

NEMS-R Project

Healthy Dining in Cerro Gordo County

Cerro Gordo County

Department of Public Health



Principle:

- High levels of food marketing, convenience, and quantity create a "toxic environment" which may be at the root of the obesity epidemic.
- Excess body weight (and therefore chronic diseases) results from a number of factors:
 - Genes
 - Metabolism
 - Behavior
 - Environment
 - Culture
 - Socioeconomic status

Environmental Change

In particular, behavior and environment are the factors that play the greatest role in the battle against the bulge. Consequently, these are the primary factors targeted for prevention and treatment actions.

Warmerdam, M. (April, 2008). Are our surroundings making us fat? La Prensa, San Diego, CA.

NEMS -

Nutrition Environment Measurement Survey

The NEMS Tools are observational measures of community and consumer nutrition environments in food outlets, specifically stores and restaurants. The measures focus on availability of healthful choices, prices and quality.

NEMS – R: Restaurants

NEMS - S: Stores

NEMS – V: Vending Machines

STEP 1:

Assess County Restaurants using NEMS-R tools

March – December 2012:

Cerro Gordo County Staff and Interns conduct NEMS-R assessments

Restaurant Database provided by County Food Inspections Program

STEP 2:

Educate Restaurant Managers on NEMS-R Score



&

Strategies to Improve Nutrition Environment

November 2012 - February 2013:

Distribute NEMS-R Scores and Strategies Booklet to Restaurant Managers

Provide restaurants the opportunity to improve NEMS-R score through environment changes

STEP 3:



Create Smart-Phone Application to assist local residents and visitors select local restaurants based upon the nutrition environment

August 2012 – February 2013:

Partner with Web Wise Websites, Inc. to create Smart Phone Application

Launch application to the public – use to find *healthy* and local restaurant choices

STEP 4:

Update Application and NEMS-R Scores





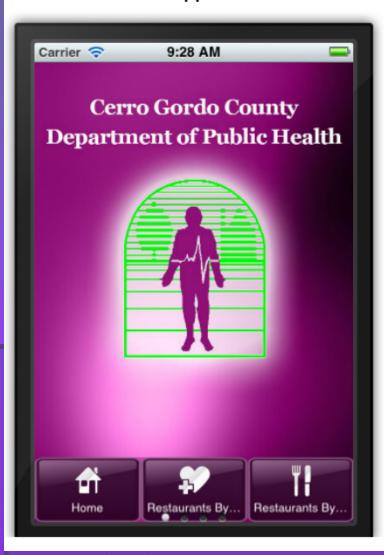


The restaurant NEMS-R scores and data content are easily managed through WebWise's internet site. (no need for users to redownload the App when changes occur!)

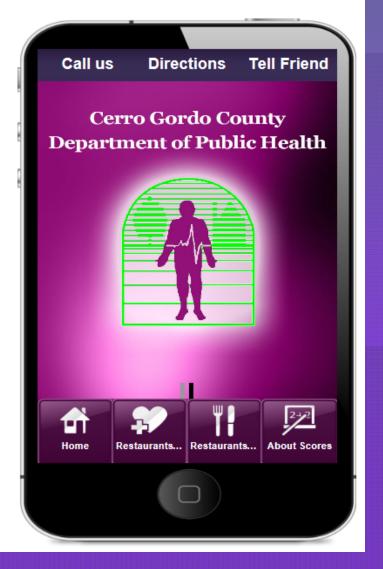
The application will be expandable for additional uses...(trails, health department activities, etc.!!!)

NEMS-R App

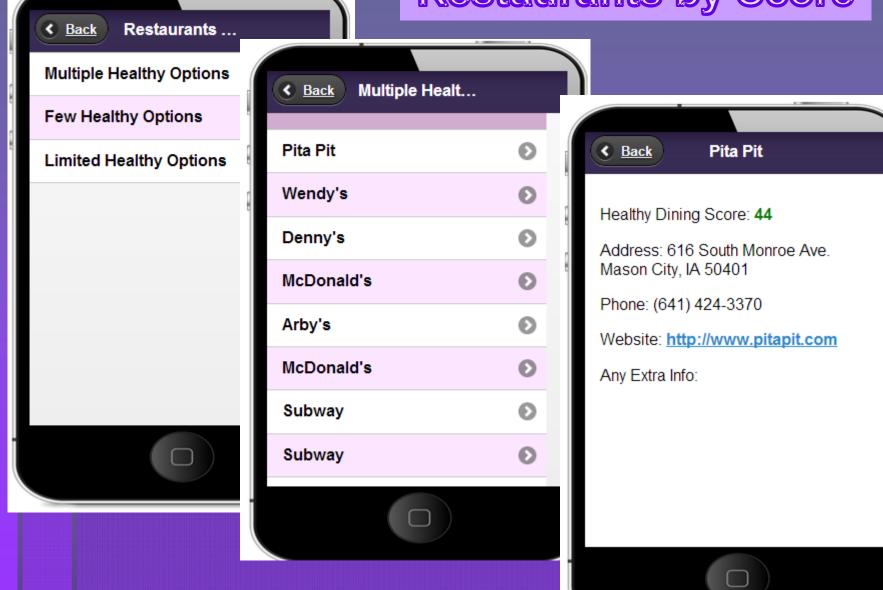
Mobile App Preview

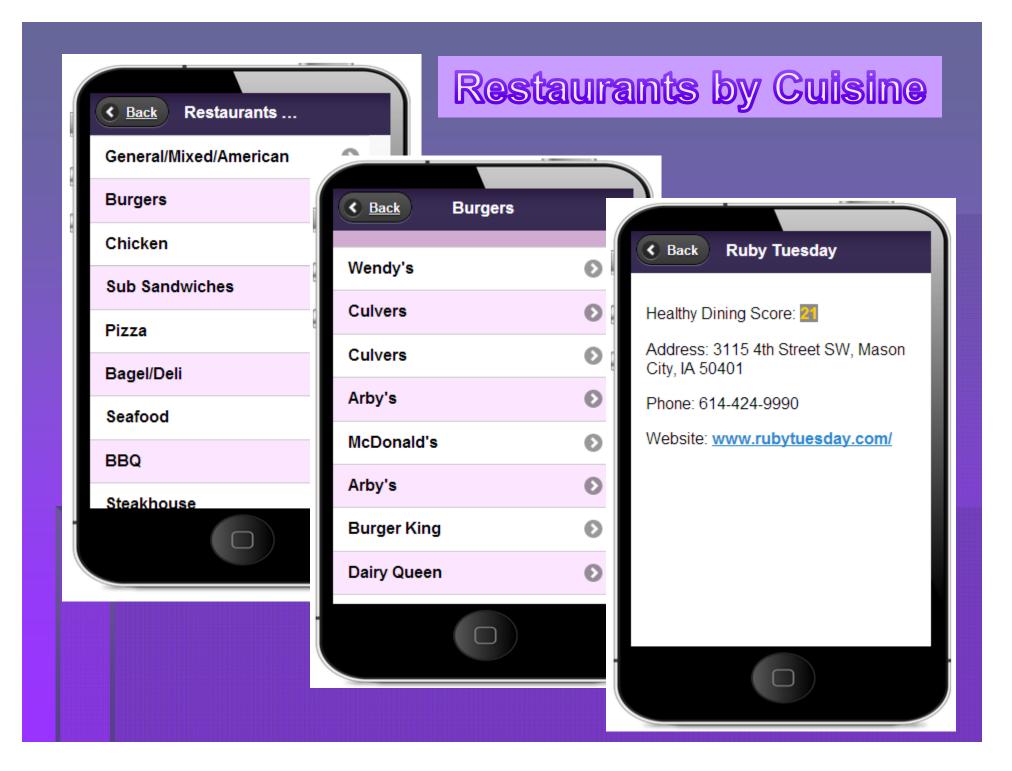


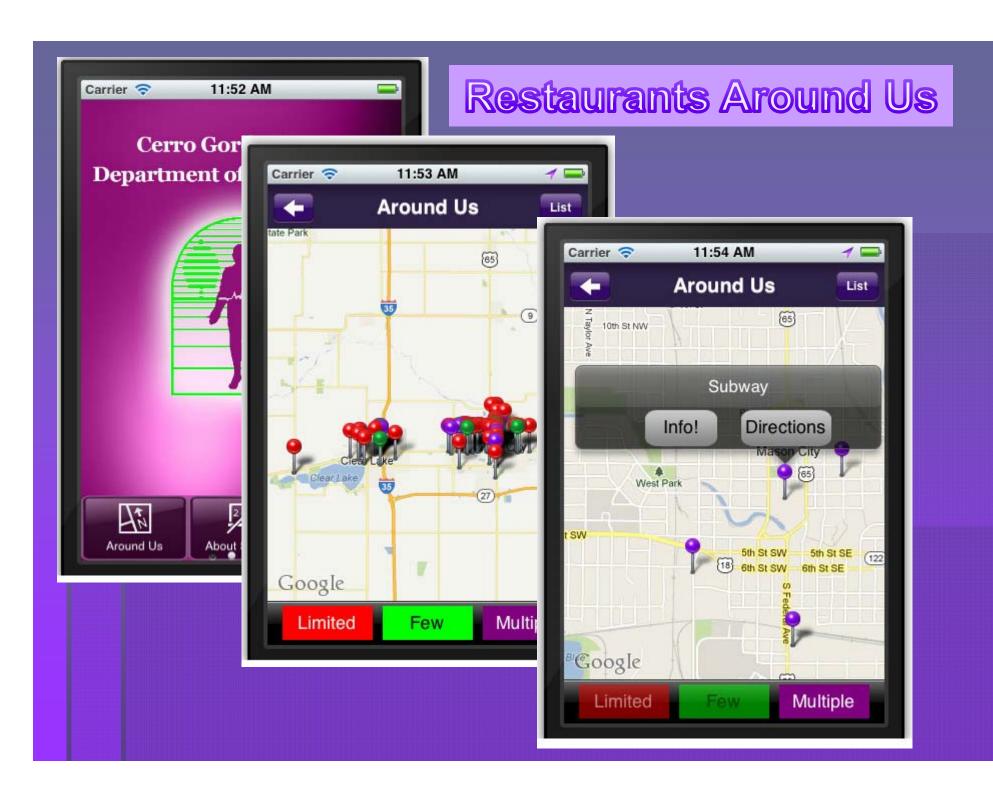
Mobile Website Preview



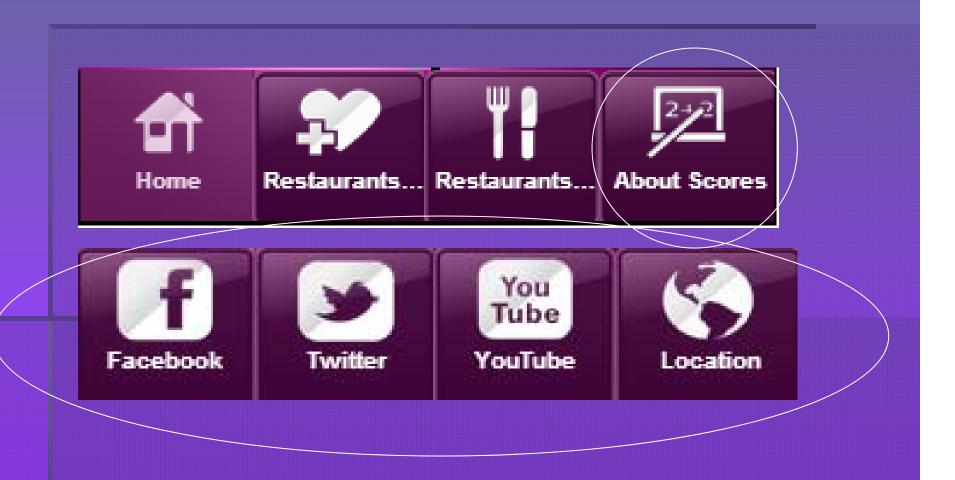
Restaurants by Score







Additional App Categories:



GOAL:

Create an environment supporting healthy eating habits and community well-being.









References

- Warmerdam, M. (April, 2008). Are our surroundings making us fat? La Prensa, San Diego, CA.
- www.med.upenn.edu/nems
- Saelens, B.E., Glanz, K., Sallis J.F., Frank L.D. Nutrition Environment Measures Study in Restaurants (NEMS-R): Development and evaluation. *American Journal of Preventive Medicine*,32(4): 282-289, 2007.
- http://www.idph.state.ia.us/CTG/Default.aspx

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