

1. Record Nr.	UNINA9910821010003321
Titolo	Community perspectives on obesity prevention in children : workshop summaries // Paula Tarnapol Whitacre ... [et al.], rapporteurs; Food and Nutrition Board, Institute of Medicine of the National Academies
Pubbl/distr/stampa	Washington, D.C., : National Academies Press, c2009
ISBN	0-309-14870-7 1-282-45490-0 9786612454905 0-309-14082-X
Edizione	[1st ed.]
Descrizione fisica	1 online resource (113 p.)
Altri autori (Persone)	WhitacrePaula
Disciplina	618.92
Soggetti	Obesity in children - United States - Prevention Obesity in adolescence - United States - Prevention
Lingua di pubblicazione	Inglese
Formato	Materiale a stampa
Livello bibliografico	Monografia
Note generali	Description based upon print version of record.
Nota di bibliografia	Includes bibliographical references.
Nota di contenuto	""Reviewers (June 2008 Workshop Summary)""; ""Reviewers (May 2009 Workshop Summary)""; ""Preface""; ""Contents""; ""SUMMARY OF WORKSHOP--June 2008""; ""1 Introduction""; ""2 Perspectives of Evaluators""; ""3 Perspectives of Site Leaders""; ""References""; ""SUMMARY OF WORKSHOP 2--May 2009""; ""Summary""; ""4 Introduction""; ""5 Community-Based Programs: How Does Information Help Them Achieve Their Goals?""; ""6 Research and Advocacy Groups: How Does Evidence Inform Policy?""; ""7 Decision Makers: How Do Community Perspectives Influence Policy?""; ""8 Closing Remarks""; ""References"" ""Appendix A: Workshop Agendas""""Appendix B: Biographical Sketches""; ""Appendix C: Workshop Attendees""
Sommario/riassunto	"As the public health threat of childhood obesity has become clear, the issue has become the focus of local, state, and national initiatives. Many of these efforts are centered on the community environment in recognition of the role of environmental factors in individual behaviors related to food and physical activity. In many communities, for example, fresh produce is not available or affordable, streets and parks

are not amenable to exercise, and policies and economic choices make fast food cheaper and more convenient than healthier alternatives. Community efforts to combat obesity vary in scope and scale; overall, however, they remain fragmented, and little is known about their effectiveness. At the local level, communities are struggling to determine which obesity prevention programs to initiate and how to evaluate their impact. In this context, the Institute of Medicine held two workshops to inform current work on obesity prevention in children through input from individuals who are actively engaged in community and policy-based obesity prevention programs. Community perspectives were elicited on the challenges involved in undertaking policy and programmatic interventions aimed at preventing childhood obesity, and on approaches to program implementation and evaluation that have shown promise. Highlights of the workshop presentations and discussions are presented in this volume."--Publisher's description.

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