

**WV Academy of Nutrition and Dietetics will host multiple events related to nutrition, food and obesity for members this week in Morgantown.**

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“To win, we have to lose.”

That’s the tagline for HBO’s newest documentary *The Weight of the Nation*. With a third of our country’s adults and 17 percent of children suffering from obesity, this is an unprecedented path of our nation’s health. Although obesity has emerged as a major public health issue over the past 30 years, experts agree the time to act is now. Children born in the 21<sup>st</sup> century are the first generation in America’s history predicted to have a shorter life expectancy than their parents.

As this documentary airs this week, the WV Academy of Nutrition and Dietetics, the state’s largest organization of food and nutrition professionals, will host a series of events in Morgantown. The activities will begin when the Academy Board meets on Tuesday, May 15 at 5:30 PM at the Hilton Garden Inn at Suncrest Towne Center. The agenda will include an introduction of next year’s board members as well as a summary of the group’s obesity and outreach efforts for this fiscal year.

The Academy will host a continuing education and seminar for members and other health professionals May 16<sup>th</sup> -17<sup>th</sup> at the Fukushima Auditorium in the Health Sciences Center on the campus of West Virginia University. The agenda includes topics such as child nutrition in the home, clinical and community setting; current public policy impacting the field of nutrition and dietetics; as well as updates on international nutrition trends and food guides from around the world.

On May 16<sup>th</sup>, the Academy will hold a gala celebration, *The Frist Seventy Years*, to mark its 70<sup>th</sup> year anniversary as an affiliate of the Academy of Nutrition and Dietetics (formerly the American Dietetic Association). Keynote speaker and nationally renowned presenter, Jim Painter, Professor of Family and Consumer Science at Eastern Illinois University and Producer of the documentary, “Portion Size Me” will conclude the evening with a presentation, “A Dozen Foods to Add to Your Diet to Reduce Heart Disease.”

Members of the WV Academy of Nutrition and Dietetics are experts in the area of nutrition, food and obesity. Representatives will be on hand to answer media questions and discuss the obesity epidemic.