

Turning Obesity
Around!

2010 Southern Obesity Summit



Highway to Health

Summit Attendees

Invited participants will include State Team delegates from Alabama, Arkansas, Florida, Georgia, Kentucky, Louisiana, Mississippi, Missouri, New Mexico, North Carolina, Oklahoma, South Carolina, Tennessee, Texas, Virginia and West Virginia. Also invited are state leaders from the respective states, sponsoring organizations, individuals from business, health, public health, education and the community who are addressing or are interested in addressing obesity prevention.

Summit Theme

The road to building a healthier nation connects us all. As The Highway to Health winds its way through the South, we experience many different cultures, geographies, traditions and challenges. Yet we also find many commonalities which bind Southerners together. By building upon our common strengths and sharing strategies to map new paths, together the southern states will explore new methods in eliminating childhood obesity and its negative effects upon each person we encounter on The Highway to Health.

Summit Value

Southern health policy experts and practitioners will disseminate information regarding evidence-based successful obesity prevention and control efforts across the southern region of the US to stimulate further action within the states and provide the impetus for an evaluated, regional strategy for obesity prevention and reduction. The Summit will also;

- Promote cross-sector collaboration and partnerships to prevent obesity
- Provide opportunities for practitioners to share successful policy and community-based intervention strategies
- Define a Southern Strategy to encourage effective inter-state initiatives and collaboration
- Connect peer practitioners and leaders to promote, coordinate, and sustain innovative obesity prevention activities.
- Share examples of successful implementation strategies developed by state teams who participated in the Southern Obesity Summit in Austin in 2009
- Promote and sustain partnerships with institutions and researchers so obesity prevention efforts can be evaluated and a body of knowledge built nationally
- Develop strategies for informing and encouraging policy makers to develop regional strategies for reducing obesity rates.