

2nd Annual Obesity and the Built Environment Grantee Meeting

Wednesday Sep, 5, 2007 - Thursday Sep, 6, 2007

8:30 AM - 1:00 PM

Offsite: Sheraton Imperial Hotel, RTP

On August 20, 2004, the NIEHS/NIH/DHHS released RFA-ES-04-003, Obesity and the Built Environment, to build a program of R01 and R21 research projects in two specific areas related to the built environment and obesity: understanding the role of the built environment in causing/exacerbating obesity and related co-morbidities; and developing, implementing, and evaluating prevention/intervention strategies that influence parameters of the built environment in order to reduce the prevalence of overweight, obesity and co-morbidities. Participating NIH institutes included NCI, NICHD, and OBSSR, and two Centers within the CDC. Fourteen proposals were selected for funding from the RFA, including seven R01s, and seven R21s.

Program funding began in September 2005. Funded projects include longitudinal, cross-sectional and intervention studies in rural, urban and suburban areas. The purpose of the R01 studies with up to five years of funding is to provide solutions for alleviating the burden of obesity and overweight in the US by providing insights into treatment mechanisms or developing models for prevention. The purpose of the two year R21 studies is to develop and validate built environment measures and methods of data collection. The Obesity and the Built Environment program represents an integrated research program to better understand how the environment has contributed to obesity and how environmental interventions can prevent or treat this condition. This is the 2nd annual gathering of the program grantees.