



Childhood Obesity Project

(This project has been approved by the ARHS IRC and the PSU IRC)

This project is a collaborative effort with PSU, Altoona Campus and ARHS. If you meet the study criteria or would like to know if you would meet the study criteria and are interested in participating contact the research coordinator

Principle Investigator: Kim Corle RN, MSN, MHA, CCRN at 814-889-3750, ARHS Research Coordinator

Co Investigator: Nedra Farcus RN, MSN at 814-949-5087, PSU Faculty

Purpose: To assess and analyze individual and family patterns contributing to the weight status of infant through school age children in varied populations. The goal is to examine interventions for prevention and / or management of childhood obesity in these varied populations

Plan:

1. Interviews will occur with consenting mothers admitted in the obstetric or Pediatric unit at ARHS. These interviews will occur at ARHS. PSU students will Conduct interviews under the guidance of Nedra Farcus through contacts PSU students / faculty have with community members through multiple Student experiences. The purpose of the interviews will be to assess individual and family patterns contributing to healthy or unhealthy weight in family members from birth through age 11 years. The community members will be residents of the Blair county area.

Background: Childhood obesity rates have increased over the past several years. Medical problems facing children are distinct to those facing adults. Childhood obesity is a public health concern as it leads to other physical and mental health problems to include, but not limited to, metabolic disorders such as type 2 diabetes, hypercholesterolemia, hypertension, heart disease, sleep apnea, social problems, and orthopedic disorders (Liu & Hannon, 2005). To impact childhood obesity consideration must be taken to assess contributing factors from a genetic basis, environmental basis, psychosocial factors including coping mechanisms or environmental influences. Prevention results from a thorough analysis of the precipitating causes.