

ENVIRONMENTAL OBSERVATION GUIDE

For site visitors: Please provide brief notes for the sections applicable to the initiative you are assessing. Each section contains suggestions for things to look for when assessing the environment.

Initiative Name	
Location Observed (building address if applicable)	
Date	
Time	
Occupancy (estimated number of people served in facility, number of customers present, etc.)	
Building Assessment Describe the building that houses the initiative. <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Number of buildings, floors• Age of building, overall condition• Is it attractive or inviting?• Is it accessible?	

Indoor Facilities

If initiative-related activities take place indoors, describe the facilities where the activities take place.

- Are there signs or posters promoting physical activity and/or healthy eating? Describe them.
- Describe the equipment. Is any special equipment being used? Is it in good condition?
- Is the facility attractive or inviting?
- Is the facility accessible?
- Are there items that promote unhealthy behaviors or things that may be a barrier to success (e.g., televisions, vending machines, promotional items for less-healthy foods and beverages)?

Outdoor Facilities

If initiative-related activities take place outdoors, described the grounds where the activities take place.

- Are the grounds and play equipment attractive and inviting?
- Are they accessible?
- Are there items that promote unhealthy behaviors or things that may be a barrier to success?

Food Environment

For initiatives with a healthier foods and beverages component, describe what you observe.

- What is offered? How is it displayed?
- Are healthier foods and beverages highlighted in some way?
- Placement of healthier foods and beverages in comparison to less healthy foods and beverages
- Portion size
- Pricing

Participants

If you are observing participants engaging in initiative-related activities, describe what you observe.

- Do participants appear to be engaged?
- Do they appear to be enjoying themselves?
- Demographic characteristics

Neighborhood Assessment

Describe the neighborhood the initiative is located in or targets.

- Urban, suburban, rural
- Commercial, residential, mixed-use development
- Single family, multifamily dwellings
- Condition of the buildings and grounds
- Condition of roadways
- Grassy areas, parks, walking/jogging trails
- Public transportation
- Food venues, such as supermarkets, convenience stores, restaurants, fast food restaurants
- Do you see anything that would enable unhealthy behaviors?

Other

Describe anything else that was observed that has not been mentioned above that may have an impact (positive or negative) on the initiative.

