## Kids Korner

## Take Action To Combat Epidemic Of Youth Obesity

LANCASTER (Lancaster Co.) — Did you know that one in seven children are obese and one in three are overweight? Seventeen percent of Pennsylvania youth are overweight according

to the Pennsylvania Department of Health. Three out of four high school students do not eat the recommended five or more servings of fruits and vegetables each day. More than a third of young

people in grades 9-12 do not participate in regular physical activity.

In response, concerned parents, community health professionals, and school personnel gathered to take action by becoming a Community Champion. Lancaster County's Community Champions are helping Pennsylvania Advocates for Nutrition and Activity (PANA) spread the word about the new Keystone Healthy Zone Campaign to promote physical activity and healthy eating.

Lancaster County's Community Champions are encouraging schools and communities to support the Keystone Healthy Zone Campaign. The campaign will recognize and reward schools for their efforts in supporting physical activity and good nutrition as part of the total learning environment.

If you would like to learn more about the Keystone Healthy Zone Campaign or becoming a Community Champion, visit the PANA Website at www.panaonline.org. You can also contact Nancy Wiker, extension educator with Penn State Cooperative Extension in Lancaster County (717) 394-6851 for more information about local actions.





