

# ADDRESSING THE SOCIAL DETERMINANTS OF OBESITY IN THE MAGNOLIA STATE



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PLACE MATTERS ♦ DESIGN LAB 8 ♦ OAKLAND, CA ♦ JULY 24<sup>th</sup>, 2008

# MISSISSIPPI DEMOGRAPHICS

- Place Matters counties are predominately African American.
- Less high school education.
- Rural
- Poverty
- Few Grocery Stores

# Social Determinants of Obesity

- Race
- Education
- Built Environment
- Unlikely Connections

# RACE

- History of racial discrimination in the Delta.
- Racism leads to inequalities in living conditions, education, access to food, and health.

# EDUCATION

- Increased Income
- Education Policy
  - Physical Activity
  - Nutrition
  - Marketing
- Health Supports



# BUILT ENVIRONMENT

- “Sprawl” and rural communities
- Safety
- Opportunities for physical activity
- Availability of nutritious food

# POLICY ACTION

- Examine and eliminate policies, practices, and norms that perpetuate racism.
- Partner with or establish a Community Food Security Coalition.
- Improve neighborhood safety.
- Ensure that school policies provide opportunities for physical activity.

# Bill Emerson Hunger Fellows

- You can have one too!
- What can a Fellow do for your organization?
- Applications due...

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# Questions

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