

Childcare Workgroup

The mission of the Child Care Workgroup is to identify existing strategies, and propose feasible new strategies, to improve child care environments with a goal of: 1) increasing fruit and vegetable consumption; 2) decreasing sugar sweetened beverage consumption; 3) decreasing consumption of energy-dense foods; 4) increasing physical activity; and 5) reducing sedentary behaviors such as watching TV and other “screen media”. Interventions may focus on, but are not limited to, promoting policies and environments that: eliminate sugar-sweetened beverages and limit juice consumption; ensure that children are provided with 60 minutes of physical activity per day; support breastfeeding moms; and ensure that children under two years are not exposed to screen media and older children’s media viewing is very limited. Strategies should ultimately improve child care environments for all Montanans and should therefore include strategies to ameliorate existing disparities.