

# Child obesity expert to present in Neenah



**Jim Collar**, USA TODAY NETWORK-Wisconsin  
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NEENAH – Leaders of a Fox Valley initiative striving for a leaner, healthier, more active region say there's plenty to learn from communities further down that path.

A nationally renowned expert on the reduction of childhood obesity will arrive on Tuesday to serve as a guide.

Dr. Christina Economos, co-founder and director of the organization, ChildObesity180, will present the keynote address at a breakfast held by The Weight of the Fox Valley.

Obesity affects one in six children and adolescents in the United States, according to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention.

Keren Rosenberg, program manager for Weight of the Fox Valley, said turning around the unhealthy trend will take a full community effort. Economos has deep knowledge of the efforts that have shown success.

"She has experience from 25 initiatives all over the U.S.," Rosenberg said.

The breakfast, which will be held at Neenah's Best Western Bridgewood Conference Center, will bring together doctors, dietitians and other health care professionals. It was also opened up to educators and members of the general public interested in making a difference.

Economos is a professor at Tufts University in Medford, Massachusetts and an expert in childhood nutrition. Her organization aims to instill a sense of urgency regarding childhood obesity and search for solutions.

The Weight of the Fox Valley has been at work on the issue for about two years.

It's a community health initiative spanning Calumet, Outagamie and Winnebago counties. It's led by the Fox Cities and Oshkosh Area United Way organization, though is made up of leaders from business, government, schools, health systems and other nonprofits.

The free breakfast will take place from 7:30 to 9 a.m., and a few seats are still available.

Those interested in attending can contact Rosenberg to reserve a seat at 920-954-7208 or [keren.rosenberg@unitedwayfoxcities.org](mailto:keren.rosenberg@unitedwayfoxcities.org).

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