As part of the 3 year cooperative agreement funded by the CDC’s Division of Community Health, the American College of Obstetricians and Gynecologists (ACOG) has partnered with the National WIC Association to assist 32 local WIC agencies to create community based interventions to reduce and prevent chronic diseases. Community projects will focus on improving access to healthy foods and improving access to prevention and chronic disease management services. Comprised of 56,000 members and 90% of qualified OB/GYNs within the United States, ACOG serves a significant population of women and children and is the nation’s leading group of physician’s providing care to women.

ACOG has strong membership activity in many of the target states for the project and has played a vital role in connecting agencies with these members.

ACOG’s Program Manager assists in the management of the agencies in the form of webinars and other trainings as well as local agency phone calls. ACOG has also assisted in the dissemination of communications regarding the project through its various communication channels which include the District and Sections newsletters which reaches members in the various districts with ACOG members throughout the United States. Additional partnerships that are beneficial for the project include partnerships with the majority of women’s health care provider groups through the Council on Patient Safety in Women’s Health Care. This established partnership between the National WIC Association and ACOG is vital to improving the health of women and children through increasing opportunities for chronic disease prevention, risk reduction, and management through clinical and community linkages and through increasing access to environments with healthy food and beverage options.

ACOG’s Involvement

ACOG, in partnership with the National WIC Association has assisted in the formation of local community leadership teams for each of the 32 agencies that are involved in the Community Partnerships for Healthy Mothers and Children project. ACOG has provided support and technical assistance for each agency and has also taken the lead on recruiting members to serve as the physician advisor on the leadership team.