



Rep. Tom Emmer on Childhood Obesity

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REP. TOM EMMER:

Mr. Speaker, I rise today to address childhood obesity and the recent efforts in Minnesota, my home state, to address this concern for families throughout our state and across this country. Over the past decade, as a nation, we have seen a great deal of time and energy dedicated to combating childhood obesity, and thus far, we've seen great successes. The Robert Wood Johnson Foundation recently highlighted St. Cloud, the largest city in Minnesota's 6th Congressional District, because of an impressive 24 percent decline in obesity for 12-year-olds over the past seven years. This incredible shift in the health and well-being for Minnesota's youth could not have occurred without a joint community effort. As an example, in St. Cloud, we have been lucky enough to have the help of health care providers like Centricare, who look past the boundaries of their hospitals and their clinics and bring their work into the communities where they live. I applaud the efforts of great Minnesota companies and organizations like Centricare, Colburn's, Burnick's, and many others who are dedicated to working together to improve the overall health in our Minnesota communities, and I yield back.

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