



Welcome to Childhood Obesity 2010: The Next Generation of Prevention and Management

Working Together: The Spirit of Collaboration

Twila Brown, PHN, NP, MPH
Director, Maternal, Child and Adolescent Health Section
San Francisco Department of Public Health

Simply stated the Childhood Obesity Task Force gives its partners an opportunity to jointly accomplish what we could not do alone. Like our former Childhood Disability Prevention Medical Director and Task Force visionary, Dr. Philip Ziring, I believe that in order to ultimately improve care and services for children with obesity, we must first improve our ability to identify and track them. The Childhood Obesity Task Force shared a vision to alter the trajectory of the Childhood Obesity Epidemic in our community and state. I strongly support the Task Force because the members are passionate, action-oriented and fueled by a common understanding that the obesity issue must be addressed at the child, system, community, legislative and political level.

I am pleased that our First Lady, Michelle Obama, has given a national political voice to childhood obesity because it is a major Maternal, Child and Adolescent Health issue, as well as a health disparity and equity issue. The Childhood Obesity Task Force provides local leadership and the opportunity to be part of turning a desperate situation toward dignity and health equity. The Task Force will give providers tools to turn the tide, to make a difference in the quality of our children's lives, not just today, but into their future. San Francisco Maternal Child and Adolescent Health Programs is dedicated to, and shares in, the ongoing mission, goals and work of the Task Force.