



Obesity and Overweight Prevention in Children

WHEREAS, the prevalence of overweight in American children has tripled since the 1970s; and

WHEREAS, children who are overweight are at increased risk for development of what are typically viewed as adult chronic diseases such as coronary artery disease, diabetes mellitus II, cerebral vascular disease, hypertension, etc; and

WHEREAS, childhood obesity and overweight is associated with markedly decreased overall quality of life; and

WHEREAS, the children of Illinois and Chicago are at equivalent -- or even increased -- risk of becoming overweight and obese as compared to children from across the United States; and

WHEREAS, various overweight and obesity treatments have been found to be relatively costly, dangerous, and/or ineffective; and

WHEREAS, there is recognition that obesity prevention must be undertaken at the individual, family, community, and cultural levels; and

WHEREAS there is evidence that overweight and obesity prevention must begin in early childhood,

NOW, THEREFORE LET IT BE RESOLVED: That Ann & Robert H. Lurie Children's Hospital of Chicago engage in policy and program initiatives to reduce overweight and obesity in children.