



## Partnership for a Healthy Texas Priorities 84<sup>th</sup> Legislature

### **Improve Nutrition in Schools and Communities**

*Connect Texans to policies that improve & strengthen nutrition in their schools & communities*

- I. Ensure access to affordable, healthy foods
  - Fund public-private partnership between the Texas Department of Agriculture, Texas food banks, and community partners such as the Brighter Bites program
  - Create healthy food financing initiatives that incentivize and support the availability of healthy foods in Texas food deserts
- II. Ensure advertising on school district property is nutritionally appropriate and consistent with the types of meals, snacks, and beverages that are allowed to be sold in schools
- III. Support schools implementing a coordinated school health program
  - Remove barriers and providing funding to schools working hard to implement coordinated school health
- IV. Help communities who would like to promote the consumption of water and educate Texans about the relationship between sugary drinks, Type II diabetes, and obesity via a scalable public health campaign within the Department of State Health Services
- V. Provide an enhanced reimbursement to schools purchasing food for school meals from local Texas farmers and ranchers through the Texas Department of Agriculture

### **Increase Physical Activity in Schools and Communities**

*Connect Texans with opportunities to be physically active & policies that advance health in their schools & communities*

- VI. Improve the health of schoolchildren
  - Restore physical education in high school as a graduation requirement as well as increase physical education in middle schools from 4 semesters to 6 semesters
  - Restore health as a requirement for high school graduation
  - Support and expand the federally funded Safe Routes to School program, currently administered by the Texas Department of Transportation

## Our Mission

The Partnership for a Healthy Texas will develop and promote policies and programs that prevent obesity in Texas.

## Our Guiding Principles

- Encourage collaboration among all interested parties in reducing obesity
- Inform policy makers about the consequences of the disease
- Promote evidence-based strategies at multiple levels: individual, family, community and policy levels
- Serve as a resource for people interested in addressing obesity prevention and treatment

## Our Members

AARP • Active Life • American Association of Family and Consumer Sciences – Texas Affiliate • American Cancer Society Cancer Action Network • American Diabetes Association • American Heart Association • Blue Cross Blue Shield of Texas • Capital Area Food Bank of Texas • Center for Public Policy Priorities • Child, Inc. • Children at Risk • Children’s Hospital Association of Texas • Children’s Medical Center Dallas • The Cooper Institute • Dell Children’s Medical Center of Central Texas • East Texas AHEC • Harris County Public Health and Environmental Services • Healthy Families San Angelo • Humana Inc. • Methodist Healthcare Ministries of South Texas • National Council of Jewish Women • National Federation of Independent Business • National Wildlife Federation • Parkland Health and Hospital System • Population Health Institute of Texas • Real Food Alliance • Scott and White Memorial Hospital, Temple • Secondary and Elementary Administrators for Health, Physical Education, Recreation and Dance • Sustainable Food Center • Texas A&M School of Rural Public Health • Texas Academy of Family Physicians • Texas Action for Healthy Kids • Texas Association for Health, Physical Education, Recreation and Dance • Texas Association of Health Plans • Texas Association of Local Health Officials • Texas Association for School Nutrition • Texas Bicycle Coalition • Texans Care for Children • Texas Diabetes Program/Council • Texas Dietetic Association • Texas Health Institute • Texas IMPACT • Texas Medical Association • Texas Oral Health Coalition • Texas Orthopaedic Association • Texas Pediatric Society • Texas PTA • Texas School Health Association • Texas School Nurses Organization • Texas State Alliance of YMCAs Trans Texas Alliance • University Interscholastic League • University of North Texas Health Science Center • University of Texas at Austin

## Our Advisors

Comptroller of Public Accounts • Michael & Susan Dell Center for Healthy • Living Senate Committee on Health & Human Services • Texas AgriLife Extension Service, TAMUS • Texas Department of Agriculture • Texas Department of State Health Services • Texas Department of Transportation • Texas Education Agency • Texas Health and Human Services Commission • Texas Parks and Wildlife Department • University of Texas School of Public Health • USDA Food and Nutrition Service

## Partnership for a Healthy Texas Contacts

Steering Committee Chair: Lauren Dimitry [ldimitry@txchildren.org](mailto:ldimitry@txchildren.org)

Legislative Committee Char: Brooks Ballard [ballard.brooks@gmail.com](mailto:ballard.brooks@gmail.com)

