PBIC Livable Communities Webinar Series

Prescription Trails: How Public Health Officials are Supporting Trails and Walking Programs



Attila Bality, National Park Service

Dr. Linda Macdonald, Albuquerque Prescription Trails

Russ Hirschler, Upper Valley Trails Alliance
Becky Lewandoski, Upper Valley Trails Alliance
Judy Corwin, The Corvallis Clinic

Nov. 13, 2 pm



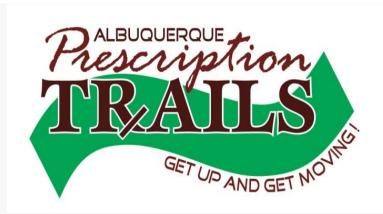


Today's Presentation

- □ Introduction and housekeeping
- → Audio issues? Dial into the phone line instead of using "mic & speakers"
- ⇒ PBIC Trainings and Webinars http://www.walkinginfo.org
- ⇒ Registration and Archives at http://walkinginfo.org/webinars
- Questions at the end



NM Prescription Trails Program



A program designed to give all health care providers tools to increase walking/wheelchair rolling on suggested routes, targeting and promoting healthy lifestyles for individuals, families and pets.





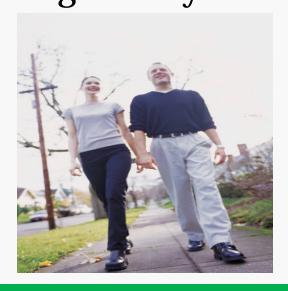




PTP Goals



 To help patients adopt regular walking as a life long activity

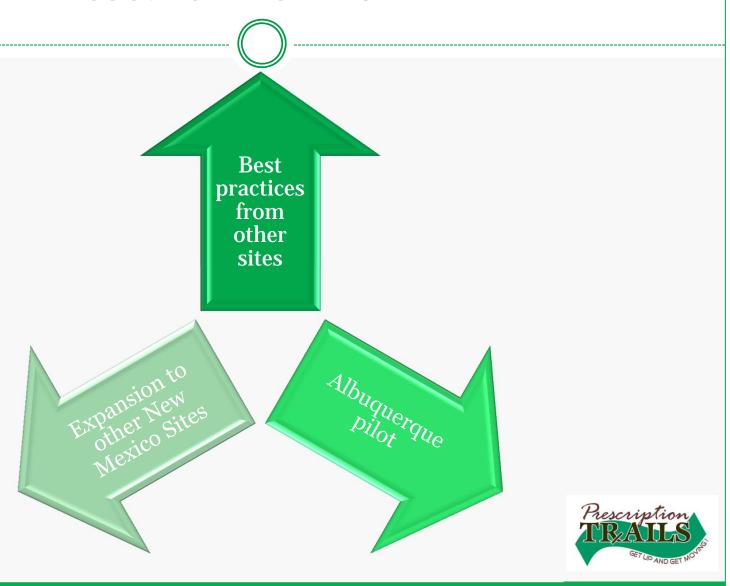


Training Goal

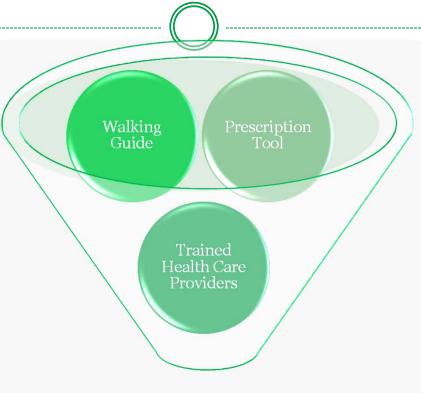
 To prepare health care providers to implement the project



Research Behind PTP



Project Overview

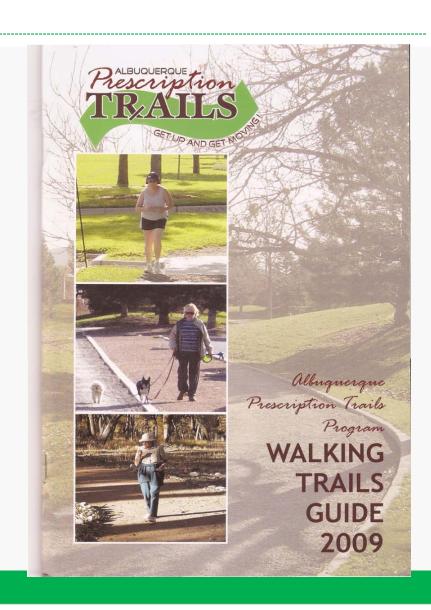




Collaborative Team Effort



Prescription Trails Local

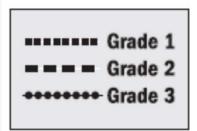


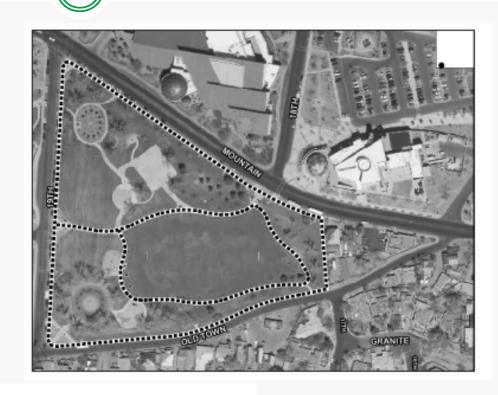
- Established:
 Albuquerque, Santa Fe and Las Cruces
- Expansion:

 Rio Rancho, Roswell,
 Alamogordo and
 Socorro
- Prescriptiontrailsnm.org

Walking Guide

Tiguex paths: all Grade 1



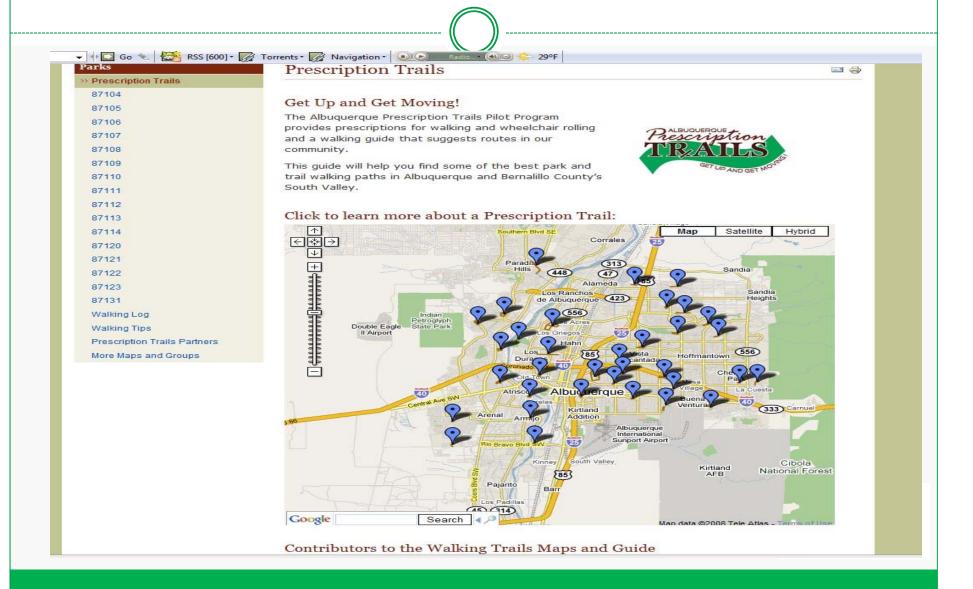


Grade 1 = Fully accessible to all users:

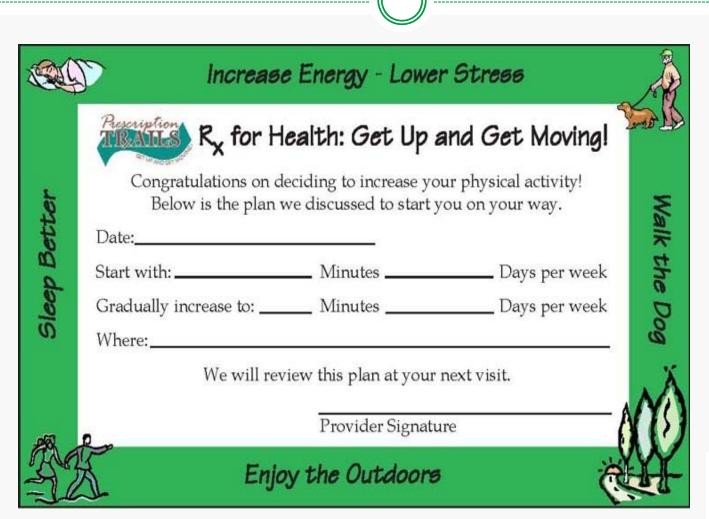
A flat, paved pathway located in or around a park that is suitable for wheelchairs.



Web Site



PTP Prescription





Adapting Project to Your Site

Appoint a Site Coordinator.

Follow up and follow through

Participate in the evaluation of the project as requested by NMHCTOD

Coordinate training for new providers as needed

Print prescriptions and walking guides



Prescription Trails Steps

Questions to ask before implementation

- 1. What infrastructure exists?
- 2. Who will be on the implementation/evaluation team?
- 3. What is our funding Source for the program?
- 4. What is a successful program? 6 months? 1 year?
- 5. How to evaluate program?
- 6. How do we maintain the trails? 6 months? 1 year?
- 7. What park/trail maintenance is needed now in the second needed now in the second needed now in the second needed neede

Prescription Trails Evaluation form

PARK NAME & ZIP CODE	NOTES	SAMPLE QUESTIONS	
parking		Is there a parking lot? Is parking on street?	
major cross streets		Identify major cross streets. Helpful for people who may not know where smaller parks are located	
SF Trails		Is there a bus stop nearby? (Probably within ¼ mile)	
public facilities nearby		Community/rec/senior/ library/ etc. Police/Fire stations Restrooms, telephones, etc, business areas	
safety/ visibility		We're looking for clear lines of sight along the paths. Would users feel comfortable? Is vegetation along trail being managed? Could someone hide in the vegetation?	
loops/ distance		Loop routes are preferred. A loop can be a minimum of $\frac{1}{2}$ mile	
path width (4' minimum)		6-8 feet preferred. Cannot accommodate 2 abreast with 4' easily.	
grade (less than 5%)		Grades in excess of 5% can be considered, but not for universal access	
cross-slope (less than 2%)		Difficult to measure. Think of a driveway cut—that's excessive cross-slope.	
firm, stable, and slip-resistant surface		Concrete, asphalt, packed crusher fine are primary acceptable surfaces. Packed dirt suitable for Grade III	
attractions for kids		Is there a playground nearby?	
benches, resting areas			
other notes		Comment on activity: Is trail/park obviously getting public use?	
label aerial, draw loops on it			

Grade Definitions	Trails are identified and graded according to level of difficulty. Most are loops that go around a park.	
Grade 1 = Accessible to all users.	A flat, paved pathway located in or around a park that is suitable for wheelchairs and mobility impaired	
Grade 2 = Mostly accessible.	A paved or packed crusher fine pathway that may have minor grade changes, located in or around a park	
Grade 3 = Slightly challenging.	A paved, packed crusher fine or dirt pathway with variations in grade	



Technical Assistance

- Approval of logo use for printing
 - Must review all materials before printing for consistent messaging
 - Provide materials/masters for printing
 - Exam rooms
 - Press releases
 - Exertion chart
 - Implementation binder with evaluation forms
 - Provider and consumer brochures
 - Provider training presentation



Prescription Trails in Your Community

- Expansion opportunities
- Simple modifications
- Market parks to new audience
- Engage health care community
- Increase public use of parks
- Promote health
- O Low/no cost
- Enlist community volunteers



Contact Information

- Attila Bality
- National Park Service, RTCA
 - 505-346-2871 x213
 - Charm Lindblad, MHA
- Executive Director, NMHCTOD
 - 505-796-9121
 - www.nmtod.org
- www.prescriptiontrailsnm.org
 - Rxtrailsnm@aol.com



Walking Our Way to Better Health

Linda Macdonald, MD Albuquerque, NM

Physical Inactivity & Health

"Given the numerous health benefits of physical activity, the hazards of being inactive are clear. Physical inactivity is a serious, nationwide problem. Its scope poses a public health challenge for reducing the national burden of unnecessary illness and premature death."

Centers for Disease Control - www.cdc.gov

Benefits of Regular Physical Activity



- Increases the chance of living a longer and healthier life
- Decreases the risk of hypertension and dyslipidemia
- Decreases the risk of heart disease and stroke
- Decreases the risk of colon and breast cancer, and possibly lung and endometrial (uterine lining) cancer
- Helps prevent type 2 diabetes and metabolic syndrome
- Helps prevent osteoporosis
- Decreases the risk of falling in older adults
- Improves cognitive function in older adults
- Relieves symptoms of depression and anxiety and improves mood
- Prevents weight gain, promotes weight loss (when combined with a lower-calorie diet), and helps keep weight off after weight loss
- Improves heart-lung and muscle fitness
- Improves sleep

Benefits of Regular Physical Activity

- These benefits occur for:
 - Those who are currently healthy
 - Those at risk for chronic disease(s)
 - Those who have chronic disease(s)
 - Those with disabilities
 - The old
 - The young
 - Those who have never exercised
- The benefits of physical activity far outweigh the possibility of adverse outcomes



Moderate Intensity Physical Activity

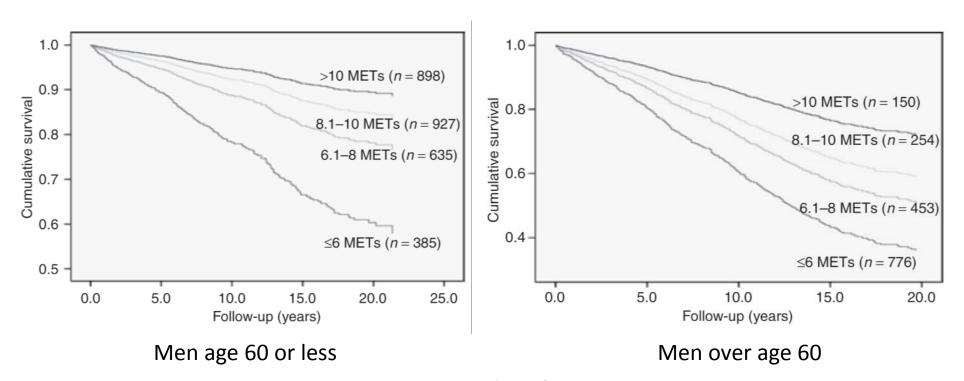
- Health benefits occur with moderate-intensity physical activity for at least 150 minutes/week
- Causes only light sweating or a slight or moderate increase in breathing or heart rate
 - Walking at a pace of 15-20 minutes/mile
 - Bicycling at a pace of 6 minutes/mile
 - Shooting baskets
 - Raking leaves
 - Water aerobics



Physical Activity Data

 There is abundant data supporting the health benefits of physical activity

Cumulative Survival by Exercise Capacity



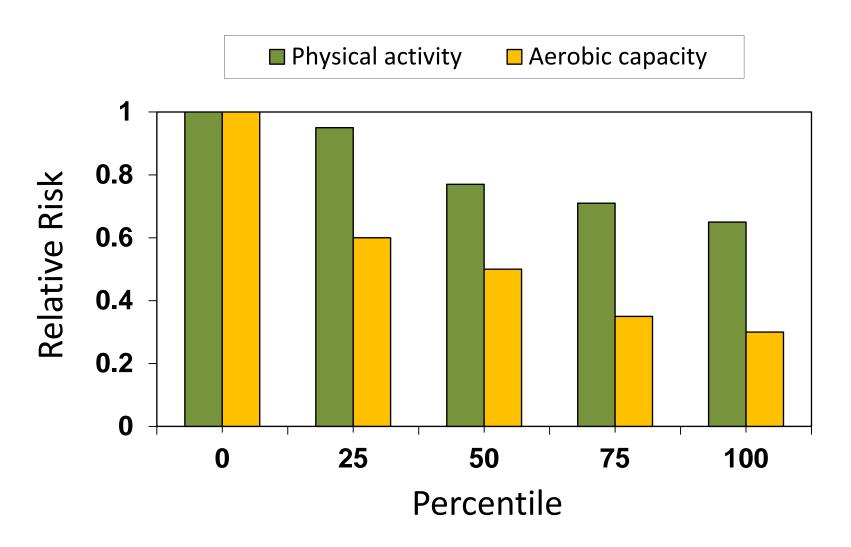
 \leq 6.0 METs = Very low fitness

6.1-8.0 METS = Low fitness

8.1-10.0 METs = Moderate fitness

> 10.0 METs = High fitness

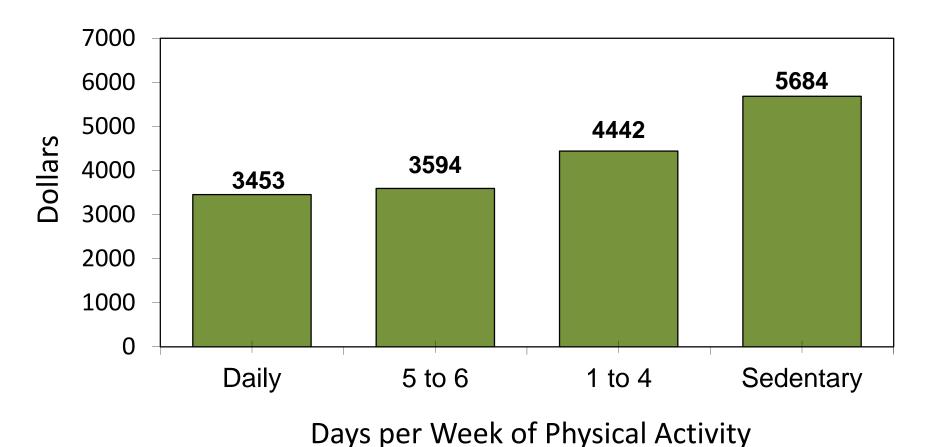
Risk of Coronary Heart Disease by Physical Activity & Aerobic Capacity



Walking Time vs. T.V. Time

- Each 1 hour per day increase in brisk walking is associated with a
 - 24% reduction in obesity
 - 34% reduction in diabetes
- Each 2 hour per day increase in T.V. time is associated with a:
 - 23% increase in obesity
 - 14% increase in diabetes

Per-Member Per-Year Subscriber Eligible Amount* for Levels of Physical Activity



^{*} Final insurance payment plus subscriber liabilities

Lack of Physical Activity

- Despite the known health benefits of regular physical activity and the availability of clear guidelines for physical activity, the majority of adults do not get sufficient physical activity for health benefits
 - 20.7% of adults met physical activity guidelines in 2010
 - 33% of adults reported no aerobic leisure time physical activity in 2010

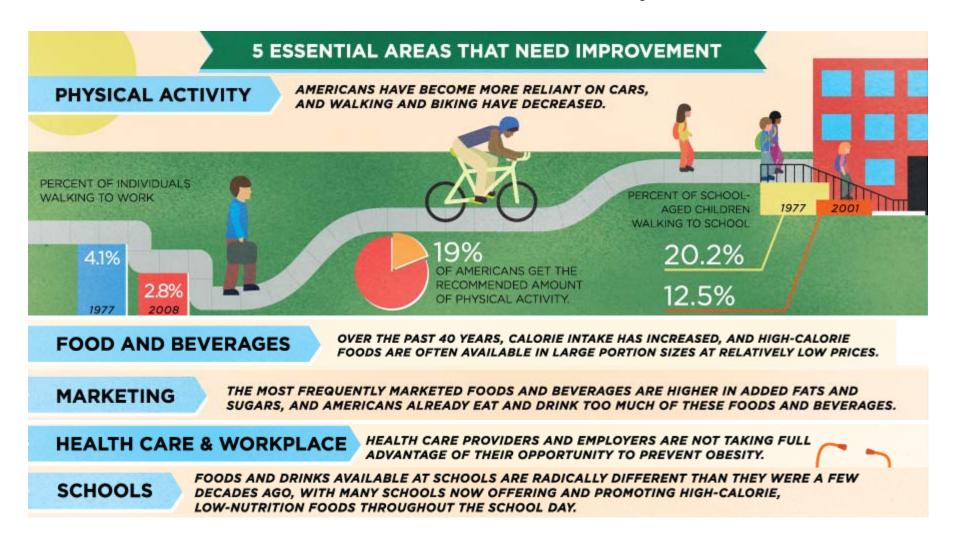


Public Health Perspective

 Public health interventions have been used successfully to reduce the prevalence of infectious diseases and to reduce the prevalence of smoking

 Can public health interventions be applied to reduce the prevalence of inactivity, overweight/obesity, and chronic diseases?

Institute of Medicine: Obesity Prevention





FOR SPECIFIC ACTION STEPS NECESSARY TO IMPLEMENT THESE SOLUTIONS, SEE THE IOM REPORT ACCELERATING PROGRESS IN OBESITY PREVENTION: SOLVING THE WEIGHT OF THE NATION IOM.EDU/ACCELERATINGOBESITYPREVENTION

SOURCES: FULL CITATIONS FOR REFERENCES CAN BE FOUND IN ACCELERATING PROGRESS IN OBESITY PREVENTION: SOLVING THE WEIGHT OF THE NATION



Integrate Physical Activity

"Communities, transportation officials, community planners, health professionals, and governments should make promotion of physical activity a priority by substantially increasing access to places and opportunities for such activity."

Promote Walking

An easy way to integrate physical activity:

- It does not require specific skills
- It does not require specific equipment
- It can be done indoors or outdoors
- There is low risk of injury
- Brisk walking provides health benefits
- Benefits accrue with short bouts as long as the total accrued is at least 150 minutes/week



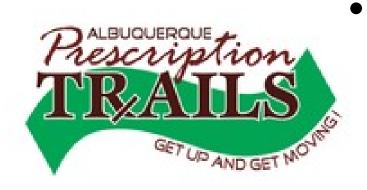
Environmental Barriers to Walking

Rank	Never Walkers	Occasional Walkers	Regular Walkers
1	No walk/jog trails – 65.7%	No walk/jog trails – 61.3%	No walk/jog trails – 56.0%
2	Don't see people exercising – 63.5%	Don't see people exercising – 56.2%	Don't see people exercising – 51.6%
3	Unattended dogs – 44.8%	Hills – 43.2%	Heavy traffic – 44.6%
4	Heavy traffic – 43.9%	Heavy traffic – 42.9%	Hills – 43.9%
5	No sidewalks – 43.4%	Unattended dogs – 42.2%	Unattended dogs – 39.9%

Never walkers were significantly more likely to report no walk/jog trails and not seeing other people exercising in their neighborhood than were regular walkers

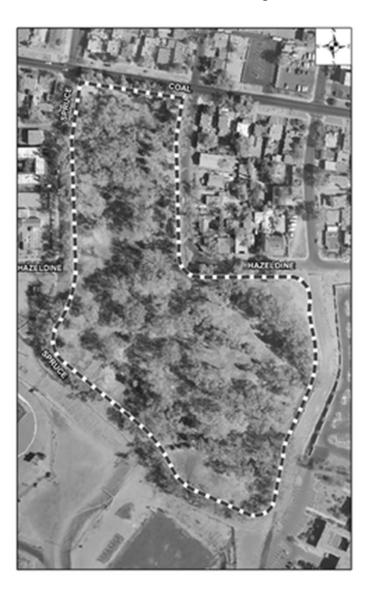
Addressing Environmental Barriers

 The Prescription Trails walking guide (available as a booklet or online) identifies walking and wheelchair rolling routes that are both safe and accessible to patients and families



Prescription Trails prescription pads are provided to health care practitioners to allow them to write tailored prescriptions for their patients

Albuquerque Walking Trails



- Outdoor trails in local parks
- In most zip codes
- Information provided:
 - Trail rating and distance
 - Location
 - Public transportation
 - Parking
 - Amenities
 - Public facilities



Why The Park?



Green exercise (exercise in nature)
 results in a greater improvement in
 blood pressure, self-esteem, and mood
 compared to exercise without exposure
 to nature

Pretty J et al. Int J Environ Hlth Res, 2005



Park walkers accumulate more minutes of moderate-to-vigorous physical activity compared to urban walkers walking for the same duration

Sellers CE et al. Preventive Medicine, 2012

Get Up and Get Moving!

- Patients are more likely to begin and continue a regular walking program when provided with a prescription by a medical practitioner
- Rx for Health allows the practitioner to tailor the exercise prescription to the patient's abilities and to recommend a gradual increase in exercise duration and frequency

TO THE REAL PROPERTY.	Increase Energy - Lower Stress					
	Congratulations on deciding to increase your physical activity!					
Better	Below is the plan we discussed to start you on your way. Date:	Walk t				
Sleep I	Start with: Minutes Days per week Gradually increase to: Minutes Days per week	h 0				
18	Where:	2				
	We will review this plan at your next visit.	À				
200	Provider Signature	y				
3	Enjoy the Outdoors	1				

Personal Barriers to Walking

Rank	Never Walkers	Occasional Walkers	Regular Walkers
1	No time – 26.4%	No time – 25.4%	Get enough exercise at work – 28.2%
2	Too tired – 23.0%	Get enough exercise at work – 23.3%	Not in good health – 15.6%
3	No energy – 22.0%	Not in good health – 18.2%	Too tired – 14.7%
4	No motivation – 21.0%	Too tired – 18.1%	Self conscious about looks - 11.3%
5	Not in good health – 18.4%	No motivation – 13.4%	No motivation – 10.5%
6			No time – 10.3%

Never walkers and occasional walkers were significantly more likely to report lack of time and not enough energy to exercise than were regular walkers

Eyler AA et al. Med Sci Sports Exerc. 2003

Addressing Personal Barriers

- Making time for exercise
 - Exercise in short bouts 10 minutes three times/day
 - Use commute time for exercise
 - Walk or bike to work
 - Take the bus and get off a few stops early
 - Exercise instead of watching TV

Addressing Personal Barriers

- Finding energy for exercise
 - Exercise in short bouts
 - Start slowly and gradually build up duration and intensity
 - Remember that exercise can be invigorating



Summary

- Physical inactivity is a public health problem
- Promotion of walking for physical activity/ exercise can address this problem
- Barriers such as lack of walking trails, lack of time, and lack of energy must be addressed

PBIC Livable Communities Webinar Series

Programs that Create Healthy Communities

Russell Hirschler

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Becky Lewandoski

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Upper Valley Trails Alliance







Upper Valley Trails Alliance

- Non-profit founded in 1999.
- Mission UVTA advocates for the use, maintenance and development of trails in the region. Through education, outreach & stewardship we:
 - connect people and places through a regional trail network.
 - lead a coalition of local trail groups and advocates.
 - promote active lifestyles through trail use in all seasons.







Upper Valley Trails Alliance

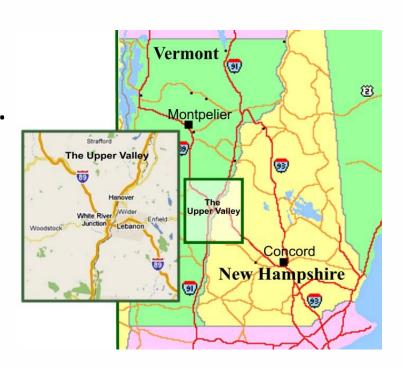
- Vision An integrated Upper Valley trail system being used by all area residents and the Upper Valley Trails Alliance as the regional leader for trail development, information, and support.
- Impact As the only organization taking a regional approach to trails, we strive to connect people and their communities via an Upper Valley Trails Network.





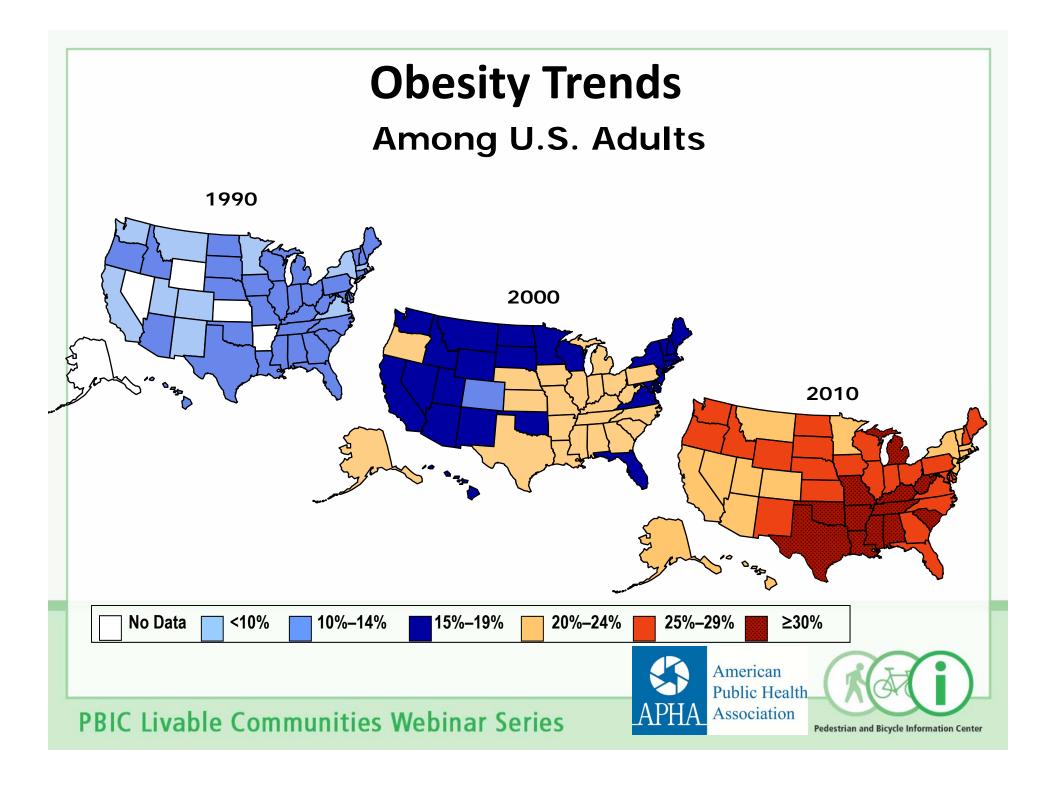
The Upper Valley Region

- The Upper Valley Trails
 Alliance works in a 40+
 town region in VT and NH.
- Large majority of land in region is privately held.
- The region has limited trail and bike/pedestrian facilities in place.









Obesity in our Region

- Obesity epidemic is growing in the US, especially in rural areas.
- NH had the highest adult obesity levels in all of New England.
- Nationally, 1 in 3 children are obese or overweight.
- NH Data suggests the number may be higher in the Upper Valley region.









Trails Contribute to Good Health

- A recent study* states that 5
 minutes of outdoor physical
 activity will greatly improve
 mental health, mood, and selfesteem.
- Trails are available for use all year round and there frequently no costs— except to support the work of UVTA!



 Trails create a significant positive impact on individual and community health in our region.

*Jo Barton, Jules Pretty. What is the Best Dose of Nature and Green Exercise for Improving Mental Health? A Multi-Study Analysis. Environmental Science & Technology, 2010





Trails and Academic Achievement

- The Robert Wood Johnson
 Foundation¹ concluded that
 physically active and fit children
 tend to have better academic
 achievement.
- A study² concluded that 92% of students who had been in outdoor learning programs academically outperformed their peers in most subjects.



1 Active Education: Physical Education, Physical Activity and Academic Performance, Summer 2009 2 Closing the Achievement Gap, Lieberman and Hoody (1998)





Trails and Schools

 Developing trails in village centers and near schools provides easy access to outdoor learning and physical activity.

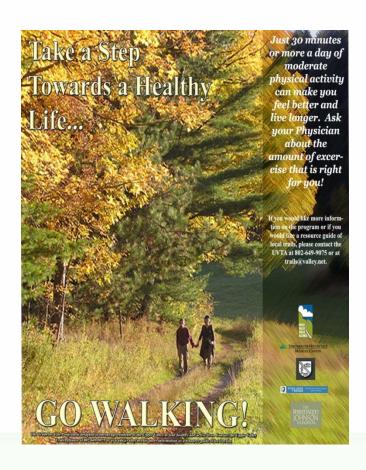






Active Living by Design

- Selected as an ALbD community in 2002.
- Created the Trails for Life Partnership
- One of very few ALbD communities in a rural setting.

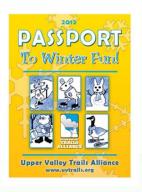






Active Living by Design

- Trails organization becomes a health org?
- Limited capacity to truly implement change.
- Kept and refined most successful programs.











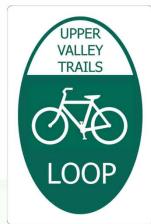


Organizational Transformation

- Renewed focus on trails and infrastructure
 - Expanded definition of a trail
 - Held bi-annual community forums of trails
 - Healthy Communities became a goal





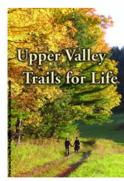






Prescription Walking

- Part of "Trails for Life" ALbD Program
- **Goal**: Improve health and quality of life for residents through regular physical activity-especially on local trails



Trails and Health,

a Natural Connection



- Method: Posters and Brochures in waiting and exam rooms, including prescription section. Detailed Interviews between patient and physician. Medical school student coaches available
- Benefits: Lower rates of heart disease, hypertension, colon cancer, dementia. Reduces stress- Increases mood and energy







Upper Valley Loop Trail





- Part of founding vision of UVTA in 1999
- Goal: Create primary bike route that circumnavigates 4 major UV communities
- Phase 1:UVTA worked with steering committee for 2 years to design trail location and signage





Wolves on the Prowl

- Afterschool program in Quechee Vermont
- Goal: Get kids outsidehiking, exploring woods, HAVING FUN!
- Trail building helps develop teamwork, helps kids explore nature right outside their school door







Upper Valley HEAL Partnership



Eat Smart Get Out Be Active



Upper Valley Healthy Eating Active Living Partnership

- Upper Valley Healthy Eating Active Living partnership hosted and supported by the Children's Hospital at Dartmouth-Hitchcock
- Promotes 4-season physical activity and good nutrition.

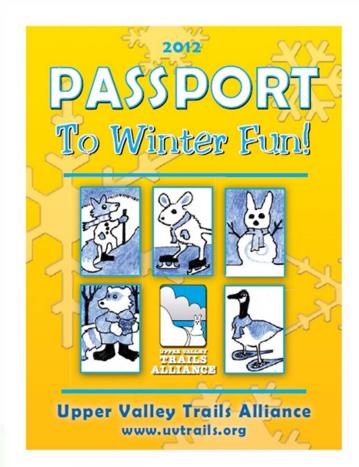


StoryWalk[®]





- Unique program
 encouraging children
 to be physically active
 in the outdoors.
- Last year, the program served 4000 kids in 29 area schools.
- Implementation



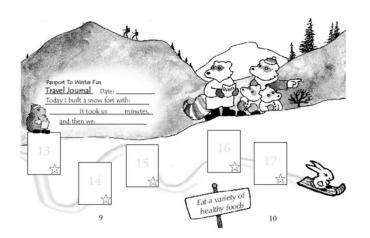








- Modeled after a traveler's passport, but centered on a 30day pathway through a winter landscape.
- For each day a child is physically active for 60 minutes or more, s/he fills in one block along the path.













Passport To Winter Fun 2012 Prize Sheet



Choose a different prize as you reach 10, 20, and 30 steps in your Passport. To claim your prize, take your Passport to one of the following businesses and a representative will stamp it for you.

Prizes must be redeemed by March 31, 2012.

CCBA: FREE Youth Pass (12 & under): Pool, game room, and basketball. Bring a towel. Check Pool schedule. 603-448-6477 www.joinccba.org Lebanon, NH

Colby-Sawyer Hogan Sport Center: FREE Day Pass for 1 youth and 1 adult valid for pool, basketball, and climbing wall. Children under 12 must be accompanied by adult. 603-526-3600 www.colby-sawyer.edu/campus-life/hogan/ New London, NH

Dartmouth Cross Country Ski Center: 4 hrs cross country skiing for family up to 5 people OR free skate rental for family up to 5 people. 603-643-6534 www.dartmouth.edu/~doc/dxc/ Hanover, NH

Dartmouth Skiway:Bring a Grown Up Skiing! Buy a kids ticket, adult ticket is free. (Cannot be redeemed Feb 18-26) (603-795-2143) www.dartmouth.edu/~skiway

Dexter's Inn Trails by Norsk,: FREE youth day pass to cross country skiing or snowshoeing trails. Includes a FREE hot chocolate. 603-763-5571 www.dextersnh.com/x-c-skii.html Sunapee, NH

Eastman Cross Country Ski Center: FREE youth day pass with rentals included. 603-863-4500 www.eastmannh.org/ski/index.html Grantham, NH

Hartford Municipal Arena: Get a FREE public skate pass for 2 to the Hartford Municipal Arena. 802-295-2863 or 802-295-5036 www.hartford-vt.org/content/publicparks White River Junction, VT

Strafford Nordic Center: Get a FREE Youth Day Pass WITH RENTALS 802.765.4309. www.straffordnordicskiing.com

Suicide Six Ski Area: 2 for 1. Buy 1 lift ticket at full price and receive the 2nd ticket FREE. Blackout dates are Feb 18 through and including Feb 26.

 Upon reaching 10, 20, and 30 days of activity, children can redeem incentive rewards courtesy of local businesses.

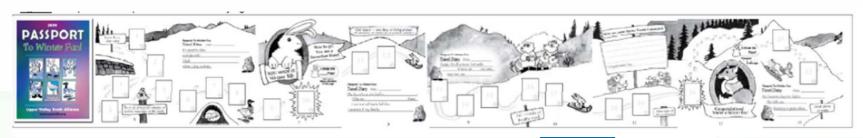








- The coming year's Passport program will be available to over 4500 elementary school-aged students beginning in January, 2013.
- Students will have approximately **six weeks** to complete **30 days** of activity.
- Exercise may be indoors or outdoors











- The incentive rewards aim to enhance the children's healthful activity
- When children reach 30 days of activity they receive a prize and are entered in a Grand Prize Raffle.



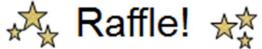








Fabulous Family Star



Reach Day 30 and fill in at least 20 Family Stars and you could win...







A THREE MONTH FAMILY MEMBERSHIP
To the UPPER VALLEY AQUATIC CENTER!









Pre- and Post Intervention Data collection

Please fill out this form and turn it in before beginning your Passport. Your Name: Male Female Today's Date: Your School: In the last 7 days, how many days were you physically active for at least one total hour? 0 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 Did you do any of the activity with your family? Yes No No Please complete both sides of this form and place in your school's drop box or mail it to:	Check off each activity you did LAST year!	winter activities did you do LAST year? Hiking Walking Snowshoeing Cross-country skiing Downhill skiing Snowboarding Ice skating or hockey Sledding or tubing Building a snow structure Geocaching Valley Quests Malking to or from school Indoor sport:
,		- Indoor spore:
OVER →		



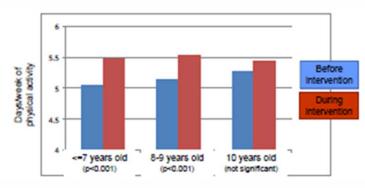






• In 2011, data from all 28 participating Upper Valley

schools showed that **79%** of the students who completed the program said they were more active after the program than before.



American
Public Health
Association

Pedestrian and Bicycle Information Center

- Additionally, 95% of the students who completed the program said at least half of their activity was outside.
- Students also increased their activity levels by 44 minutes a week.





 Goals: Increase Participation and Completion levels

 Change participant behaviors and create lifelong healthy habits







What does this all mean?



- Healthier communities and populations
- Greater community investment in trails and active transportation



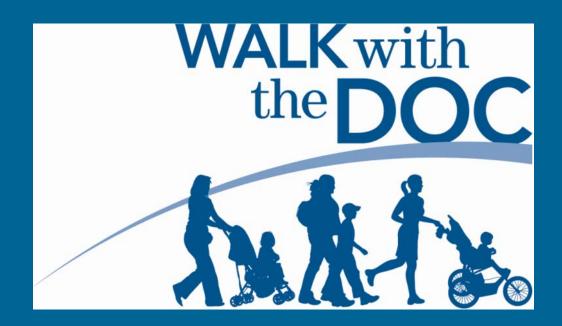








Celebrating Nine Years!







Led by a Team of OBGYN Doctors

Walk with the Doc is a wellness program in which Corvallis Clinic OBGYN physicians lead a weekly walk for participants through the 2.6 mile Bald Hill Path in Corvallis, Oregon.















Oregon Outdoors, June through August 45-minute walk passes Oak Creek as seen from the walking trail





Physicians Model Wellness Behavior

While most walkers are women, children, pets and spouses are encouraged to participate.





Physicians Offer Advice

Physicians also use the opportunity to offer advice on good health for women.





Participants Enjoy the Outdoors

Participants see all kinds of critters, including coyotes, bobcats and deer. In the early summer, walkers can snack on the cherries along the path, and in August, the blackberries are ripe.





Walk began in 2003

Program started as a way to encourage pregnant patients and women who had just delivered to get exercise.



We've had a few cross-promotions with Benton County Health Dept. to promote the walk in the community through their August in Motion program. Project H.E.R. volunteers & recipients have also been regular attendees.



The doctor's office is outdoors on Wednesday mornings.

Hit the trail with our women's health specialists at The Corvallis Clinic's annual Walk with the Doc series.

What: Walk with the Doc

When: 7:30 - 8:30 a.m.

Every Wednesday through August 29

Where: Meet at the Oak Creek Drive entrance

to Bald Hill Path, Corvallis

Cost: Free

Info: www.corvallisclinic.com

541-758-2747

Each time you participate you are entered to win a pair of walking shoes. So sign up soon. Who would have thought that visiting the doctor could be so much fun?

Walkers agree to participate at their own risk and hold The Corvallis Clinic harmless for any incident arising out of their participation. Please consult your physician if you feel you may have a medical condition that places you at risk for participating

OB/GYN 541-754-1267

Find-a-Physician 541-757-3757







Small Groups, Repeat Participants

Once school is out, we typically have between 8-12 participants each week and several of the women have been walking since the program began.















Grande Finale

Each year we conclude with a finale, where all the providers come and that walk draws as many as 30 people. At the finale, we draw for a gift certificate for \$100 at a local sporting goods store.

Thank You!

- ⇒ Archive at http://www.walkinginfo.org/webinars
 - Downloadable and streaming recording, transcript, presentation slides
- **⇒** Questions?
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