



CONSORTIUM FOR CITIZENS  
WITH DISABILITIES

## **PUBLIC HEALTH LEGISLATION ADVOCATES SHOULD ADDRESS PROBLEMS TO PROTECT AND PREVENT DIMINISHED HEALTH**

Professional organizations associated with public health advocate for policies that advance their professions and the people they serve. Lobbying days are planned to educate members of organizations and members to lobby for interests that are associated with their professions. A lobby day was organized to promote physical education and physical activity to protect the public's health and prevent diminished health and disability.

### **Summary**

Obesity among children of America is a threat to diminished health that can result in a host of chronic health conditions and disability. Effective physical education and physical activity may ameliorate overweight and obesity of children and youth that generalizes into healthful lifestyles in later life. There is legislation designed to ameliorate the obesity epidemic in the U.S.

Advocates for physical activity are extremely persuasive in their arguments of the benefits of physical activity. Their arguments are well established in the research literature and findings of facts that justified the legislation to ameliorate obesity. However, explanations of how legislation will be implemented to achieve the health benefits are often less than adequate. Often there is need for lobbyist to communicate protocols associated with the legislation that can make a difference in the health of children through physical activity.

### **Disability Prevention Issues**

Obesity among children of America is a threat to diminished health that can result in a host of chronic health conditions and disability. Professionals and advocates should identify meaningful remedies based on the best available science to address the problems associated with chronic health conditions and disability prevention

### **Intervention**

Meetings were attended to analyze the events of discussion with congressional staff. A follow up letter was written to a leader of a professional advocate for legislation to prevent obesity

### **Recommendations**

Legislative advocates to prevent obesity should present evidence of need for legislation and substantive recommendations that ameliorate or resolve the problem addressed with the legislation.