

The Role of Street Vendors in the After-School Food Environment

IRB# 2007-058

Principal Investigator: June Tester, MD

Synopsis:

The proposed study would increase knowledge about the role of street vendors in the after-school eating environment among elementary and middle school children in low-income neighborhoods. Our overall aim is to examine whether mobile vendors are a feasible vehicle for the sales of fresh fruits, vegetables and healthy snacks. We propose an initial formative phase consisting of spatial and observational data, followed by interviews to contextualize street vending near selected elementary and middle schools in Oakland, California. Information from this formative phase will lead to a community-based quasi-experimental intervention.

The proposed study would contribute to our knowledge about the role that street vendors contribute to the after-school eating environment in an urban setting. The overall hypothesis is that street vendors can be a feasible vehicle for the sales of fresh fruits, vegetables and nutritious snacks.