

### Your Health Matters: Growing Active, Healthy Communities





### Window of Opportunity External elements



# Example Leading to a Window of Opportunity

There are high rates of obesity and few places to get fresh fruits and vegetables. The community wants a change, plus other communities are already improving.

Solution -

Problem

There is increased funding available for community gardens and parks. Decision makers support the community gardens. Window of opportunity opens

Decision maker A public official is willing to propose budget changes for increased funding for community gardens knowing that other decision makers also support it.

### Recognizing "Windows of Opportunity"

Windows open and close frequently

#### **Open Windows**

• Time to take action



#### **Closed Windows**

 Keep working on identifying the problems, finding feasible solutions, and engaging decision maker



Community Readiness Survey <u>http://www.triethniccenter.colostate.edu/docs/CR\_Handbook\_DS.pdf</u>



### Apply what you have learned about policy improvements, systems and environmental changes to your local community





Thinking about policy improvements, systems and environmental change to promote healthy living:

What will you do…
In the next 7 days?

- In the next 30 days?

- In the next 60 days?

0



## Don't forget...

- This same process can work for creating policy improvements, systems and environmental changes for many other issues:
  - Decrease television viewing.
  - Increase breastfeeding initiation, duration, and exclusivity.
  - Reduce tobacco use and secondhand smoke exposure.





### Remember...

 Creating changes in your community is hard work, you may have to talk to TEN different people to find the ONE person who can join you in making that change!



On a scale of 0-10, how confident are you that you can reduce obesity in your community by making policy improvements, systems and environmental changes that increase physical activity and healthy eating?







### **Knowledge Questionnaire**



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