?

Section B: Vendor characteristics

6. How many vendors sell only produce? Specify the number of vendors that only offer produce.
7. How many vendors sell produce and other products? Specify the number of vendors that sell other products in addition to selling produce.
8. How many vendors sell no produce? Specify the number of vendors that do not sell produce.

Comments?: An optional space for auditors to enter notes.

9. Circle the most appropriate response for each item: None (0 vendors), Some (1%-50% of vendors), Most (51%-99% of vendors), All (100% of vendors)
- 9.a. Amount of produce appropriate for vendor space
 - 9.b. Visible signs with farmers'/ businesses' names
 - 9.c. Clean and well-organized displays
 - 9.d. Power cords taped down to prevent tripping

Section C: Product signage and pricing (for fresh fruits and vegetables only)

10. Circle the most appropriate response for each item: None (0 products), Some (1%-50% of products), Most (51%-99% of products), All (100% of products)
- 10.a. Products are identified by name: Signage indicates the product names.
 - 10.b. Clear signs document the price: Visible signs state the price of each item.
 - 10.c. Units are appropriately labeled (e.g., weight, box bunch): Price signs clearly identify the unit of sale.
 - 10.d. Discounts for larger sales: Discounts are offered for larger/bulk purchases.

Go to the Attachments for Section C: Fresh fruits and Fresh vegetables

- For Questions 19 – 73, please fill in the information for fresh fruit/vegetable availability, price, quality, and quantity.
- a. Not Available: Place an **X** in the box for any fresh fruit or vegetable item that is not available at the market.
- b. Lowest price: What is the lowest retail price of the item? For example, there may be several varieties of apples available (e.g., Red Delicious and Gala), each with a different price. Print the lowest price across varieties.
- c. Unit/Weight: Place an **X** in the box that best represents how the fresh fruits or vegetables are being sold.
- Per pound: Fresh fruits are sold by the pound (e.g., apples are \$2.50 per pound or lb).
 - Per box/bag: Fresh fruits are sold by the box or bag (e.g., apples are \$2.50 per box/bag).
 - Each: Fresh fruits are sold individually (e.g., apples are \$.50 each or per piece).
 - Bunch: Fresh fruits are sold by the bunch (e.g., grapes are \$2.50 per bunch).
- d. Quality: Place an **X** in the box that best represents the quality of the fresh fruits or vegetables.
- Average/Good: Fresh fruits are in good condition, top quality, good color, fresh, firm, and clean.
 - Poor: Fresh fruits are bruised, old, mushy, dry, overripe, or have signs of mold.
- e. Quantity: Place an **X** in the box that best represents the quantity of fresh fruits or vegetables that are available for purchase.
- A lot: There are more than 10 fruits available (e.g., 10 apples).
 - Some: There are more than 3 fruits and less than 10 available (e.g., 6 apples).
 - Few: There are 2 or fewer fruits available (e.g., 1 apple).
- f. Comments: Print any important notes.

Section D: Canned/frozen fruits/vegetables

11. – 14. How many types of canned/frozen fruits or vegetables are available?
- None: No canned/frozen fruits or vegetables available.
 - Limited: 1 to 3 different types of canned/frozen fruits or vegetables available at the market.
 - Variety: 4 or more different types of canned/frozen fruits or vegetables available at the market.

Section E: Other foods

For questions 15 – 18, place an **X** in the appropriate box () corresponding to Yes or No.

15. Are any high-fiber, whole grain foods offered (e.g., whole wheat bread or pasta, brown rice)?: The market sells products made with whole grains. Check the ingredients to make the first ingredient says *whole*.
16. What other types of healthier foods are offered?
- 16.a. Cottage cheese or low-fat yogurt: The market sells products made with low- or no-fat milk (either fat-free or 1% milk).
 - 16.b. Lean meats, fish, poultry: The market sells lean meats, fish, or poultry products.
 - 16.c. Nuts, seeds, or dry beans: The market sells nuts, seeds, or dry beans. These may be sold in bulk or pre-packaged containers/bags.
 - 16.d. Low-fat prepared meals (e.g., baked chicken): The market has a prepared foods section with healthier foods.
 - 16.e. Other: Note any other healthier food items not listed above.
17. What other types of foods with minimal nutritional value are offered?
- 17.a. Salty foods: The market sells unhealthy snack foods with high salt contents.
 - 17.b. Ice cream/Frozen desserts: The market sells frozen desserts.
 - 17.c. Sweet foods: The market sells bakery items (a la carte or pre-packaged).
 - 17.d. Candy/Chocolate: The market sells chocolates or other candies (e.g., M&Ms, Skittles).
 - 17.e. Regular to high-fat prepared meals (e.g., fried chicken): The market has prepared foods with minimal nutritional value.
 - 17.f. Other: Note any other foods with minimal nutritional value not listed above.
18. Is milk sold?: The market offers at least one type of milk.
- 18.a. Skim milk
 - 18.b. 1%
 - 18.c. 2%
 - 18.d. Whole or Vitamin D milk
 - 18.e. Flavored whole milk
 - 18.f. Flavored skim, 1%, or 2% milk
 - 18.g. Rice milk
 - 18.h. Soy milk
 - 18.i. Lactaid

Comments? An optional space for auditors to enter notes.

Additional Market Manager Questions

Additional Questions										
<i>Farmers' Market Manager</i>										
	St. Charles Farmers' Market	Batavia Farmers' Market	Elgin Farmers' Market	Geneva Green Market	Old Dundee Farmers' Market	Sugar Grove French Market	Heritage Prairie Farm	Geneva French Market	Downtown Elgin Harvest Market	Aurora Farmers' Market
Level of sales	Successful			Somewhat Successful			Very Successful		Successful	Very Successful
Number of customers	Successful	Successful		Somewhat Successful			Successful		Somewhat Successful	Very Successful
Number of producers/vendors	Very Successful	Successful		Successful			Somewhat Successful		Successful	Very Successful
Diversity of products offered	Very Successful	Very Successful		Successful			Somewhat Successful		Successful	Very Successful
Community support for this farmers' market	Very Successful	Very Successful		Somewhat Successful			Successful		Successful	Very Successful
Growth in number of repeat customers	Very Successful	Successful		Somewhat Successful			Successful		Somewhat Successful	Very Successful
Growth in number of producers/vendors	Very Successful	Somewhat Successful		Somewhat Successful			Somewhat Successful		Somewhat Successful	Very Successful
Other										
We had more demand (buyers) than supply (products and/or vendors); needed more producers/vendors.		x								
We had more supply (products and/or vendors) than demand (buyers); needed more customers.	x			x				x		x
Our supply (products and/or vendors) and demand (buyers) was generally matched; the number of producers/vendors and customers was sufficient.							x			
Comments:		Only due to odd growing season and issues some farmers had with fruit	Manager: Anthony Redot 312-402-8880; not in today		No manager present	No evaluation form completed; Market Manager absent				

Vendor Characteristics

	<div style="display: flex; justify-content: space-around; text-align: center;"> <div style="transform: rotate(-45deg); transform-origin: center;">St. Charles Farmers' Market</div> <div style="transform: rotate(-45deg); transform-origin: center;">Batavia Farmers' Market</div> <div style="transform: rotate(-45deg); transform-origin: center;">Elgin Farmers' Market</div> <div style="transform: rotate(-45deg); transform-origin: center;">Geneva Farmers' Market</div> <div style="transform: rotate(-45deg); transform-origin: center;">Old Dundee Market</div> <div style="transform: rotate(-45deg); transform-origin: center;">Sugar Grove Farmers' Market</div> <div style="transform: rotate(-45deg); transform-origin: center;">Heritage Prairie Market</div> <div style="transform: rotate(-45deg); transform-origin: center;">Geneva French Farm</div> <div style="transform: rotate(-45deg); transform-origin: center;">Downtown Elgin Market</div> <div style="transform: rotate(-45deg); transform-origin: center;">Aurora Farmers' Market</div> </div>									
<i>Overall Market</i>										
Months of operation: January			x				x			
Months of operation: February							x			
Months of operation: March							x			
Months of operation: April							x	x		
Months of operation: May					x		x	x		
Months of operation: June	x	x		x	x	x	x	x	x	x
Months of operation: July	x	x		x	x	x	x	x	x	x
Months of operation: August	x	x		x	x	x	x	x	x	x
Months of operation: September	x	x		x	x	x	x	x	x	x
Months of operation: October	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x
Months of operation: November			x				x	x		
Months of operation: December			x				x			
Days of operation: Sunday							x	x		
Days of operation: Wednesday							x			
Days of operation: Thursday				x			x		x	
Days of operation: Friday	x						x			
Days of operation: Saturday		x	x		x	x	x			x
Market is open on Sunday morning								x		
Market is open on Sunday afternoon							x	x		
Market is open on Wednesday morning							x			
Market is open on Wednesday afternoon							x			
Market is open on Wednesday evening							x			
Market is open on Thursday morning				x			x			
Market is open on Thursday afternoon				x			x			
Market is open on Thursday evening							x		x	
Market is open on Friday morning	x						x			
Market is open on Friday afternoon	x						x			
Market is open on Friday evening							x			
Market is open on Saturday morning		x	x		x	x	x			x
Market is open on Saturday afternoon		x	x		x	x	x			x
Market is open on Saturday evening							x			
Frequency of operation: 1 day a week	x	x	x	x	x	x		x	x	x
Frequency of operation: 2-6 days a week							x			
Features: Accessible entrance	x	x	x	x	x	x		x	x	x
Features: Room to maneuver around market	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x
Features: Legible signs to identify market	x	x		x	x	x	x	x	x	x
Features: Seating	x			x					x	x
Features: Events/activities	x									x
Features: Information booth/table		x		x					x	x
Market accepts WIC/SNAP/EBT									x	x
Other discount									x	x
<i>Vendor characteristics</i>										
Number of vendors who sell goods at the market	4	4	1	3	1	1	3	6	4	5
Number of vendors who sell fresh produce at the market	2	1	99	2	99	1	2	2	3	3
Visible signs with farmers'/businesses' name: No vendors					x					
Visible signs with farmers'/businesses' name: Few vendors									x	x
Visible signs with farmers'/businesses' name: A lot of vendors	x	x	x	x		x	x	x		
Clean and well-organized displays: No vendors					x					
Clean and well-organized displays: Few vendors										
Clean and well-organized displays: A lot of vendors	x	x	x	x		x	x	x	x	x
Power cords taped down to prevent tripping: No vendors		x		x		x	x		x	x
Power cords taped down to prevent tripping: A lot of vendors	x		x					x		

**Cost comparison across two markets offering
the largest variety of fruits and vegetables**

Produce Item	Aurora Farmers' Market		Downtown Elgin Harvest Market	
	Price	Unit	Price	Unit
<i>Fruits:</i>				
Apples	\$5.00	Per bag/box	\$2.00	Per pound
Pears	\$4.00	Per box/bag	\$3.49	Per pound
Raspberries	\$4.00	Per box/bag	\$5.00	(blank)
Watermelons	\$5.00	Each	\$4.00	Each
<i>Vegetables:</i>				
Broccoli	\$2.40	Per pound	\$2.00	Per pound
Cabbages	\$1.50	Each	\$1.00	Each
Carrots	\$2.00	Bunch	\$3.00	Bunch
Cauliflower	\$2.00	Per pound	\$3.00	Each
Celery	\$2.00	Each	\$3.00	Bunch
Corn	\$0.50	Each	\$5.00	Bunch
Green beans	\$3.00	Per box/bag	\$2.00	Per pound
Green peppers	\$0.50	Each	\$0.50	Each
Lettuce - Romaine	\$2.00	Per box/bag	\$2.00	Per box/bag
Mushrooms	\$4.00	Per box/bag	\$1.00	Per box/bag
Onions	\$2.00	Per box/bag	\$1.00	Each
Radishes	\$1.00	Bunch	\$2.00	Bunch
Red peppers	\$0.50	Each	\$1.00	Each
Spinach	\$2.00	Per box/bag	\$2.00	Per box/bag
Sweet potatoes	\$3.00	Per box/bag	\$2.00	Per pound
Tomatoes	\$3.00	Per box/bag	\$2.00	Per pound
Other: Potatoes	\$2.00	Per box/bag	\$1.20	Per pound

Making Kane County Fit for Kids

Street Design Environmental Audits

Summary Report

Prepared by Transtria LLC



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Overview

Making Kane County Fit for Kids, one of 49 Healthy Kids, Healthy Communities partnerships, is part of a national program of the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation whose primary goal is to implement healthy eating and active living policy, system, and environment change initiatives. In order to better understand the impact of their work on street use, representatives of Kane County collected environmental audit data on 12 streets throughout the Partnership's catchment area. Five of the segments surveyed were in the Aurora Township, four in the Dundee Township, and three in the St. Charles Township.

Results Across all Townships

- Only six segments had sidewalks; of these, only one segment had a sidewalk on both sides of the street.
- All sidewalks were in good condition.
- Little to no infrastructure supported safe cycling, such as bike lanes or bike route signs.
- These communities lacked amenities for pedestrians (e.g., benches, pedestrian-scale lighting), with tree shade on the walking area for only half of the segments.
- On streets with sidewalks, the moderate or steep slope may prohibit people with mobility constraints from active transportation.
- These communities did not have public transit infrastructure.
- Lack of marked traffic lanes.

Results by Township

Aurora Township

- Two segments had no sidewalk and three segments had a sidewalk on only one side of the street.
- Aurora had the only segment to include a bike route or "Share the Road" sign.

Dundee Township

- All segments included a posted speed limit of 35 miles per hour.
- Two segments in Dundee did not have a sidewalk.
- None of the segments were safe for biking (as judged by auditors) and none had bike lanes, bike route signs, marked shoulders, or wide outside lanes.

St. Charles Township

- Two segments included a posted speed limit, ranging from 30 to 40 miles per hour.
- Only one intersection included a crosswalk.
- Only one segment had a sidewalk and it was not continuous within the segment.
- None of the segments had bike lanes or bike route signs, but one segment had a bike rack and one segment included an on-street, paved, and marked shoulder.

Background

Healthy Kids, Healthy Communities (HKHC) is a national program of the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation (RWJF) whose primary goal is to implement healthy eating and active living policy, system, and environmental change initiatives that can support healthier communities for children and families across the United States. Healthy Kids, Healthy Communities places special emphasis on reaching children who are at highest risk for obesity on the basis of race/ethnicity, income, and/or geographic location.

Kane County, IL was selected as one of 49 communities to participate in HKHC, and the Kane County Health Department is the lead agency for their community partnership, Making Kane County Fit for Kids. Kane County has chosen to focus its work on healthy eating and active living strategies focused on comprehensive plans, Safe Routes to School, parks and recreation, and community gardens.

Transtria LLC, a public health evaluation and research consulting firm located in St. Louis, Missouri, is funded by the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation to lead the evaluation and dissemination activities from April 2010 to March 2014. For more information about the evaluation, please visit www.transtria.com.

In order to better understand the impact of their work on street use, representatives of Kane County chose to participate in the enhanced evaluation data collection activities. This supplementary evaluation focuses on the six cross-site HKHC strategies, including: park renovations, street design renovations, farmers' markets, corner stores, physical activity standards in childcare settings, and nutrition standards in childcare settings. Communities use two main methods as part of the enhanced evaluation, direct observation and environmental audits. Kane County completed their enhanced evaluation activities for street design using the enhanced evaluation method.

Methods

Environmental auditing is a method used to assess the presence or absence of different features as well as the quality or condition of the physical environment. In this case, the audits were developed to assess the supports and barriers for active transportation (e.g., walking, biking) as part of an active lifestyle in three different communities in Kane County.

The street design environmental audit tool was modified from the Active Neighborhood Checklist, an evidence-based tool designed to assess characteristics facilitating or inhibiting active transportation within a community or specified geographic area. The tool captures land use (e.g., residential, retail, public, and recreational), street characteristics (e.g., traffic speed, traffic calming measures), public transportation (e.g., transit stops and amenities), safe place to walk (e.g., sidewalk presence and quality), safe place to bicycle (e.g., bike lanes and quality), and the quality of the environment (e.g., public art, litter).

Each audit tool was completed for a street "segment." Segments are short lengths of a street – usually a block long from one cross street to the next. Twelve segments in

three different townships were selected for assessment as representative of the various townships. Five of the segments surveyed were in the Aurora Township, four in the Dundee Township, and three in the St. Charles Township. Three auditors (one for each township) completed the audits between November 7th and December 4th of 2012. Transtria staff performed data entry and validation, including double data entry to ensure accuracy of the data.

Results

Overall Results

Eleven of the 12 segments surveyed included both residential and non-residential land usage, with predominantly residential uses. Single family homes were the only type of residential land use. Six segments included non-residential land uses, such as: faith-based organizations, medical facilities, other retail, and schools. Parking facilities (other than residential parking) were found in only four segments. There were no public transit stops identified in any of the segments audited across the three townships.

Many segments included public recreation facilities (7 segments) and visually attractive features (8 segments). Public recreation facilities included a park, a playground, and an off-road walking/biking trail. Visually-attractive features were residential gardens or greenhouses, a small body of water, and open green space.

A speed limit was posted on ten segments, and it varied from 20 to 40 miles per hour. In two segments, a special speed zone was posted. All segments had at least two lanes of traffic and some segments in Dundee had a third lane. However, nine segments had lane markers and none of the segments had a median, pedestrian island, or any other type of traffic calming device. A stop sign or stop light for crossing an intersection was included in nine segments and half (6) of the segments included a crosswalk.

Half (6) of the segments did not have a sidewalk on either side of the street; yet, five segments had a sidewalk on one side of the street and one segment in Dundee had sidewalks on both sides. The auditors reported that it was unsafe to walk in the street in the absence of a sidewalk for most (8) segments, leaving nowhere safe for pedestrians to walk.

Of the six segments with sidewalks, the sidewalk was not continuous within the segment in two segments and the sidewalk did not continue on to the next segment in three segments. All six segments with sidewalks included buffers between the sidewalk and street. All sidewalks were free of major bumps, cracks, holes, or weeds.

However, half (6) of the segments did include some tree shade in the walking area. The six segments were also rated as having a moderate or steep slope, an obstacle for those with mobility constraints. Pedestrian amenities (e.g., benches, drinking fountains,

Key Takeaways (12 segments)

- Only six segments had sidewalks; of these, only one segment had a sidewalk on both sides of the street.
- All sidewalks were in good condition.
- Little to no infrastructure supported safe cycling, such as bike lanes or bike route signs.
- These communities lacked amenities for pedestrians (e.g., benches, pedestrian-scale lighting), with tree shade on the walking area for only half of the segments.
- On streets with sidewalks, the moderate or steep slope may prohibit people with mobility constraints from active transportation.
- These communities did not have public transit infrastructure.
- Lack of traffic calming devices (e.g., median, pedestrian island).

pedestrian-scale lighting) were missing from all surveyed segments.

Throughout all segments surveyed, there was very little infrastructure supporting biking. None of the segments included a bike lane or wide outside lane and 11 of the segments lacked a “Share the Road” sign or a paved, marked shoulder. Like pedestrian safety, above, the auditors reported that it was unsafe to bike in the street on most (8) segments.

Similar to pedestrian amenities, there was an absence of bicyclist amenities in a majority of segments. Only one segment included bike parking, and there was little to street lighting present in eight of the segments.

Results by Township

Aurora Township

A total of five segments were surveyed in Aurora, including portions of Eastern Avenue, Liberty Street, and Crane Street. There was a posted speed limit, ranging from 20 to 30 miles per hour, in four of the segments. There was a special speed zone (i.e., school zone no passing) on one segment. Only two segments had marked traffic lanes, four had a stop sign/light for crossing the intersection, and three had a crosswalk.

Two segments lacked sidewalks, while three segments had a sidewalk on only one side of the street. The sidewalk was continuous within the segment on two segments, and the sidewalk continued to the next segment on only one segment. In addition, curb cuts/ramps were missing at intersections or driveways on one segment.



Lack of Sidewalks on Crane Street in Aurora Township.

The only segment to include a bike route or “Share the Road” sign was in Aurora. However, none of the segments in Aurora included bike lanes or on-street, paved, and marked shoulders. Auditors reported that it was unsafe to bike in the street in four of the five segments. There was also little to no street lighting and no bike parking.

Key Takeaways (5 segments)

- Two segments had no sidewalk and three segments had a sidewalk on only one side of the street.
- Aurora had the only segment to include a bike route or “Share the Road” sign.

Dundee Township

A total of four segments were surveyed in Dundee and included portions of Sleepy Hollow Road. All segments included a posted speed limit of 35 miles per hour. Two or three traffic lanes were found on all segments and all included marked traffic lanes, a turn lane, and a stop sign/light for crossing intersections. There was also a crosswalk for three of the four intersections.

Two segments did not have sidewalks and auditors reported no other safe place to walk, one segment had a sidewalk on one side of the street, and one segment had a sidewalk on both sides of the street. The sidewalks on these two segments were continuous within both segments. On the segment with a sidewalk on both sides of the street, the sidewalk continued onto the next segment.

None of the segments were safe for biking (as judged by auditors) and none had bike lanes, bike route signs, marked shoulders, or wide outside lanes.



Dead-end sidewalk on Sleepy Hollow Road in Dundee Township.

Key Takeaways (4 segments)

- All segments included a posted speed limit of 35 miles per hour.
- Two segments in Dundee did not have a sidewalk.
- None of the segments were safe for biking (as judged by auditors) and none had bike lanes, bike route signs, marked shoulders, or wide outside lanes.

St. Charles Township

A total of three segments were surveyed in St. Charles, including portions of Weber Road, Fox River Drive, and a third segment combining over four streets.

Only two segments included a posted speed limit, ranging from 30 to 40 miles per hour. All three segments had two marked traffic lanes. A stop sign or stop light was present for only one intersection, and only one intersection included a crosswalk.



Crosswalk from Anderson School to Tekawitha Forest Preserve in St. Charles Township.

Only one segment had a sidewalk on one side of the street; this sidewalk was not continuous within the segment, but it did continue to the next segment on one side of the street. Alternatively, the other two segments included an unpaved pathway for walking.

None of the segments had bike lanes or bike route signs; however, one segment did include a bike rack. In addition, only one segment included an on-street, paved, and marked shoulder.

Key Takeaways (3 segments)

- Two segments included a posted speed limit, ranging from 30 to 40 miles per hour.
- Only one intersection included a crosswalk.
- Only one segment had a sidewalk and it was not continuous within the segment.
- None of the segments had bike lanes or bike route signs, but one segment had a bike rack and one segment included an on-street, paved, and marked shoulder.

Appendix A: Charts

Community Characteristic	Aurora 5 segments	Dundee 4 segments	St. Charles 3 segments	Overall 12 segments
Land uses:				
Only residential land uses present	0	0	1	1
Both residential and non-residential land uses present	5	4	2	11
Predominant land use: residential building/yards	5	4	3	12
Predominant land use: commercial or public/government buildings	3	1	0	4
Predominant land use: schools/schoolyards	0	0	1	1
Predominant land use: parking lots or garages	0	0	1	1
Predominant land use: park with exercise/sports facilities or equipment	0	2	1	3
Predominant land use: undeveloped land	2	0	1	3
Predominant land use: designated green space	0	1	1	2
Predominant land use: other non-residential	1	0	0	1
Residential land uses present	5	4	3	12
Single-family homes	5	4	3	12
Parking facilities present	1	0	3	4
On-street, including angled parking	1	0	2	3
Small lot or garage	0	0	2	2
Public recreation facilities/equipment present	2	3	2	7
Park with exercise/sport or playground	0	1	1	2
Off-road walking/biking trail	1	0	2	3
Sports/playing field	0	0	1	1
Sports/playing court	0	0	1	1
Playground	1	0	1	2
Other recreation facility/equipment	0	2	1	3
Features visible in this segment	2	4	2	8
Residential gardens or greenhouses	0	0	1	1
Small body of water	0	1	1	2
Open green space	2	4	1	7
Non-residential land uses present	5	0	1	6
Faith-based organization	0	0	1	1
Medical facility	1	0	0	1
Other retail	3	0	0	3
School	1	0	1	2
Low-rise office building	2	0	0	2

Community Characteristic	Aurora 5 segments	Dundee 4 segments	St. Charles 3 segments	Overall 12 segments
Public transportation:				
No transit stop present	5	4	3	12
Street characteristics:				
Posted speed limit: 20 MPH	1	0	0	1
Posted speed limit: 25 MPH	1	0	0	1
Posted speed limit: 30 MPH	2	0	1	3
Posted speed limit: 35 MPH	0	4	0	4
Posted speed limit: 40 MPH	0	0	1	1
Special speed zone: School zone (no passing)	1	0	0	1
Special speed zone: 20 MPH	0	0	1	1
Number of lanes on street: 2 lanes	5	0	3	8
Number of lanes on street: 2-3 lanes	0	4	0	4
Marked lanes	2	4	3	9
Turn lane present	0	4	1	5
Stop sign or light for crossing this segment	4	4	1	9
Any stop lights without a walk signal?	0	1	0	1
Crosswalk for crossing this segment	3	3	1	6
Cul-de-sac (dead end street)	1	0	0	1
Safe places to walk:				
No sidewalk	2	2	2	6
Sidewalk present on one side of street	3	1	1	5
Sidewalk present on both sides of street	0	1	0	1
Grassy/other type of buffer between the curb and sidewalk on one side of street	3	1	1	5
Grassy/other type of buffer between the curb and sidewalk on both sides of street	0	1	0	1
No trees within buffer	3	0	0	3
Trees within buffer on one side of street	0	2	1	3
Sidewalk not continuous within segment	1	0	1	2
Sidewalk continuous within segment on one side of street	2	1	0	3
Sidewalk continuous within segment on both sides of street	0	1	0	1
Sidewalk does not continue to the next segment at both ends	2	1	0	3
Sidewalk continues to the next segment at both ends of the street on one side	1	0	1	2
Sidewalk continues to the next segment at both ends of the street on both sides	0	1	0	1
Width of the sidewalk is not \geq 3 feet for most of segment	3	0	0	3

Community Characteristic	Aurora 5 segments	Dundee 4 segments	St. Charles 3 segments	Overall 12 segments
Safe places to walk (continued):				
Width of the sidewalk \geq 3 feet for most of segment on one side of street	0	1	1	2
Width of the sidewalk \geq 3 feet for most of segment on both sides of street	0	1	0	1
Width of the sidewalk is not $<$ 3 feet for any part of segment	0	2	1	3
Width of the sidewalk $<$ 3 feet on one side of street	3	0	0	3
No missing curb cuts/ramps at intersections or driveways	2	0	1	3
Missing curb cuts/ramps at intersections or driveways on one side of street	1	0	0	1
Missing curb cuts/ramps at intersections or driveways on both sides of street	0	1	0	1
No major bumps, cracks, holes, or weeds in the sidewalk	3	2	1	6
No permanent obstructions in walk area	1	2	1	4
Permanent obstructions in walk area on one side of street	2	0	0	2
Not safe to walk in street/shoulder when sidewalk not present	3	4	1	8
Safe to walk in street/shoulder on both sides when sidewalk not present	0	0	2	2
No unpaved pathway when sidewalk not present	2	3	1	6
Unpaved pathway on one side of street when sidewalk not present	0	1	0	1
Unpaved pathway on both sides of street when sidewalk not present	1	0	2	3
No other safe place to walk	3	4	3	10
No/little tree shade in walking area	3	0	0	3
Some tree shade in walking area	2	1	3	6
Flat/gentle slope along walking area	3	1	2	6
Moderate slope along walking area	2	1	1	4
Steep slope along walking area	0	2	0	2
Safe places to bicycle:				
No designated bike route sign or "Share the Road" sign	4	4	3	11
Designated bike route sign or "Share the Road" sign on one side of street	1	0	0	1
Bike lane not present	5	4	3	12
No on-street, paved, and marked shoulder	5	4	2	11
On-street, paved, and marked shoulder on both sides of street	0	0	1	1
No shoulder \geq 4 feet present	0	0	1	1
No shoulder that continues to the next segment at both ends	0	0	1	1
No obstructions blocking biking area	0	1	0	1
Obstructions blocking biking area on one side of street	2	0	1	3
Obstructions blocking biking area on both sides of street	0	1	2	3

Community Characteristic	Aurora 5 segments	Dundee 4 segments	St. Charles 3 segments	Overall 12 segments
Safe places to bicycle (continued):				
Not a safe street to bike	4	4	0	8
Safe street to bike on one side	0	0	1	1
Safe street to bike on both sides	1	0	2	3
No wide outside lane (~15 feet)	5	4	3	12
No other safe place to bicycle	1	4	3	8
Other safe place to bicycle on one side of street	1	0	0	1
No/a little street lighting present	5	3	0	8
Some street lighting present	0	0	3	3
A lot of street lighting present	0	1	0	1
Bike racks present	0	0	1	1
Quality of environment:				
Buildings with broken/boarded windows present	1	0	0	1
Litter or broken glass on the ground present	1	4	0	5

Other characteristics not found in the communities:

Land uses:

Predominant land use: abandoned building/home/vacant lot
Multi-unit homes
Apartments or condominiums
Mixed-use
Other residential
Medium to large lot or garage
Indoor fitness facility
Golf course
Pool facility
Community gardens or greenhouses
School gardens or greenhouses
Building or section of the sidewalk/roadway under construction or being replaced
Farmer's market
Small grocery/convenience store or pharmacy
Supermarket
Food establishment
Entertainment
Library
Post office
Bank
Social services
Police or fire station
Laundry/dry cleaner
Hair or nail shop
Vacant/for sale retail space
Childcare center
College, technical school, or university
Big box store
Mall
Strip mall
High-rise office building

Public transportation:

Transit stop present on one/both sides of street

Bench present at transit stop
Covered shelter present at transit stop

Street Characteristics:

Median or pedestrian island
Traffic calming device
Sidewalk or cut-through in cul-de-sac

Safe places to walk:

Commercial buildings adjacent to the sidewalk
No grassy/other type of buffer between the curb and sidewalk
Trees within buffer on both sides of street
Width of the sidewalk < 3 feet on both sides of street
Major bumps, cracks, holes, or weeds in the sidewalk on one/both sides of street
Permanent obstructions in walk area on both sides of street
Safe to walk in street/shoulder on one side when sidewalk not present
Other safe place to walk on one/both sides of street
Pedestrian bench
Drinking fountain
Pedestrian-scale lighting
Other pedestrian amenity
A lot of tree shade in walking area

Safe places to bicycle:

Designated bike route sign or "Share the Road" sign on both sides of street
Bike lane present on one/both sides of street
On-street, paved, and marked shoulder on one side of street
Shoulder \geq 4 feet on one/both sides of street
Shoulder that continues to next segment at both ends on one/both side of street
Wide outside lane (~15 feet) on one/both sides of street
Other safe place to bicycle on both sides of street

Quality of environment:

Public art

Appendix B: Environmental Audit Tool

Note: The order of some items on the tool has changed and the following items were added to the original tool (and so were not captured in this audit):

- 5. Are there any open spaces?
- 5.a. Designated green space (e.g. park or greenway with no exercise/play facilities)
- 5.c. Plant or wildlife preserve or refuge (e.g. wooded area, swamp, meadow)
- 9.h. Community Center
- 37. Sharrow
- 43. Any bicyclist amenities?

Evaluation of Healthy Kids, Healthy Communities

Street Design Environmental Audit Tool

Street name: _____

Segment between _____
and _____

Auditor 1: _____

Auditor 2: _____

Street ID (*Transtria use only*): _____

Community partnership: _____

Date: _____

Weather conditions: _____

Start Time: ____ : ____ ○ AM ○ PM

End Time: ____ : ____ ○ AM ○ PM

Section A: What land uses are present?

1. Are residential and non-residential land uses present? (<i>Circle one.</i>)			5.b. Open space (maintained, undesignated green space)		<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
All residential	Both residential and non-residential	All non-residential	5.c. Plant or wildlife preserve or refuge (e.g., wooded area, swamp, meadow)		<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
2. What is the predominant land use? (<i>Select one or two that apply.</i>)			6. Are public recreational facilities/equipment present? (<i>If no, skip to Question 7</i>)		<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
2.a. Residential buildings/yards	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	6.a. Park with exercise/sport or playground facilities		<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
2.b. Commercial or public/government buildings	No	Yes	6.b. Indoor fitness facility (e.g., YMCA, Bally's, community center)		<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
2.c. Schools/schoolyards (elementary, middle, high school)	No	Yes	6.c. Golf course		<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
2.d. Parking lots or garages	No	Yes	6.d. Off-road walking/biking trail		<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
2.e. Park with exercise/sports facilities or playground equipment	No	Yes	6.e. Sports/playing field		<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
2.f. Abandoned building/home/vacant lot (uninhabited and unmaintained)	No	Yes	6.f. Sports/playing court		<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
2.g. Open space (undesignated green space)	No	Yes	6.g. Playground		<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
2.h. Designated green space (e.g., park or greenway with no exercise/play facilities)	No	Yes	6.h. Pool facility		<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
2.i. Other non-residential, specify:	No	Yes	6.i. Other, specify:		<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
3. Are residential uses present? (<i>If no, skip to Question 4</i>)			7. Are any features visible in this segment? (<i>If no, skip to Question 8</i>)		<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
3.a. Single family homes	No	Yes	7.a. Community gardens or greenhouses		<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
3.b. Multi-unit homes (2-4 units)	No	Yes	7.b. School gardens or greenhouses		<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
3.c. Apartments or condominiums (> 4 units, 1-4 stories)	No	Yes	7.c. Residential gardens or greenhouses		<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
3.d. Mixed-use (residential over commercial)	No	Yes	7.d. Small body of water (e.g., pond, stream)		<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
3.e. Other (e.g., retirement home, mobile home)	No	Yes	8. Is any building or section of the sidewalk/roadway under construction or being replaced? (<i>If no, skip to Question 9</i>)		<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
4. Are parking facilities present? (not including residence parking) (<i>If no, skip to Question 5</i>)			8.a. Specify:			
4.a. On-street, including angled parking	No	Yes	9. Are non-residential uses present? (<i>If no, skip to Question 10</i>)		<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
4.b. Small lot or garage (< 30 spaces)	No	Yes	9.a. Faith-based organization		<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
4.c. Medium to large lot or garage	No	Yes	9.b. Farmers' market		<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
5. Are there any open spaces? (<i>If no, skip to Question 6</i>)			9.c. Small grocery/convenience store (including in a gas station)		<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
5.a. Designated green space (e.g., park or greenway with no exercise/play facilities)	No	Yes	9.d. Supermarket		<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

Comments?

Evaluation of Healthy Kids, Healthy Communities

Section A: What land uses are present? (cont.)				Section B: Is public transportation available? (cont.)								
9. Are non-residential uses present? (cont.) <i>(If no, skip to Question 10)</i>				11.b. Covered shelter			<input type="checkbox"/> No	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes one side	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes both sides			
9.e. Food establishment (restaurant, bakery, café, coffee shop, bar)				<input type="checkbox"/> No	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	11.c. Other			<input type="checkbox"/> No	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes one side	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes both sides	
9.f. Entertainment (e.g., movie theatre, arcade)				<input type="checkbox"/> No	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	Section C: What street characteristics are visible?						
9.g. Library, post office, or bank				<input type="checkbox"/> No	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	12. Enter posted speed limit (99 if none):						
9.h. Community center				<input type="checkbox"/> No	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	13. Enter special speed zone (99 if none):						
9.i. Social services				<input type="checkbox"/> No	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	14. Enter total # of lanes on street:						
9.j. Police or fire station				<input type="checkbox"/> No	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	15. Marked lanes?			<input type="checkbox"/> No	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes		
9.k. Laundry/dry cleaner				<input type="checkbox"/> No	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	16. Median or pedestrian island?			<input type="checkbox"/> No	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes		
9.l. Hair or nail shop				<input type="checkbox"/> No	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	17. Turn lane?			<input type="checkbox"/> No	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes		
9.m. Medical facility (e.g., clinic, pharmacy, botanica)				<input type="checkbox"/> No	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	18. Stop sign or light for crossing this segment? <i>(If no, skip to Question 19)</i>			<input type="checkbox"/> No	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes		
9.n. Vacant/for rent retail space				<input type="checkbox"/> No	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	18.a. Any stop lights without a walk signal?			<input type="checkbox"/> No	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes		
9.o. Other retail (e.g., street vendor)				<input type="checkbox"/> No	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	19. Crosswalk for crossing this segment?			<input type="checkbox"/> No	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes		
9.p. School (elementary, middle, high school)				<input type="checkbox"/> No	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	20. Traffic calming device (e.g., roundabout, speed bump) <i>(If no, skip to Question 21)</i>			<input type="checkbox"/> No	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes		
9.q. Child care center				<input type="checkbox"/> No	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	20.a. Specify type:						
9.r. College, technical school, or university				<input type="checkbox"/> No	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	21. Cul-de-sac (dead end street)? <i>(If no, skip to Question 22)</i>			<input type="checkbox"/> No	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes		
9.s. Big box store (e.g., Wal-Mart, Office Depot)				<input type="checkbox"/> No	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	21.a. Sidewalk or cut-through in cul-de-sac?			<input type="checkbox"/> No	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes		
9.t. Mall or strip mall				<input type="checkbox"/> No	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	Section D: Do you have a place to walk?						
9.u. High-rise office building (> 5 stories)				<input type="checkbox"/> No	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	22. Sidewalk present? <i>(If no, skip to Question 32.)</i>			<input type="checkbox"/> No	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes one side	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes both sides	
9.v. Low-rise office building (≤ 5 stories)				<input type="checkbox"/> No	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	23. Any commercial buildings adjacent to the sidewalk?			<input type="checkbox"/> No	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes one side	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes both sides	
Section B: Is public transportation available?												
10. Are there any transit stops (bus, train, or other)? <i>(If no, skip to Question 11)</i>				<input type="checkbox"/> No	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes one side	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes both sides	24.a. Trees in the buffer?			<input type="checkbox"/> No	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes one side	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes both sides
11. Are amenities present at any transit stop? <i>(If no, skip to Question 12)</i>				<input type="checkbox"/> No	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes one side	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes both sides	25. Sidewalk continuous <i>within</i> segment?			<input type="checkbox"/> No	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes one side	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes both sides
11.a. Bench				<input type="checkbox"/> No	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes one side	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes both sides	26. Sidewalk continuous <i>between</i> segments at both ends?			<input type="checkbox"/> No	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes one side	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes both sides

Comments?

Evaluation of Healthy Kids, Healthy Communities

Section D: Do you have a place to walk? (cont.)				Section E: Do you have a place to bicycle?			
27. Width \geq 3 ft. for <i>most</i> of the sidewalk?	<input type="checkbox"/> No	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes one side	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes both sides	36. "Share the Road" or "Designated bike route" sign?	<input type="checkbox"/> No	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes one side	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes both sides
28. Width < 3 ft. for <i>any</i> part of the sidewalk?	<input type="checkbox"/> No	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes one side	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes both sides	37. Sharrow?	<input type="checkbox"/> No	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes one side	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes both sides
29. Any missing curb cuts or ramps at intersection or driveways?	<input type="checkbox"/> No	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes one side	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes both sides	38. Bike lane present (marked lanes on the street specifically for bikes)?	<input type="checkbox"/> No	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes one side	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes both sides
30. Any major bumps, cracks, holes, or weeds in the sidewalk?	<input type="checkbox"/> No	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes one side	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes both sides	39. On-street, paved, and marked shoulder? (<i>If no, skip to Question 42.</i>)	<input type="checkbox"/> No	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes one side	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes both sides
31. Any permanent obstructions (trees, signs, tables) blocking the 3 ft. walk area?	<input type="checkbox"/> No	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes one side	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes both sides	39.a. Shoulder \geq 4 ft.?	<input type="checkbox"/> No	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes one side	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes both sides
32. Is there another safe place to walk? (<i>If no, skip to Question 33.</i>)	<input type="checkbox"/> No	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes one side	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes both sides	39.b. Shoulder continuous between segments at both ends?	<input type="checkbox"/> No	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes one side	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes both sides
32.a. Street/shoulder?	<input type="checkbox"/> No	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes one side	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes both sides	39.c. Any permanent obstructions (e.g., drainage grates, parked cars)?	<input type="checkbox"/> No	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes one side	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes both sides
32.b. Unpaved pathway?	<input type="checkbox"/> No	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes one side	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes both sides	40. Is it safe to ride on the street (e.g., little traffic)?	<input type="checkbox"/> No	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes one side	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes both sides
32.c. Other, specify:	<input type="checkbox"/> No	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes one side	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes both sides	41. Is there a wide outside lane (\geq 15 ft.)?	<input type="checkbox"/> No	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes one side	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes both sides
33. Any pedestrian amenities? (<i>If no, skip to Question 34</i>)	<input type="checkbox"/> No	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes one side	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes both sides	42. Is there another safe place to bicycle on the street? (<i>If no, skip to Question 43.</i>)	<input type="checkbox"/> No	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes one side	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes both sides
33.a. Bench	<input type="checkbox"/> No	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes one side	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes both sides	42.a. Specify:			
33.b. Drinking fountain	<input type="checkbox"/> No	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes one side	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes both sides	43. Any bicyclist amenities? (<i>If no, skip to Question 44.</i>)	<input type="checkbox"/> No	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes one side	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes both sides
33.c. Pedestrian-scale lighting	<input type="checkbox"/> No	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes one side	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes both sides	43.a. Street lighting (<i>Circle one.</i>)			
				None/a little	Some	A lot	
33.d. Other, specify:	<input type="checkbox"/> No	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes one side	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes both sides	43.b. Bike parking (e.g., racks, lockers)	<input type="checkbox"/> No	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes one side	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes both sides
34. Tree shade on the walking area? (<i>Circle one.</i>)				Section F: What is the quality of the environment?			
None/a little		Some		A lot		44. Buildings with broken/boarded windows?	
						<input type="checkbox"/> No	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes
35. Steepest slope along walking area? (<i>Circle one.</i>)				45. Litter or broken glass on the ground?			
Flat/gentle		Moderate		Steep		<input type="checkbox"/> No	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes
				46. Public art (e.g., statues, sculptures)?		<input type="checkbox"/> No	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes

Comments?

Street Design Environmental Audit Protocol

Introduction

This tool and protocol were developed by the evaluation team from Transtria LLC (Laura Brennan, PhD, MPH, Principal Investigator; Allison Kemner, MPH; Tammy Behlmann, MPH; Jessica Stachecki, MSW, MBA; Carl Filler, MSW) and Washington University Institute for Public Health (Ross Brownson, PhD, Co-Principal Investigator; Christy Hoehner, PhD, MSPH), with feedback from national advisors and partners. The tool and protocol were adapted from the Active Neighborhood Checklist tool, protocol, and operational definitions (<http://www.activeliving.org/node/681>).

Funding was provided for the *Evaluation of Healthy Kids, Healthy Communities* by a grant from the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation (#67099). Transtria LLC is leading the evaluation and dissemination activities from April 2010 to March 2014. For more information about the evaluation, please contact Laura Brennan (laura@transtria.com) or Allison Kemner (akemner@transtria.com).

Choosing an area or route to audit

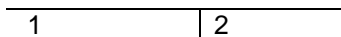
Identify the areas or routes for the audits based on the work of the HKHC community partnership (i.e., places where changes to the environment already occurred or places where changes are expected to occur on or before June 30, 2013). Options may include:

1. defined areas around a specific destination (e.g., school or park) or group of destinations (e.g., commercial center);
2. neighborhoods defined by administrative or other boundaries (e.g., Census tracts); and
3. routes between destinations or groups of destinations (e.g., elementary school and a central location in a neighborhood).

Identifying street segments

- Use a street map to produce a map of the project area (e.g., Google maps).
- Identify segments for the audits. [Note: Some street segments may be combined if there is **no variation** in the environment from segment to segment in order to increase the efficiency of the audits.]
- Assign all segments to be audited a unique ID number.
- Distribute copies of these maps to the auditors.

[Note: The street maps may not be updated or contain all the segments, so auditors should be trained to know how to identify new segments or delete existing segments. Roads with few intersections should be divided into two or more ¼-mile segments.]



A street with a T-intersection may be audited as two separate segments (e.g., 1 and 2 above). A reference point should be noted on the continuous side so that the recorded information is not duplicated for the adjacent segments.

Prior to conducting the audit

Safety

- Assess the safety of the environment for auditing before entering the area:
 - If dangerous or suspicious activities are taking place, leave the premises, call 911 (if needed), notify the Project Director or Coordinator, and determine whether to schedule a new audit.
 - If weather conditions are unsafe for collecting data (ice, thunder, or lightning), leave the premises, notify the Project Director or Coordinator, and determine whether to schedule a new audit.

Items to remember

- Pencils, a copy of the paper tools for all data collectors, clipboards
- Comfortable shoes, umbrella (if it's raining), sunscreen
- Data collectors' contact information (in case of emergency)
- List and map of sites for data collection, identifying boundaries of the area
- Letter from the Project Director or Coordinator explaining the reason for data collection
- Transportation to and from the site for observers, if needed

Street Design Environmental Audit (Instruction Sheet)

General rules for auditing

- Complete one environmental audit for each designated segment.
- Avoid double-counting land uses, particularly those located on a corner.
- Buildings should be counted on the segment with the building's address or main entrance.
- Parking lots can be counted based on the 1) segment which contains the building for which the parking lot is used, 2) entrance of the parking lot; 3) segment in which the parking lot occupies the most area.
- Land uses that occupy multiple segments (e.g., parks, walking trails, malls, factories) can be counted on multiple segments, depending on how the data will be used.

Top of the Street Design Environmental Audit form

- Street ID (Transtria use only): Transtria will assign an ID to this street segment for the data analysis.
- Street name: Print the name of the street.
- Segment between and : Print the names of the intersecting streets that are used as segment boundaries.
- Auditor 1: Print the name of auditor #1.
- Auditor 2: Print the name of auditor #2.
- Community partnership: Print the name of your community partnership for *Healthy Kids, Healthy Communities*.
- Date: Enter the date of data collection.
- Weather conditions: Print the temperature and climate the day of data collection (e.g., rainy, sunny, cloudy, windy).
- Start time: Enter the time that the data collection process starts.
- End time: Enter the time that the data collection process ends.

Section A: What land uses are present?

1. Are residential and non-residential land uses present? (Circle one.)

- All residential: Area that only contains apartments, condos, single- and multi- family homes, or other housing (types of residential uses are documented for number 3)
- Both residential and non-residential: Area that includes both non-residential (e.g., business, school, library, park) AND residential uses
- All non-residential: Area that contains no residential uses

For Questions 2-9, place an **X** in the in the appropriate box () corresponding to Yes or No.

2. What is the predominant land use? Select one or two that apply.

- 2.a. Residential buildings/yards: Area that contains apartments, condos, single- and multi- family homes, or other housing
- 2.b. Commercial or public/government buildings: Area that includes any business (e.g., office space, restaurant) or government-owned building (e.g., library, post office)
- 2.c. School/school yards: Area that contains a school building or schoolyard (e.g., elementary, middle, high school)
- 2.d. Parking lots or garages: Area or building with parking spaces off of the street.
- 2.e. Park with exercise/sports facilities or playground equipment: Area of natural space that is open to the public, and includes an area designed for activity (e.g., baseball field, soccer field, basketball court, tennis court, swing set, slides, pull-up bars, monkeybars) [Note: Sidewalks and paths in a park do not count as an exercise/sports facility.]
- 2.f. Abandoned building/home/vacant lot: Area with at least one uninhabited and unmaintained building/home usually characterized by boarded up or broken windows/doors or an empty area about the size of the buildings on the segment or nearby segments with visible signs of no maintenance (e.g., debris or plant overgrowth) [Note: This does not include homes or commercial buildings that are "for sale" or "for lease" unless there is indication of no maintenance (e.g., major deterioration of the roof or walls).]
- 2.g. Open space: A maintained green space that is not for public use (e.g., signage that states "Keep out") or is not otherwise designated (e.g., no signage indicating park name).

Evaluation of Healthy Kids, Healthy Communities

- 2.h. Designated green space: A park, greenway, or other green space with no exercise/play facilities that is designated for public use (e.g., signage with a park name)
 - 2.i. Other non-residential, specify: If other categories are not suitable, write in the predominant land use.
3. Are residential uses present?
- 3.a. Single family homes: One or more homes designed for one family
 - 3.b. Multi-unit homes: One or more homes designed for 2-4 families/units (e.g., homes with 2 front doors or more than 1 mailbox)
 - 3.c. Apartments or condominiums: One or more buildings that have only residential uses and more than 4 units, between 1 and 4 stories
 - 3.d. Mixed-use: One or more buildings that have both commercial uses and residential uses (e.g., apartment over retail)
 - 3.e. Other: Retirement homes, mobile homes, college dorms, or other housing
4. Are parking facilities present?
- 4.a. On-street, including angled parking: Any parking on a public road, including metered parking and angled parking
 - 4.b. Small lot or garage: A parking lot with less than 30 spaces
 - 4.c. Medium to large lot or garage: A parking lot with more than 30 spaces
5. Are there any open spaces?
- 5.a. Designated green space: A park, greenway, or other green space with no exercise/play facilities that is designated for public use (e.g., signage with a park name)
 - 5.b. Open space: A maintained green space that is not for public use (e.g., signage that states "Keep out") or is not otherwise designated (e.g., no signage indicating park name).
 - 5.c. Plant or wildlife preserve or refuge: A wooded area, swamp, meadow or other space with natural features reserved for plant or animal life and not intended for public use.
6. Are public recreational facilities/equipment present (including the schoolyard if publicly accessible)?
- 6.a. Park with exercise/sport or playground facilities: Publically accessible park with a playground or exercise facilities
 - 6.b. Indoor fitness facility: Examples include yoga, pilates, dance, and martial arts studios, public recreation centers, community centers, YMCAs, Ballys, Club Fitness, and indoor tennis clubs.
 - 6.c. Golf course: A large area of land designed for traditional golf games
 - 6.d. Off-road walking/biking trail: Off-road sidewalk or trail (including sidewalks around parks) that people walk or bike on primarily for exercise or leisure
 - 6.e. Sports/playing field: Any grass or dirt field designed for sports (e.g., baseball, football, soccer, softball)
 - 6.f. Sports/playing court: Any court designed for sports (e.g., basketball, volleyball, tennis, racquetball, handball)
 - 6.g. Playground: Area designed for children and youth to play (e.g., swing set, slides, monkey-bars) [Note: This does not include church playgrounds, daycare playgrounds, apartment playgrounds or schoolyards that are gated or otherwise restricted from public access.]
 - 6.h. Pool facility: Publicly accessible pool for swimming
 - 6.i. Other, specify: Bowling alleys, disc golf courses, skateparks (i.e., structures designed for roller skates, skateboards, or bicycles, usually characterized by ramps or boxes purposefully arranged on the ground)
7. Are any features visible in this segment?
- 7.a. Community gardens or greenhouses: Publicly accessible gardens or greenhouses growing fruits, vegetables, or herbs [Note: This does not include flower gardens.]
 - 7.b. School gardens or greenhouses: Gardens located on school property growing fruits, vegetables, or herbs. [Note: This does not include flower gardens.]
 - 7.c. Residential gardens or greenhouses: Private gardens or greenhouses not open to the public, growing fruits, vegetables, or herbs [Note: This does not include flower gardens.]
 - 7.d. Small body of water: Permanent body of water (e.g., pond, stream)
8. Is any building or section of the sidewalk/roadway under construction or being replaced?: Any visible construction or repair being done to a building, sidewalk, or road (e.g., sewer work, sidewalk repair, brick work on a building)
- 8.a. Specify what is under construction.

9. Are non-residential uses present?

- 9.a. Faith-based organization: Organization with a religious affiliation (e.g., church)
- 9.b. Farmers' market: Permanent or semi-permanent location where farmers and vendors bring items for sale to the public
- 9.c. Small grocery/convenience store (including in a gas station): Includes stores inside gas stations as well as small corner stores that sell items such as groceries, cigarettes, or alcohol to be consumed outside of the store
- 9.d. Supermarket: Larger than a small grocery or convenience store, often a local or national chain, sells groceries and many items, includes discount retailers that have grocery departments (e.g., Save a Lot, Aldi) and big box stores with groceries (e.g., Wal-Mart, Super Target, Cost-Co, Sam's Club)

Comments?: An optional space for auditors to enter notes.

- 9.e. Food establishment: Restaurants, bakeries, cafes, coffee shops, bars
- 9.f. Entertainment: Movie theatre, arcade
- 9.g. Library, post office, bank: A library is a public building run by the government that loans books and other reading material. A post office is a public building run by the government that provides mail services. A bank is a staffed location that allows the depositing or withdrawal of money (e.g., ATMs connected to bank with a staff member). [Note: This includes payday loans or check cashing establishments, but does not include single drive-thru ATMs in parking lots not connected to a bank.]
- 9.h. Community center: Multi-purpose building used by community members for social, recreational, or other activities.
- 9.i. Social services: Building that has government services (e.g., job placement, food stamps, Medicaid)
- 9.j. Police or fire station: Building that houses police officers or fire fighters
- 9.k. Laundry/dry cleaner: Businesses that provide laundry machines and dryers or clean your clothes
- 9.l. Hair or nail shop: Businesses for hair or nail services
- 9.m. Medical facility: A clinic pharmacy, botanica, or other healthcare organization (e.g., hospital, emergency room)
- 9.n. Vacant/for rent retail space: Building with signage indicating available retail space for leased or purchase
- 9.o. Other retail: Retail that doesn't fit in any other category (e.g., street vendor, food truck, clothing store).
- 9.p. School: Any elementary, middle, or high school [Note: This does not include colleges.]
- 9.q. Child care center: Businesses that supervise and/or educate children and youth [Note: This does include afterschool programs or a day care inside a residential home, if indicated. This does not include babysitters that come to your home.]
- 9.r. College, technical school, or university: A facility with the primary purpose of providing education
- 9.s. Big box store: Large commercial buildings, typically located along major traffic arterials with standardized facades and large parking lots (e.g., Office Depot, Best Buy, Home Depot, Wal-Mart, Target,) [Note: This does not include stores that sell groceries to avoid double counting.]
- 9.t. Mall or strip mall: A mall is a connected combination of many commercial centers that is larger than a strip mall. A strip mall is a commercial center with attached units arranged in a row or horseshoe shape, typically denoted by a sign
- 9.u. High-rise building: Non-residential building that is taller than 5 stories
- 9.v. Low-rise office building: Non-residential building that is 5 stories or less (e.g., warehouse, factory, industrial building)

Section B: Is public transportation available?

For Questions 10-11, place an **X** in the appropriate box () corresponding to Yes one side, Yes both sides, or No.

10. Are there any transit stops (bus, train, or other)? A transit stop (e.g., bus, light rail, train, trolley) is usually indicated by a sign, bench, covered shelter, or station. Mark if there is a stop on one side, both sides, or no stops present.

11. Are amenities present at any transit stop?

- 11a. Bench: Seating area for people waiting at the transit stop
- 11b. Covered shelter: Roof overhang or partially enclosed area for people using the transit stop
- 11c. Other: Another amenity at the transit stop that does not fit the previous descriptions

Section C: What street characteristics are visible?

For Questions 12-14, write in the appropriate responses.

- 12. Enter posted speed limit (99 if none): Enter the number on the posted speed limit sign (99 if none).
- 13. Enter special speed zone (99 if none): Enter the number for the special speed zone sign (99 if none).
- 14. Enter total # of lanes on street: Enter the number of lanes (including unmarked lanes) for traffic. [Note: This excludes the turning lane and parking lanes.]

For Questions 15-21, place an **X** in the appropriate box () corresponding to Yes or No.

- 15. Marked lanes?: A street divided by white or yellow, dashed or solid lanes
- 16. Median or pedestrian island?: Raised island or refuge for pedestrians between traffic lanes that may take up all or part of the segment [Note: This does not include extremely narrow medians or medians with landscaping that prevents pedestrians from using them.]
- 17. Turn lane?: A turn lane that occupies the entire length of the segment [Note: This does not include partial turn lanes at intersections.]
- 18. Stop sign or light to cross this segment?: Stop sign or stop light at street crossing location
 - 18.a. Any stop lights without a walk signal?: A stoplight without a button to activate a walk signal or a walk signal with symbols that cue pedestrians to stop or walk
- 19. Crosswalk for crossing this segment?: A place on the street denoted by painted white line(s), flashing light(s), and/or pedestrian crossing sign(s)
- 20. Traffic calming device: A device intentionally designed to reduce traffic speed or volume, such as a roundabout, brick road, speed hump, flashing speed sign, or “watch for children” sign. Curb bulb-outs (technically crossing aids) are areas of the sidewalk/curb that extend into the street, mostly at intersections, to shorten pedestrian crossing distances.
 - 20.a. Specify type: Write in the name or description of the traffic calming device.
- 21. Cul-de-sac?: Street design that does not connect to another street on one end, drivers must turn around at this end (e.g., dead end street)
 - 21.a. Sidewalk or cut-through in cul-de-sac?: Sidewalk or path that connects a cul-de-sac to a nearby street or greenway without permitting passage of automobiles

Section D: Do you have a place to walk?

For Questions 22-33, place an **X** in the appropriate box () corresponding to Yes one side, Yes both sides, or No.

- 22. Sidewalk present?: A concrete walking area.
- 23. Any commercial buildings adjacent to sidewalk?: Commercial building that can be entered directly from the sidewalk along the street without crossing a parking lot
- 24. Any grassy or other buffer between curb and sidewalk along most of the segment?: A buffer includes grass, trees, flowerpots, and/or textured surfaces that provide separation between pedestrians and traffic [Note: This buffer should be present for the majority of the segment in order to be counted.]
 - 24.a. Trees in the buffer?: Trees along the street segment that provide a buffer from traffic for pedestrians as well as aesthetic appeal.
- 25. Sidewalk continuous within segment?: There are no interruptions (other than driveways) in the sidewalk for the length of the segment.
- 26. Sidewalk continuous between segments at both ends?: The sidewalk continues in one or more directions beyond the segment being audited. This must be true for both ends of the segment.

Comments?: An optional space for auditors to enter notes

27. Width \geq 3 ft. for most of the sidewalk segment?: Width can be estimated using the auditor's foot (i.e., prior to auditing, determine how many "auditor's feet" would equal 3 feet). [Note: In rare cases when parking lots and sidewalks are juxtaposed, do not count the parking lot when measuring the width of the sidewalk.]

28. Width < 3 ft. for any part of the sidewalk segment?: By measuring with the auditor's foot, determine if the walking area is less than 3 feet for *any part* of the sidewalk. The width may be < 3 feet due to its original design, permanent obstructions, sidewalk disrepair (e.g., large broken sections), or other reasons.

29. Any missing curb cuts or ramps at intersections or driveways?: Missing curb cuts are places where there is no curb cut or ramp leading smoothly down from a sidewalk to a street or driveway. [Note: Short curbs (< 3 inches) should not be counted (i.e., they are mountable for a person on a bike, with a stroller, or in a wheelchair).]

30. Any major bumps, cracks, holes, or weeds in the sidewalk?: Major misalignments or cracks are those that make it difficult for person with a stroller, in a wheelchair, or using a walker to maneuver

31. Any permanent obstructions (trees, signs, tables) blocking the 3 ft. walk area?: Obstructions that remain on the sidewalk on a daily basis, such as signs, tree/shrub overgrowth, street furniture, telephone poles, and fire hydrants [Note: This excludes cars, bicycles, garbage bins, leaves or branches, or any other temporary items on the sidewalk.]

32. Is there another safe place to walk?: Assess alternate places to walk if a sidewalk is not present or not continuous within a segment.

32.a. Street/shoulder?: A street with low traffic volume and speed or the side of street outside of traffic lanes that is safe from traffic

32.b. Unpaved pathway?: An unplanned path created over time by pedestrians (also known as a goat path)

32.c. Other: Any location pedestrians can walk that is not yet described by other response choices

33. Any pedestrian amenities?: Any features that enhance the experience for pedestrians using the street

33.a. Bench?: Includes public benches along the sidewalk, not in a park [Note: This excludes bus/transit stop benches.]

33.b. Drinking fountain?: Publicly accessible drinking fountain [Note: If the drinking fountain is not functional, then do not count it and note its condition in the notes section.]

33.c. Pedestrian-scale lighting?: Lighting positioned over the sidewalk, rather than the street, at about 12 to 15 feet above the sidewalk [Note: This does not include street lights pointed over the street.]

33.d. Other: Write in any other pedestrian amenities.

34. Tree shade on the walking area?: Amount of tree shade covering the sidewalk or other walking area at approximately noon [Note: During months when trees are without leaves, envision what shade the trees might provide with leaves. This does not include shade provided by buildings.] (Circle one.)

- None/a little: There is no or very minimal tree shade.
- Some: There is some tree shade but there are large sections of the segment without tree shade.
- A lot: The segment is nearly or fully covered with tree shade.

35. Steepest slope along the walking area? Compare the slope along the segment to a street with a flat slope (level) and a steep slope (hilly). (Circle one.)

- Flat/gentle: The slope is not noticeable to most individuals.
- Moderate: The slope does not act as a barrier to most pedestrians or bicyclists, but walking on the segment may increase some individuals' heart rates.
- Steep: The slope acts as a barrier to some individuals who are not active or those with physical limitations.

Section E: Do you have a place to bicycle?

For Questions 36-42, place an **X** in the appropriate box () corresponding to Yes one side, Yes both sides, or No.

36. "Share the Road" or "Designated bike route" sign?: Presence of a share the road street sign or a designated bike route street sign

37. Sharrow?: A sharrow is a marking on the street that shows a bicycle and arrow.

38. Bike lane present (marked lanes on the street specifically for bikes)?: Presence of a marked lane on the street, which is usually two solid white lines 3 feet apart with a bike symbol

39. On-street, paved, and marked shoulder?: Paved (not gravel) shoulders wide enough to walk or bike in (at least 3 feet) [Note: This does not include a shoulder intended primarily for parking.]

39.a. Shoulder \geq 4 ft.?: By estimating or using the auditor's foot, determine if the width of the marked shoulder is at least 4 feet.

39.b. Shoulder continuous between segments at both ends?: The shoulder continues in one or more directions beyond the segment audited. This must be true for both ends of the segment.

39.c. Any permanent obstructions in the shoulder (including drainage grates, parked cars)?: Legally parked cars and drainage grates in which the holes are aligned with the bicycle path (i.e., parallel to the street) [Note: This does not include garbage bins, vehicles illegally parked in the shoulder, or leaves and branches.]

40. Is it safe to ride on the street?: A street with low traffic volume and speed

41. Is there a wide outside lane (\geq 15 ft.)?: A lane wider than a typical lane, allowing bicycles to ride to the outside of the lane without obstructing traffic

42. Is there another safe place to bicycle on the street?: Street characteristics that may influence a pedestrian's or bicyclist's feelings of comfort and safety from traffic include perceived traffic volume and speed, aggressive drivers, and condition of crossing aids and medians.

42.a. Specify: Indicate alternate places to bike if a shoulder is not present or continuous within a segment.

43. Any bicyclist amenities?

43.a. Street lighting?: [Note: This does not include pedestrian scale lighting.] (Circle one.)

- None/a little: There is very little to no lighting on the segment.
- Some: The segment has limited lighting that is inadequate for safety.
- A lot: The segment has effective overhead lighting which is sufficient for safety.

43.b. Bike parking?: Structures along streets/sidewalks designed for locking bicycles (e.g., racks, lockers) Place an X in the appropriate box () corresponding to Yes one side, Yes both sides, or No.

Section F: What is the quality of the environment?

For Questions 44-46, place an X in the appropriate box () corresponding to Yes or No.

44. Buildings with broken/boarded windows?

- None or little (No): There was no graffiti or there were only 1-2 items that had a small amount of graffiti that would not be considered public art present. There were no broken/boarded windows or there were only 1-2 broken/boarded windows.
- Some or A lot (Yes): Several items in this segment contained graffiti (3 or more items), or 1-2 items had large displays of graffiti that would not be considered public art. Several windows (more than 3 windows) were broken/boarded.

45. Litter or broken glass on the ground?

- None/a little (No): There is not any or there is very minimal litter/broken glass in the segment.
- Some or A lot (Yes): A moderate amount of litter/broken glass is found in several places in the segment. The trash is noticeable but not necessarily indicative of routine neglect. / The street is heavily littered, indicating a very high volume of use or neglect. When evaluating the amount of litter and broken glass, envision an immaculate street in contrast to a heavily littered street for relative comparisons with the street being audited.

46. Public art?: Statues, sculptures, fountains, murals, or banners, if they stand out and enhance the aesthetic quality of the street [Note: This excludes artwork placed in the windows of commercial buildings or associated with residential buildings (e.g., yard art, private fountains).]

Comments?: An optional space for auditors to enter notes

Make sure you fill out the end time at the top of the first page.

Kane County, Illinois
Healthy Kids, Healthy Communities

Park Direct Observation

Summary Report

Prepared by Transtria LLC



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Background

Healthy Kids, Healthy Communities (HKHC) is a national program of the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation (RWJF) whose primary goal is to implement healthy eating and active living policy, system, and environmental change initiatives that can support healthier communities for children and families across the United States. Healthy Kids, Healthy Communities places special emphasis on reaching children who are at highest risk for obesity on the basis of race/ethnicity, income, and/or geographic location.

Kane County, Illinois was selected as one of 49 communities to participate in HKHC, and the Kane County Health Department is the lead agency for their community partnership, Making Kane County Fit for Kids. Kane County has chosen to focus its work on healthy eating and active living strategies focused on comprehensive plans, Safe Routes to School, parks and recreation, and community gardens. Transtria LLC, a public health evaluation and research consulting firm located in St. Louis, Missouri, is funded by the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation to lead the evaluation and dissemination activities from April 2010 to March 2014. For more information about the evaluation, please visit www.transtria.com.

In order to better understand the impact of their work on parks and play spaces, partnership representatives chose to participate in the enhanced evaluation data collection activities. This supplementary evaluation focuses on the six cross-site HKHC strategies, including: parks and play spaces, active transportation, farmers' markets, corner stores, physical activity standards in childcare settings, and nutrition standards in childcare settings. Communities use two main methods as part of the enhanced evaluation, direct observation and environmental audits. Kane County chose to collect data on parks and play spaces using the pre/post direct observation method.

Methods

The Parks and Play Spaces Direct Observation Tool was used to collect data (see Appendix A). The tool and protocol were adapted from the System for Observing Play and Leisure Activity (SOPLAY) and System for Observing Play and Recreation in Communities (SOPARC) tools, protocols, and operational definitions. An Evaluation Officer from Transtria LLC trained members of Denver's community partnership on proper data collection methods using the tool.

The observers scanned the park area for one minute and then took a break to record observations for the duration of each observation period. The observers then repeated this process for the entire observation period. During the scan, the observer completed the observation tool by tallying activity levels by age groups (i.e., children = aged 3-12 years; adolescents = aged 13-18 years; adults = aged 19+ years). All people were accounted for as either participating in very active, moderate, or sedentary behaviors.

- **Sedentary** behaviors are defined as activities in which people are not moving (e.g., standing, sitting, playing board games).
- **Moderate** intensity behaviors require more movement but no strenuous activity (e.g., walking, biking slowly).
- **Very active** behaviors show evidence of increased heart rate and inhalation rate (e.g., running, biking vigorously, playing basketball).

In addition to identifying the number of individuals at each activity level, observers reported the activity codes by age groups. Activity codes are shown below:

No Identifiable Activity	Aerobics	Baseball/Softball	Basketball
Dance	Football	Gymnastics	Martial Arts
Racquet Sports	Soccer	Swimming	Weight Training
Playground Games	Walking	Jogging/Running	None of the Above
		Volleyball	Biking

The activity code “No Identifiable Activity” was used to indicate no movement. The activity code “None of the Above” was used when an individual was engaging in an activity not included in the other activity codes.

Data was collected in ten parks in Kane County: Bluff Street Park, Channing Park, Clifford Owasco Park, Cowherd Park, Lords Park, Greene Field Park, Martin Luther King, Jr. Park, Prairie Park, Union-Flagg Mini Park, and Wing Park. Data collection occurred on three days between May 29, 2013 and June 29, 2013. All observations were collected between 8:30 AM and 7:30 PM. One observer completed data collection.

In addition to observation data, mapping data were collected on the park areas being observed. These data were collected once by an auditor for each of the park areas observed. The auditor recorded setting, location, type of park area, condition of area, and surface type (e.g., gravel, grass). Any interventions were noted. An intervention was defined as a specific permanent alteration present that assists children in participating in physical activity, such as lines painted on courts or basketball poles and nets. An intervention does not include temporary improvements, such as chalk lines and portable nets.

One Transtria staff member entered the data and a second Transtria staff member conducted validity checks on 10% of observations (i.e., every tenth observation) to ensure accuracy and validity of the data. No errors were found in the data.

Results

There were 1,722 one-minute observation periods conducted throughout ten parks. The average number of observation periods completed in each park was 172. The lowest number of observation periods conducted was for Union Flagg Mini Park (n=96). The highest number of observation periods completed was for Lords Park (n=282). The weather during the observation periods was sunny in four parks (Cowherd Park, Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Park, Lords Park, Wing Park) and cloudy in six parks (Bluff Street Park, Channing Park, Clifford Park, Greene Field Park, Prairie Park, Union-Flagg Mini Park). The temperature ranged from 55°F to 87°F. There were 13 observation periods conducted during rainy weather conditions with thunder at Wing Park.

For the 1,722 observation periods, there were 9,762 activity counts recorded across all parks. The activity counts reflect activity levels at a particular moment in time as opposed to unique individuals observed. A person counted during the first minute of scanning is also counted during the fifth minute of scanning, if that person is still in the area. It is likely that the unique number of individuals observed in the area is a small fraction of the number of activity counts recorded for each site.

In order to better compare the data collected, the rate of activity (activity counts per hour) was calculated for all observations.

$$\frac{\text{Number of activity counts}}{\text{Total number of observation periods}} \times 60 \text{ (minutes per hour)}$$

Results by Park

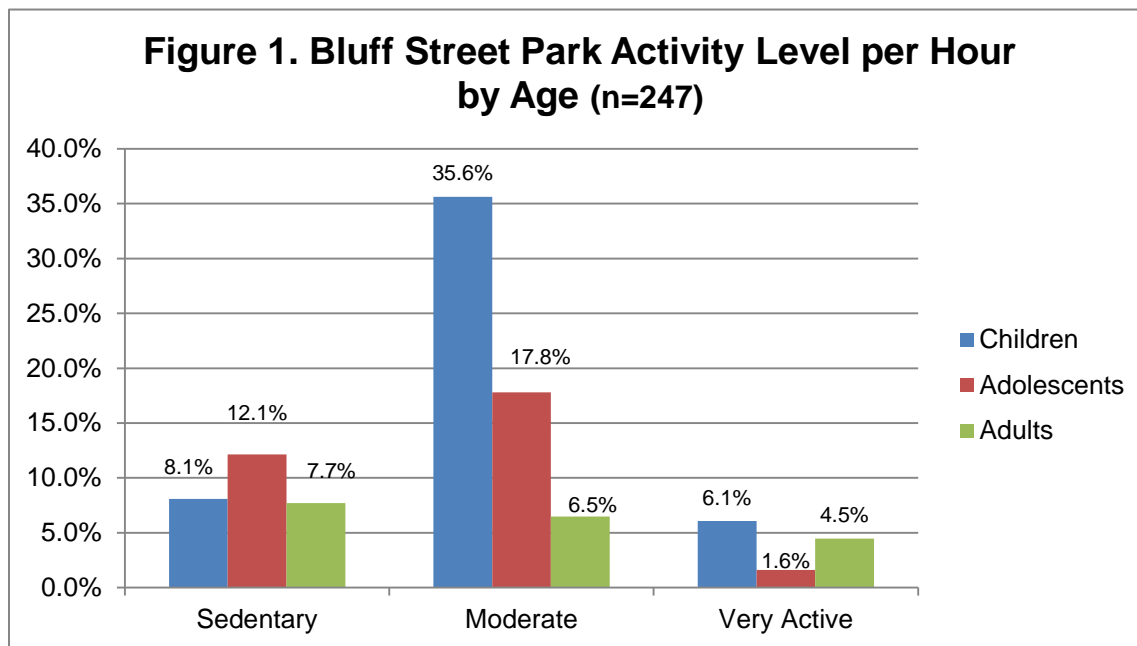
Bluff Street Park

A total of 247 activity counts were recorded in Bluff Street Park. As seen in Table 1, half (49.8%) of all activity observed in Bluff Street

	Sedentary	Moderate	Very Active	Total
Children	8.1% (20)	35.6% (88)	6.1% (15)	49.8% (123)
Adolescents	12.1% (30)	17.8% (44)	1.6% (4)	31.6% (78)
Adults	7.7% (19)	6.5% (16)	4.5% (11)	18.6% (46)
Total	27.9% (69)	59.9% (148)	12.1% (30)	100% (247)

Park was among children.

Just under one-third of activity (31.6%) was observed among adolescents. Less activity (18.6%) was observed among adults. Overall, activity levels in Bluff Street Park were most commonly moderately active (35.6%).



Shown in Figure 1, adults were the most likely age group to be sedentary (12.1%), while children were most likely to be observed participating in moderate (35.6%) or very active activity (6.1%).

Observers in Bluff Street Park identified the types of activities they observed using activity codes. Table 2 highlights the activity codes observed in Bluff Street Park during the observation periods: basketball, soccer, other playground games, walking, jogging/running, and biking. Each of these activity codes were observed in all three age groups, except jogging/running, and biking. These two activities were not observed for adolescents.

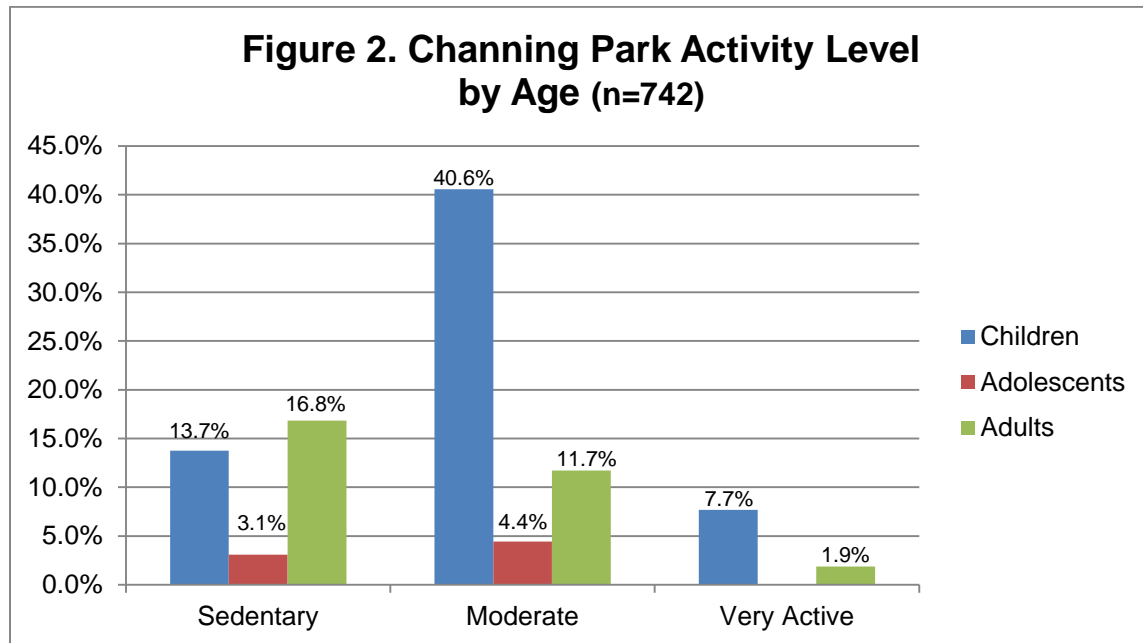
	Children	Adolescents	Adults
No identifiable activity	x	x	x
Basketball	x	x	x
Soccer	x	x	x
Other playground games	x	x	x
Walking	x	x	x
Jogging/running	x		x
Biking	x		x

Channing Park

A total of 742 activity counts were recorded in Channing Park. Shown in Table 3, over half (62.0%) of activity in Channing Park was observed among children. About one-third (30.5%) of activity was observed among adults,

and only 7.5% among adolescents. Only 9.6% of all activity was very active. The majority of activity observed in Channing Park was moderate (56.7%) or sedentary (33.7%).

	Sedentary	Moderate	Very Active	Total
Children	13.7% (102)	40.6% (301)	7.7% (57)	62.0% (460)
Adolescents	3.1% (23)	4.4% (33)	0.0% (0)	7.5% (56)
Adults	16.8% (125)	11.7% (87)	1.9% (14)	30.5% (226)
Total	33.7% (250)	56.7% (421)	9.6% (71)	100% (742)



Demonstrated in Figure 2, children were most likely to be observed participating in very active behavior (7.7%) and moderately active behavior (40.6%) at Channing Park. Adults were most likely to be observed being sedentary (16.8%). No adolescents were observed taking part in very active behavior.

The activity codes observers identified during the observation periods in Channing Park are displayed in Table 4. Children were observed in the most number of different activity codes: aerobics, basketball, racquet sports, soccer, walking, jogging/running, biking, and other playground games. Adolescents were observed in the fewest number of different activity codes: soccer, walking, biking, and other playground games. Adults were

observed in the same activity codes as children excluding basketball and biking. Other playground games and walking were the only activity codes observed in all age groups.

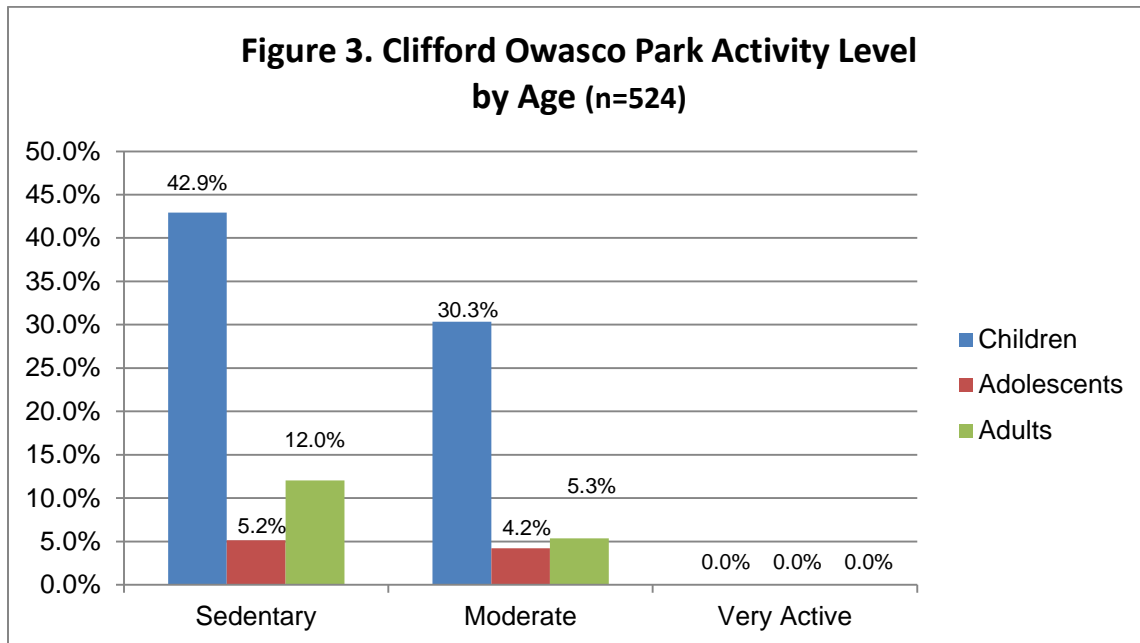
	Children	Adolescents	Adults
No identifiable activity	x		x
Aerobics	x		x
Basketball	x		
Racquet sports	x		x
Soccer		x	
Other playground games	x	x	x
Walking	x	x	x
Jogging/running	x		x
Biking	x	x	

Clifford Owasco Park

A total of 524 activity counts were recorded in Clifford Owasco Park. Shown in Table 5, almost three-fourths (73.3%) of activity observed in Clifford Owasco Park was

	Sedentary	Moderate	Very Active	Total
Children	42.9% (225)	30.3% (159)	0% (0)	73.3% (384)
Adolescents	5.2% (27)	4.2% (22)	0% (0)	9.4% (49)
Adults	12.0% (63)	5.3% (28)	0% (0)	17.4% (91)
Total	60.1% (315)	39.9% (209)	0% (0)	100% (524)

among children. Just under one-fifth (17.5%) of activity was observed among adults, and only 9.4% among adolescents. Sixty percent of all activity in Clifford Owasco Park was sedentary, and nearly 40% (39.9%) of activity was moderately active. Very active behavior was not observed.



Demonstrated in Figure 3, very active behavior was not observed in Clifford Owasco Park. Children were most likely to be participating in sedentary (42.9%) or moderate activity (30.3%). Adolescents were observed participating in sedentary activity (12.0%) more than twice as much as moderate activity (5.3%). Adult activity levels were also more likely to be sedentary (5.2%) than moderate (4.2%).

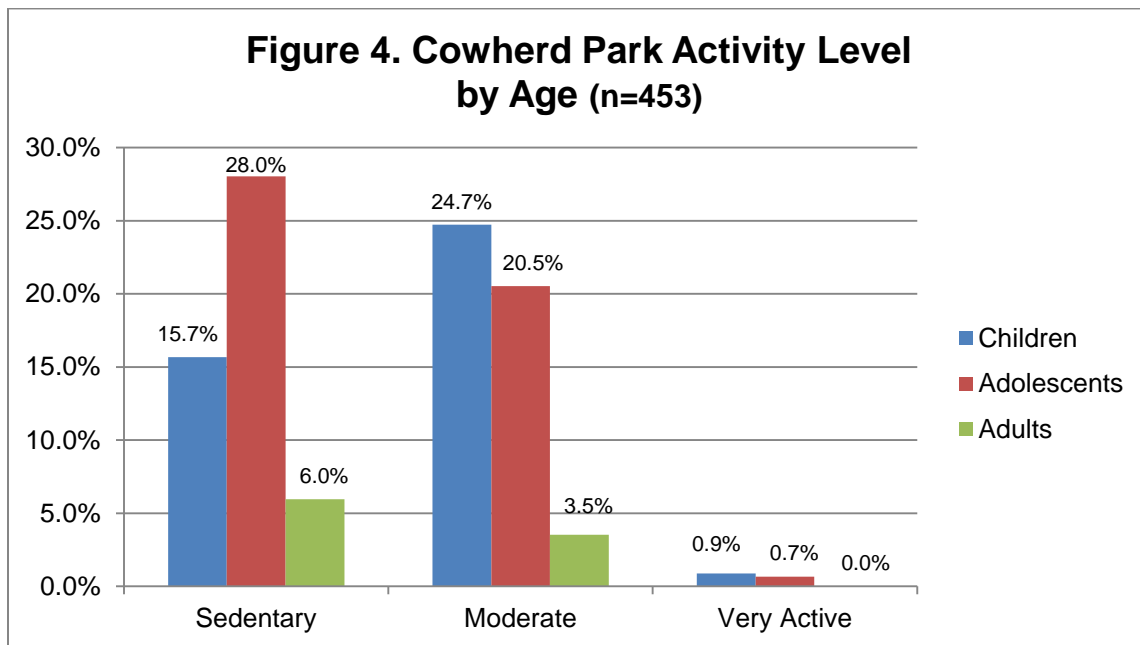
The activity codes observers identified during the observation periods in Clifford Owasco Park are displayed in Table 6. Children were observed in the most number of different activity codes: aerobics, basketball, football, soccer, and biking. Adolescents were observed in three different activity codes: basketball, football, and soccer. Adults were two different activity codes: basketball and football. Basketball and football were the only activity codes observed across all age groups.

	Children	Adolescents	Adults
No identifiable activity			x
Aerobics	x		
Basketball	x	x	x
Football	x	x	x
Soccer	x	x	
Biking	x		

Cowherd Park

A total of 453 activity counts were recorded in Cowherd Parks. Shown in Table 7, just under half (49.2%) of activity in Cowherd Park was observed among adolescents. About forty-one percent (41.3%) of activity observed was among children. Only about ten percent (9.5%) of activity was observed among adults. The majority of activity observed was either sedentary (49.7%) or moderate (48.8%). Only a small proportion (1.5%) of activity was very active.

	Sedentary	Moderate	Very Active	Total
Children	15.7% (71)	24.7% (112)	0.9% (4)	41.3% (187)
Adolescents	28.0% (127)	20.5% (93)	0.7% (3)	49.2% (223)
Adults	6.0% (27)	3.5% (16)	0.0% (0)	9.5% (43)
Total	49.7% (225)	48.8% (221)	1.5% (7)	100% (453)



Demonstrated in Figure 4, adolescents were most likely to be participating in very active behavior (28.0%), whereas children were most likely to be moderately active (24.7%) in Cowherd Park. No adults were very active. Likewise, only a small proportion of both children (0.9%) and adolescents (0.7%) were very active.

The activity codes observers identified during the observation periods in Cowherd Park are displayed in Table 8. Children were observed in the most number of different activity codes: basketball, football, other playground games, walking, jogging/running, and biking. Adolescents were observed in four of the same activity codes as children: basketball, football, other playground games, and walking. However, adolescents were not observed jogging/running, or biking. Additionally, adolescents were observed playing soccer. Adults were observed in the same activity codes as children excluding jogging/running and biking. Basketball, football, other playground games, and walking were activity codes observed in all age groups.

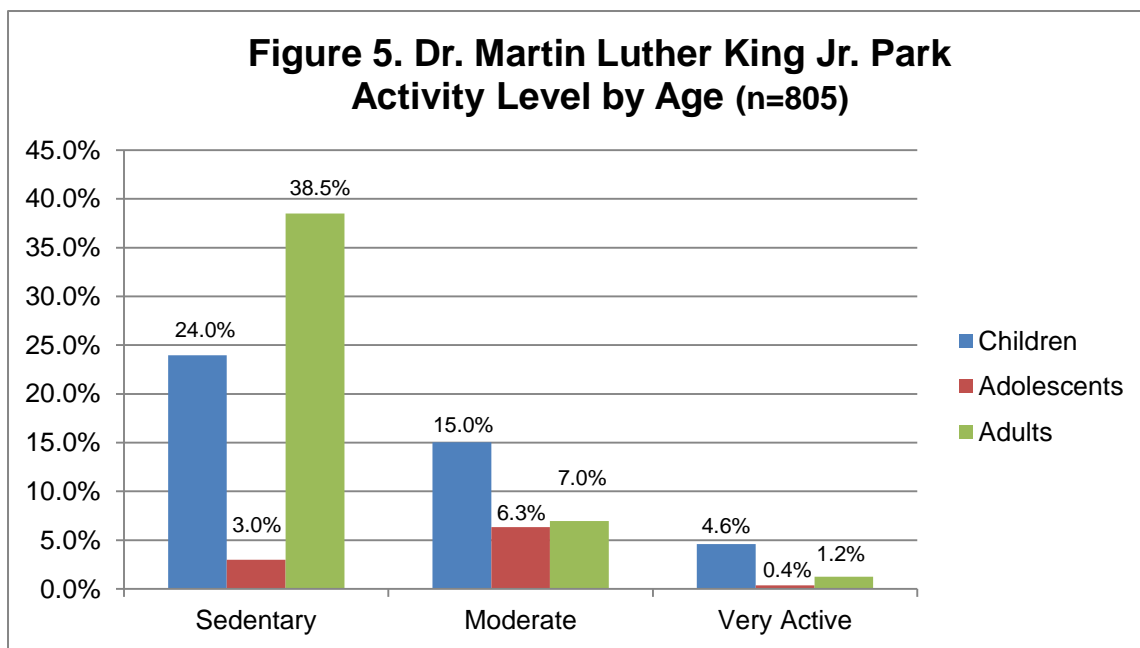
	Children	Adolescents	Adults
Basketball	x	x	x
Football	x	x	x
Soccer		x	
Other playground games	x	x	x
Walking	x	x	x
Jogging/running	x		
Biking	x		

Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Park

A total of 805 activity counts were recorded in Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Park. Shown in Table 9, a similar number of children and

	Sedentary	Moderate	Very Active	Total
Children	24.0% (193)	15.0% (121)	4.6% (37)	43.6% (351)
Adolescents	3.0% (24)	6.3% (51)	0.4% (3)	9.7% (78)
Adults	38.5% (310)	7.0% (56)	1.2% (10)	46.7% (376)
Total	65.5% (527)	28.3% (228)	6.2% (50)	100% (805)

adults were observed in Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Park. The majority of activity was observed among children (43.6%), followed by adults (46.7%). Only about ten percent (9.7%) of activity was observed among adolescents. The majority of activity in Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Park was sedentary (65.5%). Under one-third of the activity was moderate (28.3%). Only a small proportion (6.2%) of activity was very active.



Shown in Figure 5, children were most likely to be moderately (15.0%) and very active (4.6%) in Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Park. Adults were most likely to be sedentary (38.5%). Adolescents were least likely to be very active (0.4%) or moderately active (6.3%). However, compared to adolescents adults were only slightly more likely to be observed being moderately active (7.0%) or very active (1.2%).

The activity codes observers identified during observation periods in Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Park are displayed in Table 10. Children and adults were observed in many of the same activities: baseball/softball, basketball, volleyball, other playground games, walking, and biking. However, adults were observed jogging/running and participating in no identifiable activity but children were not. Adolescents were observed in

	Children	Adolescents	Adults
No identifiable activity			x
Baseball/softball	x		x
Basketball	x	x	x
Volleyball	x		x
Other playground games	x	x	x
Walking	x	x	x
Jogging/running			x
Biking	x		x

the fewest number of different activity codes: basketball, other playground games, and walking. Basketball, walking, other playground games, and walking were the only activity codes observed in all age groups.

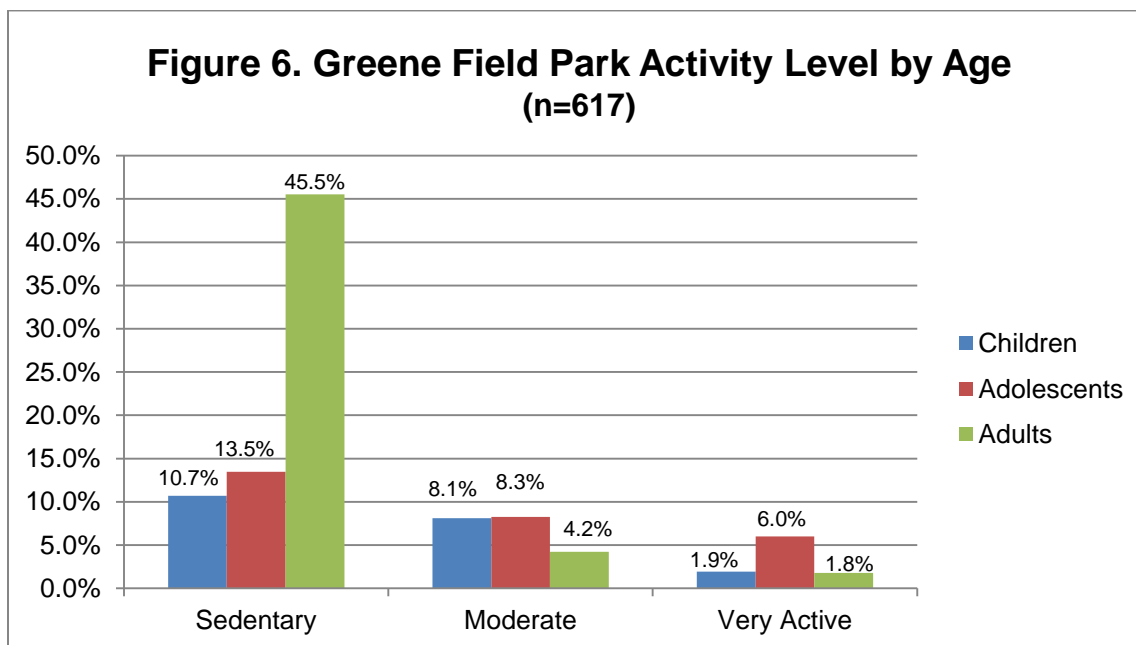
Greene Field Park

A total of 617 activity counts were recorded in Greene Field Park. Shown in Table 11, just over half (51.1%) of activity in Greene Field Park was among of adults.

Adolescent activity made up approximately one-

quarter of all activity (27.7%), and children made up one-fifth (20.7%). Nearly 70% of all activity in Greene Field Park was sedentary. Only 9.7% of observations was very active, and 20.6% of activity was moderately active.

	Sedentary	Moderate	Very Active	Total
Children	10.7% (66)	8.1% (50)	1.9% (12)	20.7% (128)
Adolescents	13.5% (83)	8.3% (51)	6.0% (37)	27.7% (171)
Adults	45.5% (281)	4.2% (26)	1.8% (11)	51.5% (318)
Total	69.7% (430)	20.6% (127)	9.7% (60)	100% (617)



Demonstrated in Figure 6, adults were most likely to be participating in sedentary activity (45.5%) at Greene Field Park. Adolescents were most likely to be participating in very active activity (6.0%) and moderately active activity (8.3%). Adults were least likely to be very active (1.8%), followed closely by children (1.9%).

The activity codes observers identified during the observation periods in Greene Field Park are displayed in Table 12. Adolescents and adults were observed in the most number of different activity codes: baseball/softball, basketball, other playground activities, walking, and biking. Children were observed in fewer activity codes: basketball, other playground games, walking, and jogging/running, walking, biking, and other playground games. Basketball, other playground games, and walking were the only activity codes observed in all age groups.

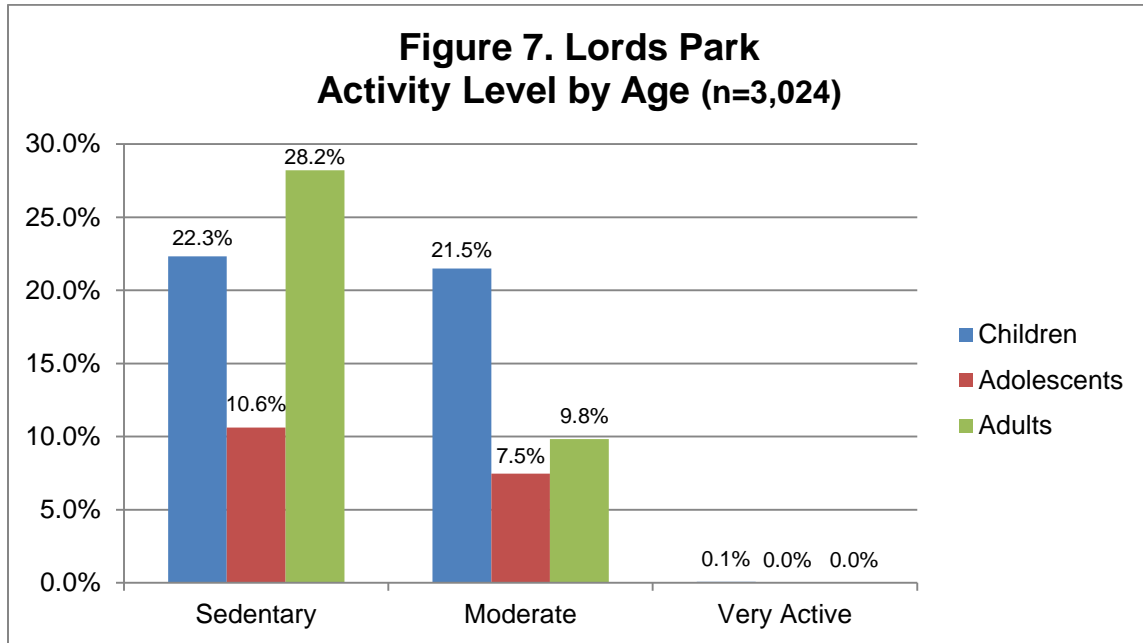
	Children	Adolescents	Adults
No identifiable activity		x	x
Baseball/softball		x	x
Basketball	x	x	x
Other playground games	x	x	x
Walking	x	x	x
Jogging/running	x		
Biking		x	x

Lords Park

A total of 3,024 activity counts were recorded in Lords Park. Shown in Table 13, the majority of (43.9%) of activity observed was among children, whereas under one-fifth (18.1%) was among adolescents.

	Sedentary	Moderate	Very Active	Total
Children	22.3% (675)	21.5% (650)	0.1% (2)	43.9% (1,327)
Adolescents	10.6% (321)	7.5% (226)	0.0% (0)	18.1% (547)
Adults	28.2% (853)	9.8% (297)	0.0% (0)	38.0% (1,150)
Total	61.1% (1,849)	38.8% (1,173)	0.1% (2)	100% (3024)

Thirty-eight percent of activity was observed among adults. Over half (61.1%) of all activity observed in Lords Park was sedentary, and only 0.1% of observations was very active. However, 39% of activity was moderate.



Demonstrated in Figure 7, there was almost no very active behavior observed in Lords Park. Adults were the most likely age group to be sedentary (28.2%), followed closely by children (22.3%). The most likely group to be moderately active was children (21.5%). The least likely age group to be sedentary (10.6%) or moderately active (7.5%) was adolescents.

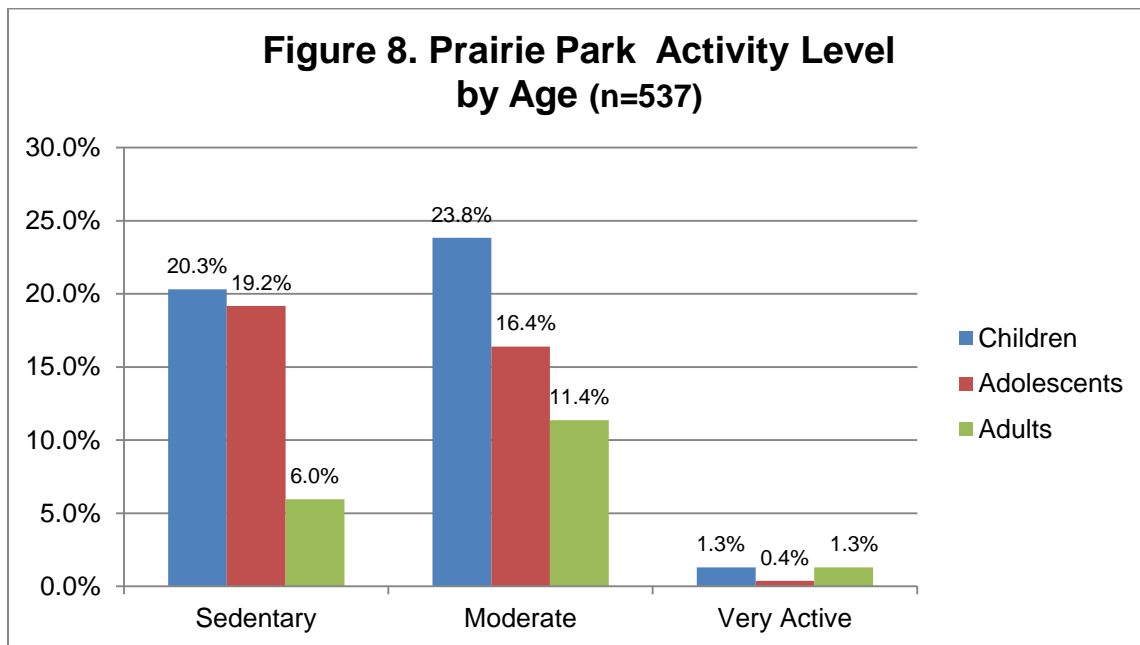
The activity codes observers identified during the observation periods in Lords Park are displayed in Table 14. Children, adolescents, and adults were all observed in the same activities: baseball/softball, basketball, racquet sports, swimming, and other playground games.

	Children	Adolescents	Adults
Baseball/softball	x	x	x
Basketball	x	x	x
Racquet sports	x	x	x
Swimming	x	x	x
Other playground games	x	x	x

Prairie Park

A total of 537 activity counts were recorded in Prairie Park. Shown in Table 15, the majority (45.4%) of activity observed was among children, followed by adolescents (35.9%). Under one-fifth (18.6%) of activity was among adults. The majority (51.6%) of activity was moderately active. However, only 3% of activity was very active, and 45.4% of activity was sedentary.

	Sedentary	Moderate	Very Active	Total
Children	20.3% (109)	23.8% (128)	1.3% (7)	45.4% (244)
Adolescents	19.2% (103)	16.4% (88)	0.4% (2)	35.9% (193)
Adults	6.0% (32)	11.4% (61)	1.3% (7)	18.6% (100)
Total	45.4% (244)	51.6% (277)	3.0% (16)	100% (537)



Demonstrated in Figure 8, children observed at Prairie Park were the most likely group to be both sedentary (20.3%) and moderately active (23.8%). However, adolescents followed the same trend with 19.2% observed being sedentary and 16.4% moderately active. The same percentage (1.3%) of children and adults were observed participating in very active behavior. Only 0.4% of adolescents were taken part in very active behavior.

The activity codes observers identified during the observation periods in Prairie Park are displayed in Table 16. Children were observed in the most number of different activity codes: aerobics, basketball, soccer, walking, and biking. Adolescents and adults were observed in all of the same activities as children except soccer. However, adults were observed jogging/running as well. Therefore, activity codes observed in all age groups

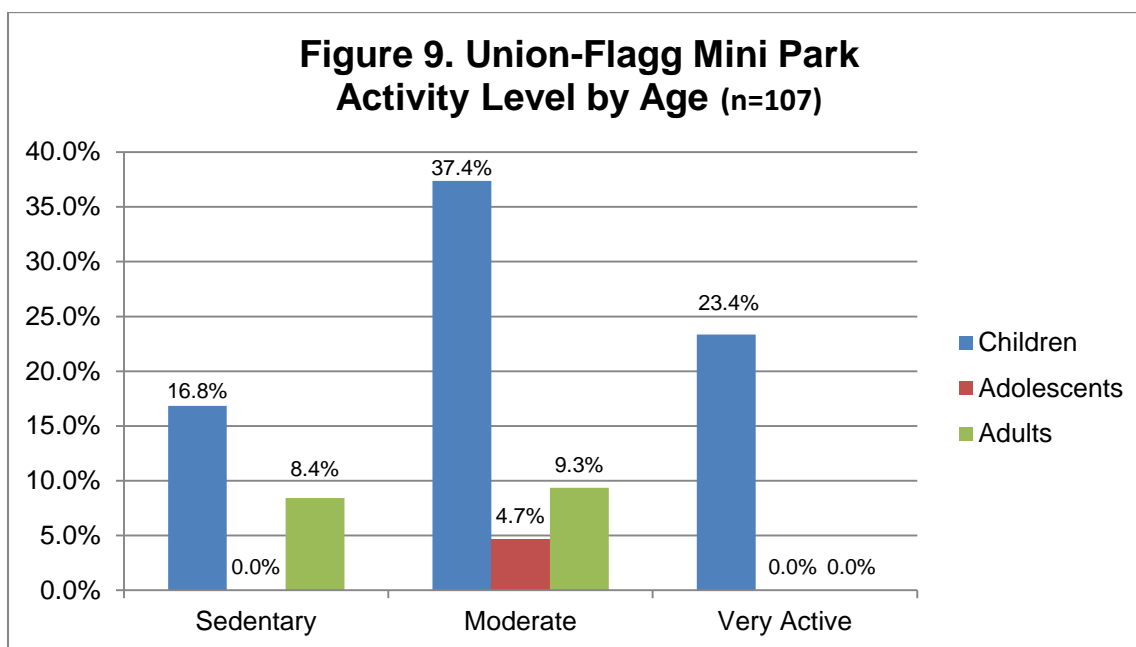
	Children	Adolescents	Adults
No identifiable activity	x	x	x
Aerobics	x	x	x
Basketball	x	x	x
Soccer	x		
Walking	x	x	x
Jogging/running			x
None of the above	x	x	
Biking	x	x	x

include aerobics, basketball, walking, and biking. No identifiable activity was observed in all three age groups. No identifiable activity is defined as sitting or standing, but not doing any other recognizable activity. Both children and adolescents were observed participating in some type of activity (i.e., skateboarding) that was not listed among the codes on the direct observation tool.

Union-Flagg Mini Park

A total of 107 activity counts were recorded in Union-Flagg Mini Park. Shown in Table 17, over three-fourths (77.6%) of all activity observed was among children. Less than one-fifth (17.8%) of activity was observed among adults, and only 4.7% of activity among adolescents. Fifty-one percent of all activity was moderate. Under a quarter of activity (23.4%) was very active.

	Sedentary	Moderate	Very Active	Total
Children	16.8% (18)	37.4% (40)	23.4% (25)	77.6% (83)
Adolescents	0.0% (0)	4.7% (5)	0.0% (0)	4.7% (5)
Adults	8.4% (9)	9.3% (10)	0.0% (0)	17.8% (19)
Total	25.2% (27)	51.4% (55)	23.4% (25)	100% (107)



Demonstrated in Figure 9, children were the only age group to be observed participating in very active behavior (23.4%) at Union-Flagg Mini Park. Children were the most likely group to be observed participating in moderately active behavior (37.4%). Adolescents were observed participating in moderate levels of activity, but not very active or sedentary activities. Adults were observed taking part in moderate (9.3%) and sedentary activities (8.4%) only.

The activity codes observers identified during the observation periods in Union-Flagg Mini Park are displayed in Table 18. Children were observed in three different activity codes: football, other playground games, and

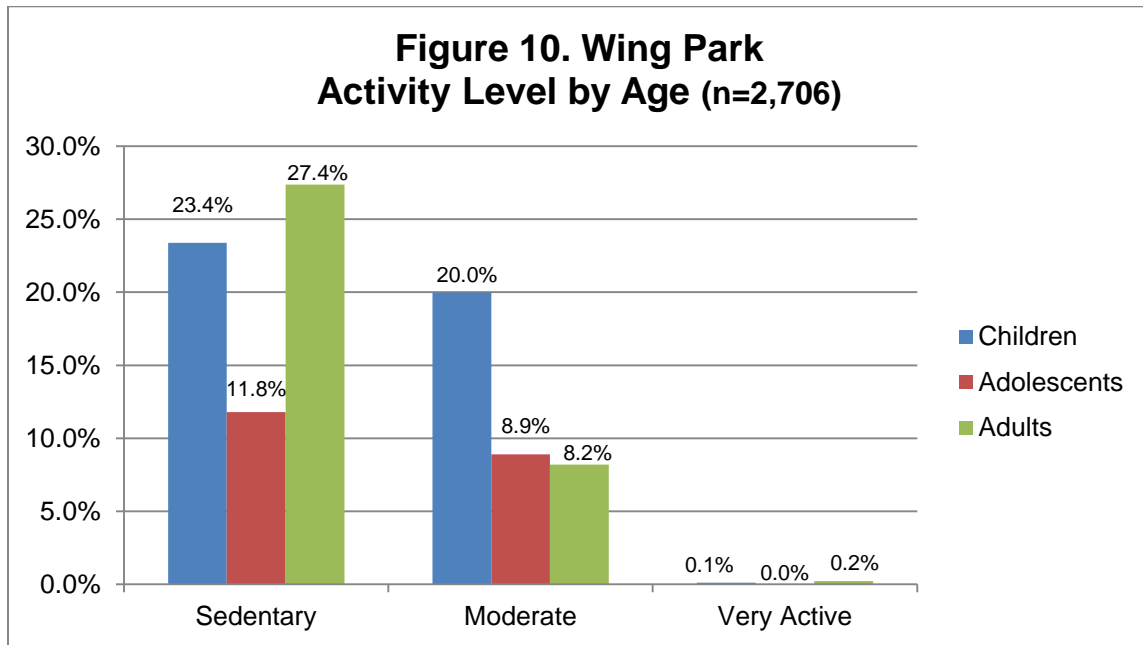
	Children	Adolescents	Adults
No identifiable activity			x
Aerobics			x
Football	x		
Other playground games	x		
Walking	x	x	x
Biking			x

walking. Adults were also observed in three different activities: aerobics, walking, and biking. Adolescents were observed in only one activity: walking. Walking was the only activity code observed in all age groups. Adults were the only age group observed taking part in no identifiable activity. No identifiable activity is defined as sitting or standing, but not doing any other recognizable activity.

Wing Park

A total of 2,706 activity counts were observed in Wing Park. Shown in Table 19, just under half (43.5%) of all activity observed in Wing Park was among children. Slightly more than one-third (35.8%) of all activity was among adults, and only one-fifth (20.7%) among adolescents. Over half (62.6%) of activity observed in Wing Park was sedentary. More than one-third (37.1%) of the activity was moderate. Only 0.3% was very active.

	Sedentary	Moderate	Very Active	Total
Children	23.4% (633)	20.0% (541)	0.1% (3)	43.5% (1,177)
Adolescents	11.8% (319)	8.9% (241)	0.0% (0)	20.7% (560)
Adults	27.4% (741)	8.2% (222)	0.2% (6)	35.8% (969)
Total	62.6% (1,693)	37.1% (1,004)	0.3% (9)	100% (742)



Demonstrated in Figure 10, there was almost no very active behavior observed in Wing Park across all age groups. Adults were the most likely age group to be sedentary (27.4%), followed closely by children (23.4%). The most likely group to be moderately active was children (20.0%). Adolescents were least likely to be sedentary (11.8%), whereas adults were least likely to be moderately active (8.2%).

The activity codes observers identified during the observation periods in Wing Park are displayed in Table 20. Adults were observed in the most number of different activity codes: baseball/softball, basketball, racquet sports, swimming, and other playground games. Children were observed in the same activities as adults except racquet sports. Adolescents were observed in the fewest number of different activity codes: basketball, swimming, and other playground games. Basketball, swimming, and other playground games were the only activity codes observed in all age groups.

	Children	Adolescents	Adults
Baseball/softball	x		x
Basketball	x	x	x
Racquet sports			x
Swimming	x	x	x
Other playground games	x	x	x

Appendix A: Parks and Play Spaces Direct Observation Tool

Evaluation of Healthy Kids, Healthy Communities

Parks and Play Spaces Direct Observation Tool

Park or Play Space Name/Address: _____ Observer Name: _____

Community Partnership: _____ Weather Condition: _____ Date: _____

Start Time	Play Space	Children 3-12 (# of children)				Adolescent 13-18 (# of youth)				Adults 19+ (# of adults)			
		Sedentary	Moderate	Very Active	Activity Code	Sedentary	Moderate	Very Active	Activity Code	Sedentary	Moderate	Very Active	Activity Code
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Activity Codes: **0** = No identifiable activity (i.e. not moving); **1**= Aerobics; **2** = Baseball/Softball; **3**= Basketball; **4** = Dance; **5** = Football; **6** = Gymnastics; **7** = Martial Arts; **8** = Racquet sports; **9** = Soccer; **10** = Swimming; **11**= Volleyball; **12** = Weight training; **13** = Other playground games; **14** = Walking; **15** = Jogging/Running; **16** = None of the above; **17** = Biking

Parks and Play Spaces Direct Observation

Introduction

This tool and protocol were developed by the evaluation team from Transtria LLC (Laura Brennan, PhD, MPH, Principal Investigator; Allison Kemner, MPH; Tammy Behlmann, MPH; Jessica Stachecki, MSW, MBA; Carl Filler, MSW) and Washington University Institute for Public Health (Ross Brownson, PhD, Co-Principal Investigator; Christy Hoehner, PhD, MSPH) as well as feedback from national advisors and partners. This tool and protocol were adapted from the System for Observing Play and Leisure Activity (SOPLAY) and System for Observing Play and Recreation in Communities (SOPARC) tools, protocols, and operational definitions.

Funding was provided for the *Evaluation of Healthy Kids, Healthy Communities* by a grant from the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation (#67099). Transtria LLC is leading the evaluation and dissemination activities from April 2010 to March 2014. For more information about the evaluation, please contact Laura Brennan (laura@transtria.com) or Allison Kemner (akemner@transtria.com).

Prior to conducting the observations

Safety

- Assess the safety of the environment for observing before entering the area:
- If dangerous or suspicious activities are taking place, leave the premises, notify the Project Director or Coordinator, and determine whether to schedule a new observation.
- If weather conditions (ice or snow, thunder or lightning) are not ideal for collecting data, leave the premises, notify the Project Director or Coordinator, and determine whether to schedule a new observation period.

Items to remember

- Pencils, a copy of the paper tools for all data collectors, clipboards
- Comfortable shoes, umbrella (if it's raining), sunscreen
- Data collectors' contact information (in case of emergency)
- List and map of sites for data collection, identifying boundaries of the area
- Letter from the Project Director or Coordinator explaining the reason for data collection
- Transportation to and from the site for observers, if needed

Direct Observation schedule

Recommended timeframe for observations:

- Scan one area for 15-30 minutes.
- Scans should last for 30 seconds to 1 minute (depending on the number of people in the area).
- There should be a 1 minute rest between scans.

Schedule observations at different times of the day (2-3 times per day recommended). Example times:

- Morning (7:30 AM)
- Noon (11:30 AM)
- Afternoon (3:30 PM)
- Evening (6:30 PM)

Schedule observations for multiple times a week (2-3 days recommended). Example schedules:

- Two weekdays (Monday through Friday) and one weekend day (Saturday and Sunday)
- Example: Tuesday, Thursday, Saturday

Evaluation of Healthy Kids, Healthy Communities

Parks and Play Spaces Direct Observation Mapping Table (Instruction Sheet)

The purpose of mapping is to record various features in different parks and play space settings. Completing the map will allow for a better understanding of the individual behaviors observed in the designated play spaces.

Before observing activities, recorders should have knowledge of the play space where they are going to conduct observations. A rough sketch should be made of the overall park or play space (and how it has been divided into areas for different observers, if necessary). In the case where multiple play spaces are observed, each area should be numbered on the sketch. In addition, all permanent structures and natural and constructed boundaries should be recorded in the sketch. A copy of the sketch should be retained for reference during data analysis.

Below you will find detailed descriptions for each column within the Parks and Play Spaces Mapping Table.

Park or play space: All descriptive details about the park or play space should be easily referenced between the sketched map and the Mapping Table. From the sketched map, place the area number in the first column of the Mapping Table and follow the row across to complete all categories. [Note: The area numbers will also be referenced in the "Parks and Play Spaces observation tool."]

Setting: Record whether the play space being used is a park, playground, recreation facility, or other space (specify).

Location: Record whether the play space being used is indoors or outdoors.

Type: Choose from the following categories.

- Court: An area marked for basketball, volleyball, racquetball, and/or other court games. It contains permanent markings specifically for court games.
- Field: An area marked for football, soccer, baseball, and/or other field games. It contains permanent markings or goals, backstops, or other features specifically for field games.
- Playground: A self-contained space for swinging, sliding, climbing, or other types of play.
- Pool: Consists of wading or swimming pool and the surrounding space.
- Gym: A large indoor space primarily for physical activity and game play.
- Multi-purpose room: An auditorium, classroom, studio, or other indoor space that may be used for physical activity (e.g., dance, aerobics, strength training).
- Multi-purpose field: An open, outdoor, unmarked field that may be used for physical activity.
- Other (specify): Record any other type of area not specified above.

Condition: This section provides basic descriptive information about the designated play space.

- Accessible: Play space is not restricted from public use (e.g., area is not locked or rented to a private party).
- Usable: Play space is safe for physical activity (e.g., equipment is in good condition)
- Supervised: Play space is supervised by personnel (e.g., staff, teachers, volunteers). The supervisor must be in or adjacent to this specific area.
- Organized: Physical activity programs (i.e., scheduled, with leadership by school or agency personnel apparent) are occurring in the play space (e.g., intramurals, interscholastic practices, fitness classes).
- Equipment: Equipment is provided (e.g., balls, jump ropes). *Do not* mark if the equipment is permanent (e.g., basketball hoops) or is owned by people in the park or play space. [Note: The equipment may be provided by parks and recreation, schools, or other organizations/agencies.]

Surface: Record what type of surface is present on the majority of each play space. Choose from the following: sand/dirt, grass, gravel, wood chips/ mulch, foam/ rubber/ tile, cement/ pavement, hardwood, carpet, and other (specify).

Intervention: Record the specific intervention changes that assist children in participating in physical activity in this play space. This will include modifications such as lines painted on courts (e.g., four-square), cuts in the grass or field areas (e.g., baseball diamonds), and poles (basketball hoops, etc.). **Do not** record temporary improvements such as chalk lines and portable nets. A modification identifies what the area is primarily designed for, regardless of how it used at a particular time. Identify spaces that have multiple improvements that overlap but cannot be used simultaneously. For instance, a court space may have poles and painted lines that are used for both volleyball and basketball.

Evaluation of Healthy Kids, Healthy Communities

Parks and Play Spaces Mapping Table

Play Space Name/Address: _____ Observer Name: _____

Community Partnership: _____ Weather Condition: _____ Date: _____

Play Space	Setting	Location	Type	Condition	Surface	Intervention
1	<input type="checkbox"/> Park <input type="checkbox"/> Rec. facility <input type="checkbox"/> Other:	<input type="checkbox"/> Indoor <input type="checkbox"/> Outdoor	<input type="checkbox"/> Court <input type="checkbox"/> Field <input type="checkbox"/> Playground <input type="checkbox"/> Pool <input type="checkbox"/> Gym <input type="checkbox"/> Multi-purp. room <input type="checkbox"/> Multi-purp. field <input type="checkbox"/> Other:	<input type="checkbox"/> Accessible <input type="checkbox"/> Usable <input type="checkbox"/> Supervised <input type="checkbox"/> Organized <input type="checkbox"/> Equipment <input type="checkbox"/> Other:	<input type="checkbox"/> Sand/dirt <input type="checkbox"/> Grass <input type="checkbox"/> Gravel <input type="checkbox"/> Wood chips/ mulch <input type="checkbox"/> Foam/ rubber/ tile <input type="checkbox"/> Cement/ pavement <input type="checkbox"/> Hardwood <input type="checkbox"/> Carpet <input type="checkbox"/> Other:	
2	<input type="checkbox"/> Park <input type="checkbox"/> Rec. facility <input type="checkbox"/> Other:	<input type="checkbox"/> Indoor <input type="checkbox"/> Outdoor	<input type="checkbox"/> Court <input type="checkbox"/> Field <input type="checkbox"/> Playground <input type="checkbox"/> Pool <input type="checkbox"/> Gym <input type="checkbox"/> Multi-purp. room <input type="checkbox"/> Multi-purp. field <input type="checkbox"/> Other:	<input type="checkbox"/> Accessible <input type="checkbox"/> Usable <input type="checkbox"/> Supervised <input type="checkbox"/> Organized <input type="checkbox"/> Equipment <input type="checkbox"/> Other:	<input type="checkbox"/> Sand/dirt <input type="checkbox"/> Grass <input type="checkbox"/> Gravel <input type="checkbox"/> Wood chips/ mulch <input type="checkbox"/> Foam/ rubber/ tile <input type="checkbox"/> Cement/ pavement <input type="checkbox"/> Hardwood <input type="checkbox"/> Carpet <input type="checkbox"/> Other:	
3	<input type="checkbox"/> Park <input type="checkbox"/> Rec. facility <input type="checkbox"/> Other:	<input type="checkbox"/> Indoor <input type="checkbox"/> Outdoor	<input type="checkbox"/> Court <input type="checkbox"/> Field <input type="checkbox"/> Playground <input type="checkbox"/> Pool <input type="checkbox"/> Gym <input type="checkbox"/> Multi-purp. room <input type="checkbox"/> Multi-purp. field <input type="checkbox"/> Other:	<input type="checkbox"/> Accessible <input type="checkbox"/> Usable <input type="checkbox"/> Supervised <input type="checkbox"/> Organized <input type="checkbox"/> Equipment <input type="checkbox"/> Other:	<input type="checkbox"/> Sand/dirt <input type="checkbox"/> Grass <input type="checkbox"/> Gravel <input type="checkbox"/> Wood chips/ mulch <input type="checkbox"/> Foam/ rubber/ tile <input type="checkbox"/> Cement/ pavement <input type="checkbox"/> Hardwood <input type="checkbox"/> Carpet <input type="checkbox"/> Other:	

Evaluation of Healthy Kids, Healthy Communities

Parks and Play Spaces Mapping Table

Play Space	Setting	Location	Type	Condition	Surface	Intervention
4	<input type="checkbox"/> Park <input type="checkbox"/> Rec. facility <input type="checkbox"/> Other:	<input type="checkbox"/> Indoor <input type="checkbox"/> Outdoor	<input type="checkbox"/> Court <input type="checkbox"/> Field <input type="checkbox"/> Playground <input type="checkbox"/> Pool <input type="checkbox"/> Gym <input type="checkbox"/> Multi-purp. room <input type="checkbox"/> Multi-purp. field <input type="checkbox"/> Other:	<input type="checkbox"/> Accessible <input type="checkbox"/> Usable <input type="checkbox"/> Supervised <input type="checkbox"/> Organized <input type="checkbox"/> Equipment <input type="checkbox"/> Other:	<input type="checkbox"/> Sand/dirt <input type="checkbox"/> Grass <input type="checkbox"/> Gravel <input type="checkbox"/> Wood chips/ mulch <input type="checkbox"/> Foam/ rubber/ tile <input type="checkbox"/> Cement/ pavement <input type="checkbox"/> Hardwood <input type="checkbox"/> Carpet <input type="checkbox"/> Other:	
5	<input type="checkbox"/> Park <input type="checkbox"/> Rec. facility <input type="checkbox"/> Other:	<input type="checkbox"/> Indoor <input type="checkbox"/> Outdoor	<input type="checkbox"/> Court <input type="checkbox"/> Field <input type="checkbox"/> Playground <input type="checkbox"/> Pool <input type="checkbox"/> Gym <input type="checkbox"/> Multi-purp. room <input type="checkbox"/> Multi-purp. field <input type="checkbox"/> Other:	<input type="checkbox"/> Accessible <input type="checkbox"/> Usable <input type="checkbox"/> Supervised <input type="checkbox"/> Organized <input type="checkbox"/> Equipment <input type="checkbox"/> Other::	<input type="checkbox"/> Sand/dirt <input type="checkbox"/> Grass <input type="checkbox"/> Gravel <input type="checkbox"/> Wood chips/ mulch <input type="checkbox"/> Foam/ rubber/ tile <input type="checkbox"/> Cement/ pavement <input type="checkbox"/> Hardwood <input type="checkbox"/> Carpet <input type="checkbox"/> Other:	
6	<input type="checkbox"/> Park <input type="checkbox"/> Rec. facility <input type="checkbox"/> Other:	<input type="checkbox"/> Indoor <input type="checkbox"/> Outdoor	<input type="checkbox"/> Court <input type="checkbox"/> Field <input type="checkbox"/> Playground <input type="checkbox"/> Pool <input type="checkbox"/> Gym <input type="checkbox"/> Multi-purp. room <input type="checkbox"/> Multi-purp. field <input type="checkbox"/> Other:	<input type="checkbox"/> Accessible <input type="checkbox"/> Usable <input type="checkbox"/> Supervised <input type="checkbox"/> Organized <input type="checkbox"/> Equipment <input type="checkbox"/> Other:	<input type="checkbox"/> Sand/dirt <input type="checkbox"/> Grass <input type="checkbox"/> Gravel <input type="checkbox"/> Wood chips/ mulch <input type="checkbox"/> Foam/ rubber/ tile <input type="checkbox"/> Cement/ pavement <input type="checkbox"/> Hardwood <input type="checkbox"/> Carpet <input type="checkbox"/> Other:	

Evaluation of Healthy Kids, Healthy Communities

Parks and Play Spaces Direct Observation Instruction Sheet

Use the following codes and definitions to assist you in completing the observation tool.

Observers: Observers will be split into groups of two to observe different areas at the same time (see example below). Areas correspond with the play spaces on the Parks and Play Spaces Mapping Table.

Play Space 1:	Observer 1
	Observer 2
Play Space 2:	Observer 3
	Observer 4

Start Time: This is the clock time for the beginning of each observation period. Each observation will last the same amount of time (with the length of time dependent on the number of individuals within the observed area) with a one minute break in-between observations to record (see below for an example). In the first column, record the start time for each period of observation.

Period 1:	Minute 1 – Observation
	Minute 2 – Break/Record
Period 2:	Minute 3 – Observation
	Minute 4 – Break/Record
Period 3:	Minute 5 – Observation
	Minute 6 – Break/Record

Map: Before observation begins, the observers will split the street into sections (e.g., segments and intersections) and each observer will be responsible for observing his/her section. The observers should record the area number in the second column of the observation tool.

Scanning: When scanning an area, observers should start on the far right end of the area and scan to the left side, then back to the right side for the duration of the scan time. During the scan, the observer should complete the observation tool by tallying activity by age group, in addition to reporting the activity codes for the age group. You should count the same individual's activity level multiple times if they enter your line of vision more than once in the scan time. However, only mark each activity code one time per scan time (see below).

Ages: Each age category has its own count. Please provide the number of youth or individuals represented during the observation period participating in different intensity levels of activity and their specific activity (i.e., activity code).

Activity Level (Sedentary, Moderate, Very Active): During scans of the target area, all people should be accounted for as either participating in very active, moderate, or sedentary behaviors. Mark a tally mark for each individual in the proper activity level and age box (i.e. if you see a 14 year old walking, put a tally mark in moderate under Adolescent).

- **Sedentary** behaviors are defined as activities in which people are not moving (e.g. standing, sitting, playing board games)
- **Moderate** intensity behaviors require more movement but no strenuous activity (e.g. walking, biking slowly)
- **Very active** behaviors show evidence of increased heart rate and inhalation rate (e.g. running, biking vigorously, playing basketball)

Activity Codes: Define what tasks individuals are participating in during the scanning period. All codes are labeled at the bottom of the observation tool. Use each code only one time per observation period (e.g., write "14" once in the space for activity codes even if more than one individual is observed walking).

Making Kane County Fit for Kids

Physical Activity and Nutrition Standards

Summary Report

Prepared by Transtria LLC



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BACKGROUND

Healthy Kids, Healthy Communities (HKHC) is a national program of the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation (RWJF) whose primary goal is to implement healthy eating and active living policy, system, and environmental change initiatives that can support healthier communities for children and families across the United States. Healthy Kids, Healthy Communities places special emphasis on reaching children who are at highest risk for obesity on the basis of race/ethnicity, income, and/or geographic location.

Kane County, Illinois was selected as one of 49 communities to participate in HKHC, and the Kane County Health Department is the lead agency for their community partnership, *Making Kane County Fit for Kids*. Kane County focused its work on the following healthy eating and active living strategies: comprehensive plans, Safe Routes to School, parks and recreation, and community gardens. Transtria LLC, a public health evaluation and research consulting firm located in St. Louis, Missouri, is funded by the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation to lead the evaluation and dissemination activities from April 2010 to March 2014. For more information about the evaluation, please visit www.transtria.com.

In order to better understand nutrition standards and physical activity in child care settings, *Making Kane County Fit for Kids* representatives chose to participate in the enhanced evaluation data collection activities. This supplementary evaluation focuses on the six cross-site HKHC strategies, including: parks and play spaces, active transportation, farmers' markets, corner stores, physical activity standards in child care settings, and nutrition standards in child care settings. Communities use two main methods as part of the enhanced evaluation, direct observation and environmental audits. Kane County chose to collect data on nutrition standards and physical activity in child care settings using the environmental audit method.

METHODS

The nutrition environmental audit tool was adapted from the Community Healthy Living Index, a Vending Machine Tool from the Center for Science in Public Interest, and the Nutrition Environment Assessment Tool (see Appendix B). The physical activity environmental audit tool and protocol were adapted from the Physical Activity Resource Assessment and the BTG-COMP Park Observation Form 2012 (see Appendix C). An Evaluation Officer from Transtria LLC trained representatives of Kane County's community partnership on proper data collection methods using the tool.

Both the nutrition standards and physical activity standards environmental audits were conducted by one trained auditor between January 31, 2013 and February 21, 2013. Ten child care locations were identified for both environmental audits: Rogy's Learning Place, Aurora Early Learning Center, St. Charles Kinder Care, Tom Thumb Day Care Center, The Giving Tree Early Learning Center, Main Lane Kinder Care, Elgin Day Care center, East Geneva Kinder Care, Share and Care Learning Center, and Little Explorers.

Environmental audits assess the presence or absence of different features as well as the quality or condition of the physical environment. The auditor assessed the nutrition standards of each site in the following categories: facility characteristics, food preparation environment, meal or snack environment, beverages available, meal foods, snack foods, vending machines, and other competitive foods and beverages. The physical activity standards tool captures the setting, accessibility, vending machines, signage, barriers to entry, playground features (swings/slides/monkey bars/sandboxes/ground games), sports and recreation features (fields/courts/pools/tracks/trails), aesthetic features and amenities, trash and vandalism.

Transtria staff performed data entry and validation. One Transtria staff member entered the data and a second Transtria staff member conducted validity checks to ensure accuracy of the data. A total of 2190 data points were checked for the nutrition standards and 12 errors were found (99.45 % correct). For the physical activity standards, a total of 2705 data points were checked and 23 errors were found (99.15 % correct). All errors were corrected.

RESULTS

Facility Characteristics

The ten child care facilities evaluated throughout Kane County, Illinois ranged in size from 113 to 220 children. All facilities provide early child care and after-school care services Monday through Friday, and were closed on Saturdays or Sundays. None of the facilities provided a summer care program, however summer care services for the Aurora Early Learning Center were available between 6:30 AM and 5:30 PM. All ten child care facilities opened at 6:30 AM, while closing times varied (three facilities closed at 5:30 PM, three facilities closed at 6:00 PM, three facilities closed at 6:30 PM, and one facility closed at 12:00 AM). After school services were provided at all ten locations, and the hours differed from the regular full day hours at four child care facilities hours (The Giving Tree Early Learning Center from 3:30 PM to 6:00 PM, Rogy's Learning Place from 3:30 PM to 6:30 PM, Main Lane Kinder Care from 2:30 PM to 6:00 PM, and Aurora Early Learning Center from 11:30 AM to 5:30 PM). All ten child care facilities were reported to be clean with no garbage or litter present (see Appendix A, Table 1).

Nutrition Standards

Food Preparation Environment

There were two of ten child care facilities without food preparation environment or space (Tom Thumb Day Care Center and East Geneva Kinder Care). The eight remaining child care facilities had a refrigeration and/or cooling system; food preparation that included a sink and counter; cook top/stove/range; and sufficient equipment. Of the child care facilities with food preparation equipment, seven of the eight had an oven. Only The Aurora Early Learning Center used a garden to supplement their food service, in addition to supporting educational or other purposes (see Appendix A, Table 2).

Beverages Available (Menu Review)

All ten child care facilities served meals and/or snacks in the classroom. All facilities provided water and a variety of milk choices, including skim, 1%, 2%, whole, and soy milk. Skim, 1%, and 2% milk were special order items and soy milk and Lactaid® brand milk were provided per medical doctor orders at Rogy's Learning Place. Three child care facilities provided flavored skim, 1%, or 2% milk (St. Charles Kinder Care, Main Lane Kinder Care, and Elgin Day Care Center). Rice milk was not provided at Rogy's Learning Place or Aurora Early Learning Center; the remaining eight facilities provided rice milk. Eight facilities provided Lactaid® brand milk; Tom Thumb Day Care Center and Elgin Day Care Center did not provide Lactaid® brand milk (see Appendix A, Table 2).

Meal Foods Available (Menu Review)

Breakfast Meal

All ten child care facilities provided a breakfast meal that included the following menu items: fresh fruit, frozen or canned fruit (no syrup), cottage cheese or low fat yogurt, high fat meats, and high fiber or whole grain foods. The breakfast menu items provided at the nine facilities included frozen or canned fruit in syrup, fried or pre-fried vegetables, and lean meats. Rogy's Learning Place breakfast menu did not include frozen or canned fruit in syrup, fried or pre-fried vegetables, or lean meats. Six facilities included sweet food items on the breakfast menus, while four facilities did not include sweet food items (Rogy's Learning Place, St. Charles Kinder Care, East Geneva Kinder Care, and Share and Care Learning Center) (see Appendix A, Table 3).

Lunch Meal (Menu Review)

All ten child care facilities provided a lunch meal that included the following items: fresh fruit or vegetables, vegetables cooked with fat, cottage cheese or low fat yogurt, fried or pre-fried vegetables, fried or pre-fried meats, high fat meats, beans, lean meats, and high fiber or whole grain foods. Eight facilities included sweet food items on the lunch menus, while two facilities did not offer sweet food items (Rogy's Learning Place and St. Charles Kinder Care). Only Elgin Day Care Center included salty foods and other foods (not specified) on the lunch menu (see Appendix A, Table 3).

Salad Bar (Menu Review)

Four child care facilities offered a salad bar with at least 3-4 types of fruits, green vegetables, orange vegetables, and red vegetables (Rogy's Learning Place, Tom Thumb Day Care Center, The Giving Tree Early Learning Center, and Elgin Day Care Center). The salad bar at The Giving Tree Early Learning Center and Elgin Day Care Center included five or more types of fruits. The salad bar at Rogy's Learning Place, The Giving Tree Early Learning Center, and Elgin Day Care Center also included starchy vegetables; cottage cheese or low fat yogurt; nuts/seeds/legumes (dry beans); bacon bits or croutons; and fat free salad dressing (see Appendix A, Table 3).

Competitive Foods and Snacks (Menu Review)

Pizza was a competitive menu item included at all ten child care facilities and burgers were included at five facilities (Main Lane Kinder Care, Elgin Day Care Center, East Geneva Kinder Care, Share and Care Learning Center, and Little Explorers). Available snack food menu items included at all ten child care facilities were fresh fruit; frozen or canned fruit without syrup; raw, fresh vegetables; cottage cheese or yogurt; and high fiber or whole grain foods. Rogy's Learning Center was the only facility that did not provide frozen or canned fruit with syrup. Four child care facilities did not include sweet foods as snack items. Salty food snacks were included at three locations (The Giving Tree Early Learning Center, Main Lane Kinder Care, and Elgin Day Care Center). Other snack foods that were not specified by the auditor were available at The Giving Tree Early Learning Center (see Appendix A, Table 3).

Vending Machines and Other Competitive Foods/Beverages

None of child care sites had vending machines and stores that sold food or beverages.

Nutrition Standards and Policies

Data for nutrition standards and policies were not reported for the Elgin Day Care Center. Nine child care facilities adhered to the nutrition standards policies from the Illinois Department of Children and Family Services. At eight facilities, the nutrition policies were available as part of the documentation from the Illinois Department of Children and Family Services and/or as part of the child care facility policy handbook. Also, nutrition policies were enforced at every meal based on adherence to the policies. Nine facilities changed the menu on a weekly basis. Notification of menu changes were sent home with the children or sent via email directly to the parents or caregivers. At Rogy's Learning Place, the director monitored the meals for nutrition policy adherence. Spoons were used to measure and serve age appropriate portion sizes at four child care facilities (Rogy's Learning Place, Aurora Early Learning Center, St. Charles Kinder Care, and The Giving Tree Early Learning Center). There was no designated equipment used for measuring portion sizes of food at Main Lane Kinder Care, East Geneva Kinder Care, Share and Care Learning Center, or Little Explorers. Data was not reported for nutrition policy documentation, enforcement, and monitoring of nutrition policies or available serving equipment used for portioning food at Tom Thumb Day Care Center (see Appendix A, Table 4).

Physical Activity Standards

Recreational Features- Fields

A variety of indoor and outdoor recreational fields were present in ten child care facilities evaluated throughout Kane County. All fields (outdoor and indoor) and all related equipment were rated in good/average condition. The number and types of recreational fields available at each child care facility ranged from zero to four (soccer, football, baseball, and/or multi-use). Recreational fields were not available at one child care facility, nine child care facilities had at least one recreational field, and five child care facilities each had four types of recreational

fields. Three child care facilities each had one outdoor soccer field; two soccer fields had lighting. Three child care facilities each had one indoor soccer fields; presence of lighting was reported for one facility. Soccer field goals were available at four facilities. Three child care facilities each had one outdoor football field, while two football fields had lighting. Three child care facilities each had one indoor football field; presence of lighting was reported for one facility. One facility had football field goal posts. Four child care facilities each had one outdoor baseball field; two baseball fields had lighting. Two child care facilities each had one indoor baseball fields. Three facilities each had a softball/baseball field fence by the home plate area. Three child care facilities each had one outdoor multi-use field; two multi-use fields had lighting. Four child care facilities each had one indoor multi-use fields; presence of lighting was reported for one facility. One facility had additional equipment including a batting cage/warm-up area, scoreboard, flood lights on field(s), seating for players (dugouts/ benches), uncovered bleachers or seating for audience, and covered seating (stadium type structure). One facility had balance beams and another facility had additional equipment that was not specified. Other field use was reported as open space, playgrounds, or space for bikes (see Appendix A, Table 6).

Field Accessibility and Signage

Recreational fields could be locked at a total of six child care facilities; two facilities had indoor fields, and for one facility the auditor reported locked fields as 'part of the facility'. Three facilities with outdoor fields were able to be locked and two facilities with outdoor fields were not able to be locked. Seven child care facilities had signage specifying the rules for use of the field(s). Two facilities did not have signs specifying rules for use of fields; the field reported for one of these facilities was a playground and not a specific type of recreational field. Signs indicating the hours of operation for field use were present at three child care facilities; seven child care facilities did not have signs indicating the hours of operation for the field(s) and the auditor noted fields were 'open' at one facility. None of the fields had signage indicating fee for use (see Appendix A, Table 6).

Recreational Courts

A variety of indoor and outdoor recreational courts were present in seven of the ten child care facilities evaluated throughout Kane County. Three child care facilities did not have recreational courts. All recreational courts (indoor and outdoor) and all related equipment were rated in good/average condition. No recreational courts or related equipment were rated in poor condition. Two child care facilities each had one outdoor basketball court, both courts had lighting. Five child care facilities each had one indoor basketball court; presence of lighting was reported for three of these facilities. Six child care facilities each had basketball posts, five facilities each had basketball hoops, and one facility had basketball backboards and basketball court markings. Only one child care facility had an indoor tennis court. Related equipment available for the tennis court included posts for net, net, court markings, and a tennis practice wall. Three child care facilities each had one indoor volleyball court; presence of lighting was reported for one facility. Related volleyball equipment, such as volleyball posts for net, net, and court markings, was only present at one facility. Two child care facilities each had one outdoor multi-use court, both courts had lighting. Three facilities each had one indoor multi-use courts;

presence of lighting was reported for two facilities. Other court use was reported as playgrounds. One facility had additional equipment including a scoreboard, flood lights on courts, seating for players (benches), uncovered bleachers/audience seating, and covered seating (stadium type structure). Other available equipment reported was multi-purpose use or not specified (see Appendix A, Table 7).

Court Accessibility and Signage

Recreational courts at the seven child care facilities could be locked. Recreational courts at two facilities were locked with a key and recreational courts at two other facilities were locked by a gate without a key. The auditor indicated that recreational courts for two facilities were locked playgrounds. Six facilities had signage posted specifying the rules for court use. Three facilities had signage posted at the courts indicating hours of operation. Signs indicating fee for use of the courts were present at one facility (see Appendix A, Table 7).

Recreational Track and Path/Trail

Among six of the ten child care facilities evaluated in Kane County, a total of eight running/walking tracks (indoor and outdoor) were present. Four child care facilities had either an indoor or outdoor running/walking track and two facilities had both an indoor and outdoor running/walking track. One facility had only an indoor running/walking track, and three facilities each had only an outdoor running/walking track. Lighting was present for two outdoor tracks. A total of six path/trails were present in child care facilities in Kane County. A total of six path/trails were present among the ten child care facilities evaluated in Kane County. Five child care facilities had at least one indoor or outdoor path/trail. One of the five facilities had both an indoor and outdoor path/trail, one facility had only an indoor path/trail, and three facilities had only an outdoor path/trail. Lighting was present for two outdoor path/trails and lighting was reported for one indoor path/trail. All tracks and path/trails were rated in good/average condition, no track or path/trail was rated in poor condition (see Appendix A, Table 8).

Track and Trail Surface Characteristics

Of the eight total running/walking tracks, only one track was reported to be a single surface type (smooth-concrete). The five outdoor tracks were reported to be a combination of different surface types. Of the five outdoor tracks, one track was smooth (concrete) and dirt/grass; one track was smooth, particulate, and dirt/grass; one track was smooth (asphalt, concrete) and dirt/grass; and one track was smooth, spongy (rubber), and dirt/grass. The three indoor tracks were reported to be multiple surfaces. One indoor track was smooth (concrete), particulate, spongy, and dirt/grass. The other two indoor tracks were in facilities that also had an outdoor track; the auditor did not distinguish indoor versus outdoor track surface types. Thus, the track surface types reported for these two facilities were the same regardless of indoor or outdoor track. One indoor track was reported to be smooth (concrete) and dirt/grass, and the other indoor track was reported to be smooth, spongy (rubber), and dirt/grass. Additionally, the auditor selected surface characteristics for tracks at two child care facilities where no track was reported (see Appendix A, Table 8).

Of the six total path/trails, two outdoor path/trails were reported to be a single surface type (smooth); one path/trail was specifically identified as smooth-concrete. The other two outdoor path/trails were reported to be a combination of surface types. Two outdoor path/trails were smooth and dirt/grass; one of the path/trails was specifically identified as smooth-concrete, respectively. One indoor path/trail was reported to be particulate and dirt/grass. The other indoor path/trail was in a facility that also had an outdoor path/trail; the auditor did not distinguish between the indoor versus outdoor path/trail surface types. Thus, the path/trail surface types reported for this facility were the same regardless of indoor or outdoor path/trail. The path/trails for this facility were reported to be smooth –concrete and dirt/grass. Additionally, the auditor selected surface characteristics for path/trails at five child care facilities where no indoor or outdoor path/trails were reported.

Among the four outdoor path/trails, three had a flat or gentle slope (0%-10% incline), and one had a moderate slope (10%-25% incline). Among the two indoor path/trails, one had a flat or gentle slope (0%-10% incline), and one had a moderate slope (10%-25% incline). It should be noted that the auditor reported a flat or gentle slope for a facility with both an indoor and outdoor path/trail, yet did not identify separate slopes for each path/trail. Additionally, slope was reported for five facilities where no path/trails were reported.

Vehicle traffic crossed or intersected three of the four total outdoor path/trails. On the fourth outdoor path/trail, the auditor selected both unable to assess for vehicle traffic crossing and no vehicle traffic crossing or intersecting occurred. Additionally, vehicle traffic crossing or intersecting the path/trail was reported for four facilities where no path/trails were reported.

Swimming Pool

Indoor and outdoor swimming pools were present at two of the ten child care facilities evaluated in Kane County (The Giving Tree Early Learning Center and Rogy's Learning Place). It should be noted that a discrepancy occurred in data reported for all available swimming pools at both facilities (see Appendix A, Table 9).

The data reported for swimming pools at The Giving Tree Early Learning center included: not applicable, no swimming facilities, and the presence of both indoor and outdoor swimming pools (≥ 3 ft deep). The specific number of swimming pools (≥ 3 ft deep) was not reported. Additionally, The Giving Tree Early Learning Center had one indoor and one outdoor kiddie/wading pool (≤ 3 ft deep). The presence of lighting was not reported for the outdoor pools. Condition of the pools was not reported. In response to available pool equipment, the auditor reported the presence of a separate wading pool for babies/small children. No other pool equipment was available. There were no signs specifying rules for pool use, hours or operation, or fee for use of the pools.

Rogy's Learning Place had one outdoor kiddie/wading pool (≤ 3 ft deep) with lighting, and the auditor indicated park district. The kiddie/wading pool was rated in good/average condition. Pool equipment available included a slide, diving boards, separate wading pool for babies/small children, permanent lane markings at bottom of pool, floating lane markings, lounge chairs,

locker rooms/changing area, and other (not specified). Signage was present specifying rules for use of the swimming pool, hours of operation, and fees for use of the pool.

Playground Features

A variety of playground features were present in the ten child care facilities evaluated throughout Kane County. All playground features were rated in good/average condition; no playground feature was rated in poor condition. Nine child care facilities each had at least one toddler swing; Tom Thumb Day Care Center had five toddler swings. Lighting was present with the toddler swings at five facilities, including lighting for the five toddler swings at Tom Thumb Day Care Center. Nine child care facilities each had one youth swing. Lighting was present with each of the youth swings at five facilities. Eight child care facilities each had one tire swing, with accompanying lighting present at four of the facilities. Five child care facilities each had one slide, with accompanying lighting present at three of the facilities. Six child care facilities each had one set of monkey/climbing bars, with accompanying lighting present at four of the facilities. Eight child care facilities each had one other type of climbing feature (not specified), and lighting was present with each of the other climbing features at five of the facilities. Eight child care facilities each had at least one see-saw/teeter-totter; Tom Thumb Day Care Center had three see-saw/teeter-totters, and Main Lane Kinder Care had two see-saw/teeter-totters. Lighting was present with each see-saw/teeter-totters at five facilities. Tom Thumb Day Care Center and Main Lane Kinder Care each had lighting present for their multiple see-saw/teeter-totters, respectively. Five child care facilities each had one spring rocker, with accompanying lighting present at two of the facilities. All ten child care facilities each had at least one sandbox; Tom Thumb Day Care Center had two sandboxes, and Main Lane Kinder Care had three sandboxes. Lighting was present with each sandbox at five facilities. At Tom Thumb Day Care Center, lighting was present with both sandboxes. Nine child care facilities each had one marked four-square court and one marked hopscotch area. Lighting was present with each marked four-square court and each marked hopscotch area at five of the facilities (see Appendix A, Table 10).

Three child care facilities had other play area features available, such as hula hoops, a play house, and tunnels. Hula hoops were available at two of the three child care facilities; the third facility had both the playhouse and tunnels. Lighting was present at one of the facilities with the hula hoops and the facility with the playhouse. Presence of lighting was reported at two additional facilities in regard to other play area features, but no other features were reported.

Other recreational spaces were available at six of the child care facilities. Four child care facilities each had one dance studio, each with accompanying lighting. One facility had a weight room with accompanying lighting. Five child care facilities had open green space and each facility had lighting present with the open green space. Discrepancy occurred in reporting data for other recreational spaces at The Giving Tree Early Learning facility. The auditor indicated other recreational space was not available and indicated there were other recreational spaces present, such as dance studio, weight room, and open green space. The auditor did not quantify

the number of these features present or whether lighting was present with these additional recreational spaces.

Playground Accessibility and Surface Characteristics

The playgrounds at each of the ten child care facilities were surrounded by a fence that could be locked. Eight child care facility playground areas posted signage specifying the rules for use. A variety of surface types used under play areas were reported for the ten child care facilities. Two facilities used exclusively rubber tiles or synthetic surface material. Surface materials in three facilities were exclusively hard surfaces reported as either concrete or asphalt. Five facilities used a combination of surface materials under play spaces. The surface type used under the play space in one facility was a combination of concrete, grass, and rubber tiles. The surface type used under the play space in one facility was a combination of asphalt, grass, and loose fill/gravel. Two facilities used grass and loose fill (mulch) under their respective play spaces. The surface type used under the play space in one facility was hard (not specified) and grass (see Appendix A, Table 10).

Indoor Play Space Features, Equipment, and Characteristics

Classroom space or designated indoor space for open play (play space) was available at each of the ten child care facilities. At each of the ten facilities, the indoor play space could be used for quiet play, very limited movement (jumping and rolling), and for some active play (jumping, rolling, and skipping). Six facilities allowed indoor play space to be used for all activities, including running (see Appendix A, Table 11).

A variety of thirteen different types of play space equipment was available in each of the ten child care facilities including mats, balls, tunnels, climbing equipment, balancing equipment, overhead ladders, jump ropes, hopscotch, portable play equipment, blocks, ribbons (dance), tricycles, and scooters. Three child care facilities offered all thirteen types of play space equipment and two facilities offered all the play space equipment, except scooters. Five facilities provided between eight and eleven different types of play space equipment. Main Lane Kinder Care offered the fewest (eight) different types of play space equipment, but additionally offered bean bags and hula hoops. Five facilities did not offer overhead ladders, four facilities did not offer scooters, three facilities did not offer climbing equipment, two facilities did not offer tunnels, one facility did not offer balls, one facility did not offer hopscotch, and one facility did not offer portable play equipment. Other play space equipment reported for the Share and Care Learning Center included morning objectives.

Table 3: Meal Foods Available -Menu Review

Nutrition Environment Characteristic	Rogy's Learning Place	Aurora Early Learning center	St. Charles Kinder Care	Tom Thumb Day Care Center	The Giving Tree Early Learning Center	Main Lane Kinder Care	Elgin Day Care Center	East Geneva Kinder Care	Share and Care Learning Center	Little Explorers
Meal foods available (menu review)										
Breakfast: fresh fruit	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
Breakfast: frozen or canned fruit (no syrup)	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
Breakfast: frozen or canned fruit (with syrup)		X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
Breakfast: cottage cheese or low fat yogurt	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
Breakfast: fried or pre-fried vegetables		X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
Breakfast: high fat meals	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
Breakfast: lean meats		X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
Breakfast: high fiber, whole grain foods	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
Breakfast: sweet foods		X		X	X	X	X			X
Meal foods available (menu review)										
Lunch/dinner: fresh fruit or vegetables	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
Lunch/dinner: vegetables cooked with fat	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
Lunch/dinner: cottage cheese or low fat yogurt	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
Lunch/dinner: fried or pre-fried vegetables	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
Lunch/dinner: fried or pre-fried meats	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
Lunch/dinner: high fat meats	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
Lunch/dinner: beans	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
Lunch/dinner: lean meats	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
Lunch/dinner: high fiber, whole grain foods	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
Lunch/dinner: sweet foods		X		X	X	X	X	X	X	X
Lunch/dinner: salty foods							X			
Lunch/dinner: other (not specified)							X			

Table 3: Meal Foods Available -Menu Review (Continued)

<i>Nutrition Environment Characteristic</i>	Rogy's Learning Place	Aurora Early Learning center	St. Charles Kinder Care	Tom Thumb Day Care Center	The Giving Tree Early Learning Center	Main Lane Kinder Care	Elgin Day Care Center	East Geneva Kinder Care	Share and Care Learning Center	Little Explorers
Meal foods available (menu review)										
Salad bar	X			X	X		X			
Salad bar: fresh fruit (1-2 types)	X			X	X		X			
Salad bar: fresh fruit (3-4 types)	X			X	X		X			
Salad bar: fresh fruit (5+ types)					X		X			
Salad bar: green vegetables	X			X	X		X			
Salad bar: orange vegetables	X			X	X		X			
Salad bar: red vegetables	X			X	X		X			
Salad bar: starchy vegetables	X				X		X			
Salad bar: cottage cheese or low fat yogurt	X				X		X			
Salad bar: nuts, seeds, legumes (dry beans)	X				X		X			
Salad bar: bacon bits or croutons	X				X		X			
Salad bar: fat free salad dressing	X				X		X			
Meal foods available (menu review)										
Competitive foods: pizza	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
Competitive foods: burgers						X	X	X	X	X
Snack foods: fresh fruit	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
Snack foods: frozen or canned fruit (no syrup)	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
Snack food: frozen or canned fruit (with syrup)		X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
Snack food: raw, fresh vegetables	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
Snack food: frozen or canned vegetables	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
Snack food: cottage cheese or yogurt	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
Snack food: high fiber, whole grain foods	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
Snack food: sweet foods			X		X	X	X	X	X	
Snack food: salty foods					X	X	X			
Snack food: other (not specified)					X					

Table 4: Nutrition Standards

<i>Nutrition Standards Interview Questions</i>	Rogy's Learning Place	Aurora Early Learning center	St. Charles Kinder Care	Tom Thumb Day Care Center	The Giving Tree Early Learning Center	Main Lane Kinder Care	Elgin Day Care Center	East Geneva Kinder Care	Share and Care Learning Center	Little Explorers
Name of nutrition policy in place	DCFS Policy	DCFS Policy	DCFS	DCFS Policies	DCFS	DCFS	*	DCFS Policies; Center Policies	DCFS Policies; Center Policies	DCFS Policies; Center Policies
Frequency of menu change	weekly	weekly	Weekly	Weekly	weekly	weekly	*	weekly	weekly	weekly
Menu change notifications to parents/caregivers and youth	Sent home; via email	Weekly menus sent home	Weekly-sent home	By email or children take home	Sent home	Sent home	*	Sent home	Sent home	Sent home
Documentation of nutrition policies	DCFS – Center handbook	DCFS Policies 407, 406	DCFS Policies-Center Policies	*	DCFS; Center Policies	DCFS; Center Policies	*	DCFS; Center Policies	DCFS Policies	DCFS; Center Policies
Staff informed/updated of physical activity policies	*	*	DCFS	*	DCFS Policies	DCFS Policies	*	New policies shared	Provided by Director	*
Nutrition policies enforced/monitored	Every meal by Director; DCFS Policy	Every meal; Per DCFS Policies	Every meal; Per DCFS policy	*	Every meal; DCFS Policies	Every meal; DCFS Policies	*	Every meal; DCFS Policies	Every meal; DCFS Rules	Every meal; DCFS Policies
Available equipment corresponding to portion size per age group	Use spoons to measure	Spoons used for measuring	spoon	*	spoon	None	*	None	None	None

* No information provided/recorded

DCFS = Illinois Department of Children and Family Services

Table 5: Nutrition Characteristics *not* Present

<i>Meal or snack environment</i>	<i>Competitive foods</i>
Hot meal area	Nachos with cheese only
Salad bar	Loaded nachos
Competitive foods	Burgers
Vending machines	Breaded chicken sandwich
Water fountains	Grilled chicken sandwich
Point of purchase prompts	Fried or pre-fried vegetables
Food and beverage advertisements present	Sweet foods
Specific food and beverage advertisements present	Salty foods
Signs highlight specific food or beverage	
<i>Beverages available</i>	<i>Vending machines</i>
Flavored whole milk	
100% Juice	<i>Other competitive foods and beverages</i>
Sugar sweetened beverages	Store that sells foods and beverages
	Another place that sells foods and beverages

Table 6: Physical Activity Environment Characteristics- Recreational Fields

	Rogy's Learning Place	Aurora Early Learning Center	St. Charles Kinder Care	Tom Thumb Day Care Center	The Giving Tree Early Learning Center	Main Lane Kinder Care	Elgin Day Care Center	East Geneva Kinder Care	Share and Care Learning Center	Little Explorers
Recreational Field Features (n)										
Fields, soccer (indoor)	X (1)						X (1)**		X (1)	
Fields, soccer (outdoor)		X (1)		X (1)*		X (1)*				
Fields, football (indoor)	X (1)						X (1)**		X (1)	
Fields, football (outdoor)		X (1)		X (1)*		X (1)*				
Fields, baseball (indoor)	X (1)								X (1)	
Fields, baseball (outdoor)		X (1)		X (1)*	X (1)	X (1)*				
Fields, multi-use (indoor)	X (1)**	X (1)**					X (1)**		X (1)	
Fields, multi-use (outdoor)				X (1)*		X (1)*		X (1)		
Other fields:Specify: (playground- indoor)	X (1)								X (1)	
Other fields: Specify: (playground-outdoor)			X (1)*		X (3)				X (1)	
Other fields: Specify: (open space)					X (1)					
Other field; Specify: (space for bike)									X (1)	
Recreational Field Equipment										
Equipment, soccer field goals		X			X	X			X	
Equipment, football field goalposts									X	
Equipment, softball/baseball field fence (by home plate)				X		X			X	
Equipment, batting cage/warm-up area									X	
Equipment, scoreboard									X	
Equipment, flood lights on field(s)									X	
Equipment, seating for players (dugouts, benches)									X	
Equipment, uncovered bleachers or seating for audience									X	
Equipment, stadium (covered seating or structure)									X	
Equipment, other, specify: (balance beams)	X								X	
Field Accessibility and Signage										
Field can be locked	X	X				X	X	X	X	
Signage specifies rules for use of field	X	X			X	X	X	X	X	
Signage indicates fee for use of field										
Signage indicates hours of operation for use of field							X	X	X	

* Presence of outdoor lighting available with recreational field(s)

** Auditor selected outdoor lighting available with indoor recreational field(s)

Table 7: Physical Activity Environment Characteristics- Recreational Courts

	Rogy's Learning Place	Aurora Early Learning Center	St. Charles Kinder Care	Tom Thumb Day Care Center	The Giving Tree Early Learning Center	Main Lane Kinder Care	Elgin Day Care Center	East Geneva Kinder Care	Share and Care Learning Center	Little Explorers
Recreational Court Features (n)										
Basketball (indoor)	X (1)**	X (1)**			X (1)		X (1)**		X (1)	
Basketball (outdoor)				X (1)*		X (1)*				
Tennis (indoor)									X (1)	
Tennis (outdoor)										
Volleyball (indoor)					X (1)		X (1)**		X (1)	
Volleyball (outdoor)										
Court, multi-use (indoor)		X (1)**			X (1)		X (1)**			
Court, multi-use (outdoor)				X (1)*		X (1)*				
Other court: Specify: (playground- indoor)	X (1)									
Other court: Specify: (playground-outdoor)	X (1)*				X (3)					
Other court: Specify: (open space)										

* Presence of outdoor lighting available with recreational court(s)

** Auditor selected outdoor lighting available with indoor recreational court(s)

Table 7: Physical Activity Environment Characteristics- Recreational Courts (Continued)

	Rogy's Learning Place	Aurora Early Learning Center	St. Charles Kinder Care	Tom Thumb Day Care Center	The Giving Tree Early Learning Center	Main Lane Kinder Care	Elgin Day Care Center	East Geneva Kinder Care	Share and Care Learning Center	Little Explorers
Recreational Court Equipment										
Equipment, Basketball post	X	X		X	X	X			X	
Equipment, Basketball backboard									X	
Equipment, Basketball hoop	X		X		X		X		X	
Equipment, Basketball court markings (free-throw line)									X	
Equipment, Tennis posts for net									X	
Equipment, Tennis net									X	
Equipment, Tennis court markings (out of bounds lines)									X	
Equipment, Tennis practice wall									X	
Equipment, Volleyball posts for net									X	
Equipment, Volleyball net									X	
Equipment, Volleyball court markings (out of bounds lines)									X	
Equipment, Scoreboard									X	
Equipment, Flood lights on court(s)									X	
Equipment, Seating for players (benches)									X	
Equipment, Uncovered bleachers or seating for audience									X	
Equipment, Stadium (covered seating or structure)									X	
Equipment, other: (multi-purpose)		X								
Court Accessibility and Signage										
Court(s) area can be locked	X	X		X	X	X	X		X	
Signs specifying rules for use of court(s)	X	X		X		X	X		X	
Signs specifying fee for use of court(s)									X	
Signs specifying hours or operation (court)							X		X	

Table 8: Physical Activity Environment Characteristics- Recreational Track/Path/Trail

	Rogy's Learning Place	Aurora Early Learning Center	St. Charles Kinder Care	Tom Thumb Day Care Center	The Giving Tree Early Learning Center	Main Lane Kinder Care	Elgin Day Care Center	East Geneva Kinder Care	Share and Care Learning Center	Little Explorers
Recreational Track/Path/Trail (n)										
Track (indoor)	X (1)						X (1)		X (1)**	
Track (outdoor)	X (1)			X (1)	X (1)	X (1)*	X (1)*			
Path/Trail (indoor)								X (1)	X (1)**	
Path/Trail (outdoor)					X (1)			X (1)*		X (1)*
Surface Used for Track										
Smooth (e.g., asphalt, concrete)	X			X	X	X	X	X	X	X
Particulate (e.g., gravel, mulch)					X				X	
Spongy (e.g., rubber, synthetic material)	X								X	
Dirt or Grass	X			X	X		X		X	
Surface Used for Path/Trail										
Unable to assess										
Smooth (e.g., asphalt, concrete)	X			X	X	X	X	X		X
Particulate (e.g., gravel, mulch)									X	
Spongy (e.g., rubber, synthetic material)	X									
Dirt or Grass					X			X	X	
Other: specify										
Slope of Path/Trail and Vehicle Traffic										
Unable to assess										
Flat or gentle (0%-10% incline)				X		X	X	X		X
Moderate (10%-25% incline)	X				X		X		X	
Steep (25%+ incline)							X			
Vehicle traffic crosses or intersects path/trail					X		X	X		X

* Presence of outdoor lighting available with recreational track/path/trail(s)

** Auditor selected outdoor lighting available with indoor recreational track/path/trail(s)

Note: Multiple responses were reported for surface types and inconsistencies in reporting surface types occurred for track or path/trail in locations where features were not present

Table 9: Physical Activity Environment Characteristics – Recreational Swimming Pool

	Rogy's Learning Place	Aurora Early Learning Center	St. Charles Kinder Care	Tom Thumb Day Care Center	The Giving Tree Early Learning Center	Main Lane Kinder Care	Elgin Day Care Center	East Geneva Kinder Care	Share and Care Learning Center	Little Explorers
Recreational Swimming Pool (n)										
Pool (> 3 ft deep) (indoor)					X*					
Pool (>3 ft deep) (outdoor)					X*					
Kiddie/wading pool (<3 ft deep) (indoor)					X (1)					
Kiddie/wading pool (<3 ft deep) (outdoor)	X (1)**				X (1)					
Pool Characteristics and Equipment										
Slide	X									
Diving board	X									
Separate wading pool for babies/small children	X				X					
Permanent lane markings at bottom of pool	X									
Floating lane markings	X									
Lounge Chairs	X									
Locker rooms/changing area	X									
Other features (specify)	X***									
Signage specifies rules for use of pool	X									
Signage indicates hours of operation for pool	X									
Signage indicates fee for use of pool	X									
Accessibility and Signage										
Signage specifying rules of use (pool)	X									
Signage specifying hours of operation (pool)	X									
Signage specifying fee for use (pool)	X									

*Auditor selected available pool, did not indicate corresponding number of pools available

** Presence of lighting available with outdoor pool

*** Other features not specified

Table 10: Physical Activity Environment Characteristics – Playgrounds

	Rogy's Learning Place	Aurora Early Learning center	St. Charles Kinder Care	Tom Thumb Day Care Center	The Giving Tree Early Learning Center	Main Lane Kinder Care	Elgin Day Care Center	East Geneva Kinder Care	Share and Care Learning Center	Little Explorers
Recreational Playground Features (n)										
Swings, toddler	X (1)	X (1)	X (1)*	X (5)*	X (1)*		X (1)*	X (1)*	X (1)	X (1)
Swings, youth	X (1)	X (1)	X (1)*	X (1)*	X (1)*		X (1)*	X (1)*	X (1)	X (1)
Swings, other (tire, rope)	X (1)	X (1)	X (1)*		X (1)*		X (1)*	X (1)*	X (1)	X (1)
Slides	X(1)				X (1)*		X (1)*	X (1)*	X (1)	X (1)
Monkey bars/climbing bars	X (1)		X (1)*		X (1)*		X (1)*	X (1)*	X (1)	
Climbing feature (rock climbing wall, ropes/nets)	X (1)	X (1)	X (1)*	X (1)*	X (1)*		X (1)*	X (1)*	X (1)	
See-saw/teeter-totter	X (1)		X (1)*	X (3)*	X (1)*	X (2)	X (1) *	X (1)*	X (1)	
Spring rocker		X (1)					X (1)*	X (1)*	X (1)	
Sandbox	X (1)	X (1)	X (1)*	X (2)*	X (1)*	X (3)	X (1)*	X (1)*	X (1)	X (1)
Marked four-square court(s)	X (1)		X (1)*	X (1)*	X (1)*	X (1)	X (1)*	X (1)*	X (1)	X (1)
Marked hopscotch area(s)	X (1)		X (1)*	X(1)*	X (1)*	X (1)	X (1)*	X (1)*	X (1)	X (1)
Other play areas: (hula hoops)	X (1)				X (1)*					
Other play areas: (play house)			X (1)*							
Other play areas: (tunnels)			X (1)*							
Type of surface under play area										
Unable to assess										
Hard (e.g., concrete, asphalt)	X	X	X			X		X		X
Grass or soil	X	X					X		X	
Turf										
Loose fill (e.g., mulch or gravel)	X						X		X	
Rubber tiles/synthetic surface		X		X	X					
Other: (Specify)										
Accessibility and Signage										
Area surrounded by fence, able to be locked	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
Signage specifying rules for use (playground)	X		X		X	X	X	X	X	X

*Presence of lighting available with playground features

Table 11: Physical Activity Environment Characteristics – Other Recreational Spaces

Other Recreational Spaces and Features (n)	Rogy's Learning Place	Aurora Early Learning Center	St. Charles Kinder Care	Tom Thumb Day Care Center	The Giving Tree Early Learning Center	Main Lane Kinder Care	Elgin Day Care Center	East Geneva Kinder Care	Share and Care Learning Center	Little Explorers
Dance studio	X (1)*	X (1)*			X**	X (1)			X (1)*	
Weight room		X (1)*			X**					
Open green space	X (1)*	X (1)*		X (1)*	X**			X (1)*	X (1)*	
Other: (Specify)										
Use of indoor play space										
Classroom or designated indoor space for open play (play space)	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
Quiet play only	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
Very limited movement (jumping and rolling)	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
Some active play (jumping, rolling, and skipping)	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
All activities, including running		X	X	X		X	X	X		
Not available										
Equipment: play space										
Mats	X		X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
Balls	X		X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
Tunnels	X		X	X	X		X	X	X	X
Climbing equipment	X		X		X		X	X	X	X
Balancing equipment	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
Overhead ladders			X				X	X	X	X
Jump ropes	X	X	X	X	X		X	X	X	X
Hopscotch	X	X	X	X		X	X	X	X	X
Portable play equipment	X	X	X	X	X		X	X	X	X
Blocks	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
Ribbons (dance)	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
Tricycle	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
Scooter		X	X	X					X	X
Other: (Specify) (bean bag, hula hoops)						X				
Other: (specify) (morning objectives)									X	

*Presence of lighting available with recreational spaces and features

**Auditor indicated not available and selected each recreational space

Appendix B: Nutrition Standards Environmental Audit Tool

Appendix C: Physical Activity Standards Environmental Audit Tool