



RAC

The RAC met in Cottage Grove on July 12th at Cottage Grove Hospital. There was no public comment. After introductions and the getting to know you exercise, the members discussed new member recruitment. Debi Farr presented a legislative update, Lezlee Craven reported on the CAC meeting and Leah Edelman reported on the CHIP activity.

The RAC then reviewed the obesity strategies in the CHIP. There was some concern around the health food zone strategy. Members indicated that limiting access to fast food during school times may not be feasible in smaller towns where restaurants rely on that income. Additionally, if the policy included not having fast food restaurants near school, some smaller towns would have difficulty enforcing such a rule. The group recognized that the strategy had not been explored nor defined yet. The RAC made the request that if work on this strategy was to proceed, they would like RAC members involved in the conversation from the start.

The RAC also made the recommendation that if there were additional prevention funds available, that more resources be put into obesity prevention programs in the rural areas.

The remainder of the meeting focused on how the RAC members could support the implementation of obesity programs in their communities. The RAC members hope to be able to start conversations with community leaders and help to convene community partners to start planning around the implementation of two programs: CATCH and the VERB scorecard. A more detailed plan will be discussed at the August meeting.