

County Administrator

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David J. Twa
County Administrator

Contra Costa County



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November 2, 2009

Dr. William Walker, MD, Director
Contra Costa Health Services
50 Douglas Drive, Ste 300
Martinez, CA 94553

Dear Dr. Walker:

I am pleased that Health Services is spearheading the County application to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention for "Communities Putting Prevention to Work" to launch an initiative to address obesity and physical activity in Contra Costa County.

The County has a very strong history of promoting healthy eating and exercise, including our very early policy requiring healthy food alternatives at county-sponsored events. More recently, we have required healthy food alternatives in vending machines on county property.

The opportunity presented by this CDC grant to put resources into making systems and policy changes is extraordinary. It will enable Health Services and the other partners to work with county agencies to find creative ways to encourage employees and the organizations we work with to join in this effort to support obesity prevention, physical activity and healthy eating.

We understand that this opportunity comes from ARRA stimulus funding, and that there is a short time frame to get this large project up and running and to demonstrate results. With Contra Costa's long history of systems and policy change and community engagement around obesity and physical activity, Contra Costa is "shovel ready" for this funding. The County Administrator's Office will expedite the grant processing, contracting and hiring associated with this project to ensure that the CDC's timelines will be met.

I look forward to working with you to involve County department heads and the Board of Supervisors.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "David J. Twa".

DAVID J. TWA
County Administrator