## FORWARD Celebrates Three Years!

FORWARD celebrated our 3rd Anniversary at a Coalition Meeting on June 21, 2012 at the Danada House in Wheaton. Over 100 people attended, many for the first time, to hear about small changes that are making a BIG difference in reversing the obesity trend. In addition to hearing from local partners, the audience was treated to presentations from the Illinois Alliance to Prevent Obesity (IAPO) on the dangers of sugar sweetened beverages and a segmented clip from the <a href="HBO Documentary: Weight of the Nation">HBO Documentary: Weight of the Nation</a>. FORWARD proudly received an award from the Midwest Dairy Council and Fuel Up to Play 60 for its work to prevent obesity.

Media coverage was present as FORWARD announced the results of its BMI Surveillance project for the 2011/2012 school year, putting FORWARD's announcement in the Chicago Tribune and the Naperville Sun. FORWARD's work continues to be at the forefront of national, regional and local conversations about chronic disease prevention and obesity. The opportunity for collective change in systems, policies and environments was highlighted in a panel presentation with local champions from across DuPage County and examples of models that work in business, schools, and food pantries. We regret that the FORWARD Coalition meeting took longer than the allotted time, something that Director Ann Marchetti assures will not happen again. FORWARD wishes to thank all who could stay, apologizes for the inconvenience, and looks forward to the continued partnership. The Presentations and the updated Data Insert can be found at:

www.forwarddupage.org.

Again, thank you for your continued support and we look forward to seeing you again in November for our next Coalition Meeting. Until then, remember -- It is the Small Changes that Make a Big Difference!

For more information, please contact

**FORWARD** 

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