# Knowledge and Compassion Focused on You

# Ronald McDonald Care Mobile® FITNESS Program

A comprehensive healthy weight and activity management program delivered to children and families in the Greater Washington DC Area

### Today we will discuss...

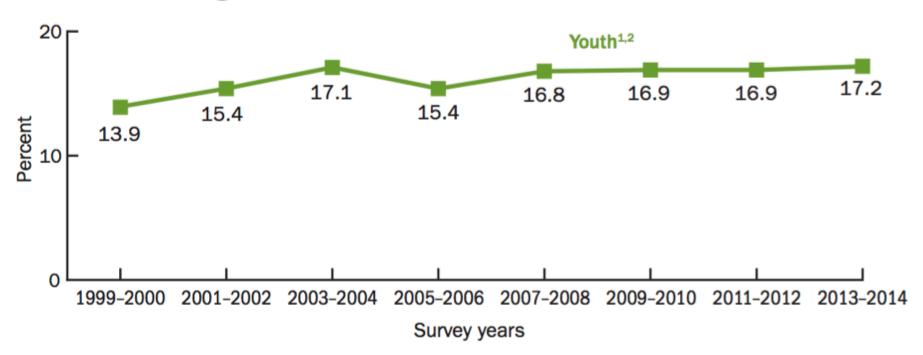
- Background
- FITNESS Program Goals
- FITNESS Program Elements
- Implementation Timeline





### **National Childhood Obesity Trends**

Trends in obesity prevalence among youth aged 2–19 years: United States, 1999–2000 through 2013–2014



<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> Significant increasing linear trend from 1999–2000 through 2013–2014.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup>Test for linear trend for 2003–2004 through 2013–2014 not significant (p > 0.05). SOURCE: CDC/NCHS, National Health and Nutrition Examination Survey.





# **Childhood Obesity: A Local Public Health Problem**

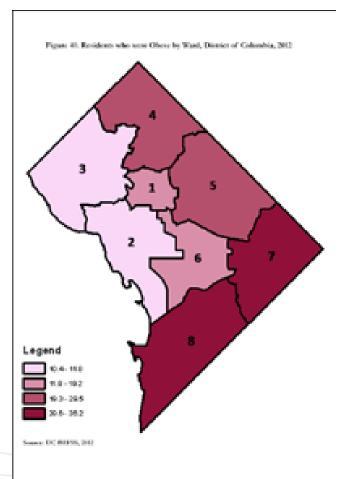
 DC has the second lowest adult obesity rate in the country with 21.9% of residents classified as obese

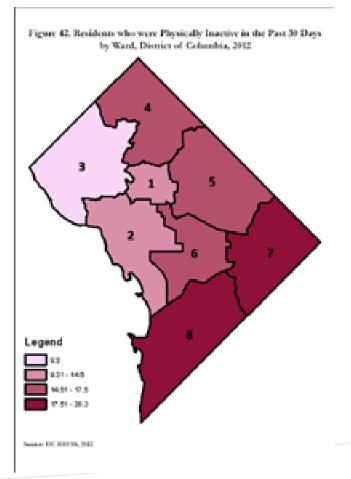
#### **HOWEVER**,

- 1 in 5 youth age 10-17 years living in DC are obese
  - 3<sup>rd</sup> highest childhood obesity rate of all US states
- 30% of students are not receiving the recommended amount of physical activity per week
- 43% of students report never eating a green salad within the past 7 days of taking the District-wide YRBSS



# **Childhood Obesity: A Local Public Health Problem**







# FITNESS Fun In Teaching Nutrition and Exercise to Successful

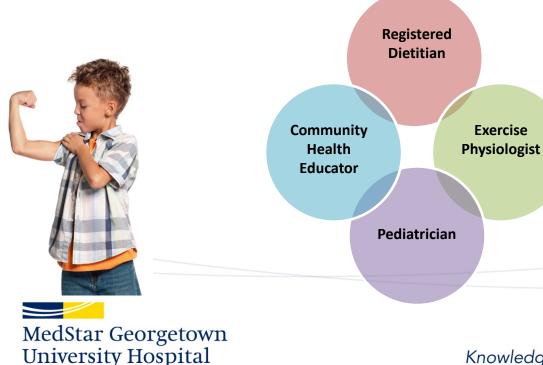
**S**tudents





#### Who We Are

Ronald McDonald House Charities® of Greater
Washington, DC has partnered with the Division of
Community Pediatrics at MedStar Georgetown
University Hospital to provide mobile nutrition and
physical activity services





### **FITNESS Program Format**

- Multidisciplinary, evidence-based, long-term approach
- Engaging schools and offering capacity building over an 18 week period
- Behavior change through engagement in experiential nutrition education and physical activity opportunities





### **FITNESS Program Goals and Objectives**

- Engaging children and families in healthier nutrition and physical activity habits that will lead to a reduced burden of chronic disease and improved quality of life
  - Improved knowledge, attitudes, and behaviors toward healthy eating and physical activity
  - Link school-aged children and their families to community and schoolbased nutritional and physical activity services
  - Provide at risk youth (BMI over 85<sup>th</sup> percentile) and their families with healthy weight management tools to achieve better health outcomes
  - Create a sustainable culture of nutritional wellness in our targeted schools





## **FITNESS Program Elements**



#### **Element #1**

Intensive Nutrition and Physical Activity Counseling



#### Element #5

Sustainability & Capacity Building for Schools

#### Element #2

**Education Training Program for Parents** 



#### Element #4

Food Preparation Skills

#### Element #3

Physical Activity Engagement for Students



MedStar Georgetown University Hospital



# Element #1: Intensive Nutrition & Physical Activity Counseling

- For students with BMI > 85th percentile
- Mobile unit will provide:
  - Individualized medical nutrition counseling services provided by a Registered Dietitian
  - Individualized physical activity counseling provided by an Exercise Physiologist
  - Motivational Interviewing (MI)
  - Goal setting
  - Overcoming ambivalence
  - Experiential & participative learning



# Element #1: Intensive Nutrition & Physical Activity Counseling

- Medical Evaluation of co-morbid obesity-associated conditions by a Pediatrician with focus on Pediatric Nutrition
  - Laboratory evaluation
  - Vital signs screening and monitoring (resting heart rate, blood pressure, BMI, weight height, waist circumference)
  - Risk factor profile
  - Family environment and family history

# Element #1: Intensive Nutrition & Physical Activity Counseling

- Interval intensive medical follow up
  - Detailed evaluation of each organ system's effects of overweight or obesity (ENT, Pulmonary, Ortho, Endocrine)
  - Tailored program to individual needs and risk factors
  - Treatment of co-morbid conditions as needed
  - Timely referrals if needed
  - Care coordination via medical home



# Element #2: Educational Training Program for Parents

- Based on NIH evidence based We Can!
   Curriculum (Ways to Enhance Children's Activity and Nutrition)
- National movement to help school-aged children maintain a healthy weight
- Curricula that educates parents and caregivers about healthy eating, physical activity and reducing screen time
- 6 bi-weekly sessions led by Community Health Educator



# **Element 3: Physical Activity Engagement for Students**

- Utilizing BOKS (Building Our Kids' Success) physical activity program
  - Offers 12-week curriculum focused on fun. Includes running, relay races, group games, functional movement skills, and nutritional tips – non-competitive and for all skill levels
  - Flexibility allows for implementation before/after school and recess
  - Can be implemented by PE teachers, staff, parents, volunteers





### **Element #4: Food Preparation Skills**

- Food preparation curriculum for children and their families
- Cooking Matters Evidence-Based Curriculum
- Provides the tools for families to create more nutritious meals cooked at home





# Element #5: Sustainability & Capacity Building for Schools





- Train-the-trainer capacity building using Healthy Kids Challenge curriculum and toolkits
- Engaging school educators in learning the FITNESS methods
- Integration of nutritional wellness and increased physical activity into the school dynamics
- Continuous technical assistance
- Fostering sustainable community partnerships



### **Implementation Timeline**

- 18-week blocks during each school semester
- 1 semester vs. 1 school-year models
- Outreach, preliminary assessments, and community engagement during and between program cycles
  - Year 1: DC Public Schools, public charter schools & strategic planning with MD school authorities
  - Year 2: MD Counties of St. Mary's, Prince Georges & Montgomery & needs assessment in VA counties
  - Year 3-5: Implementation based on continued need & school readiness





## **TOGETHER...**

we can lead the way to wellness in our children!



#### **Contact Us**

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# **QUESTIONS?**



## **THANK YOU!**

