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#### translating research

### **Transformational Education**

civic engagement

**FOOD SAFETY** 

Leadership Development

agriculture

**ENERGY** 

nutrition

**District of Columbia** U.S. territories

All 50 states

#### **Local Access**

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**TRUSTED RESOURCE** 

**ENVIRONMENT** 

HORTICULTURE

**Small Business** 

FAMILY WELL-BEING



### **Promoting Nutritious Diets:**

Cooperative Extension's Role in Nutrition Education

Daryl Buchholz, Ph.D.

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## Why does Cooperative Extension have a role?

- A healthy population requires a healthful and varied diet along with physical activity to help people maintain a healthy body weight, enhance general wellbeing, avoid obesity, and reduce the risk for a number of diseases – heart disease, stroke, cancer, diabetes, and osteoporosis.
- People and communities want solutions!







# **Expanded Food and Nutrition Education Program - EFNEP**

- Since 1969, EFNEP operates through the 1862 and 1890 land-grant institutions in every state, the District of Columbia, and in the six U.S. territories.
- Using a research-based, interactive approach, peer educators from the communities they support enrolled over ½ million limited-resource families and youth each year.
- More than 80 percent of EFNEP families report living at or below 100 percent of poverty, and nearly 70 percent indicate being of minority status.
- This is important because poor health disproportionately affects minority and limited-resource audiences.







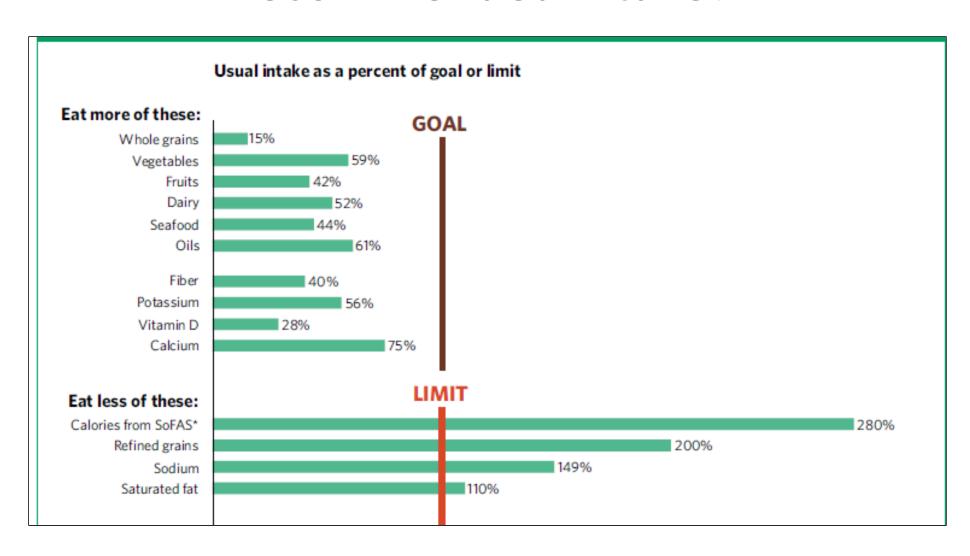
### **EFNEP: Results**

- Improved health and well-being of limited resource families and youth. Additionally, EFNEP leads to public savings.
- Research shows that better health is associated with reduced health care costs, less absenteeism from work, and less dependence on emergency food assistance.



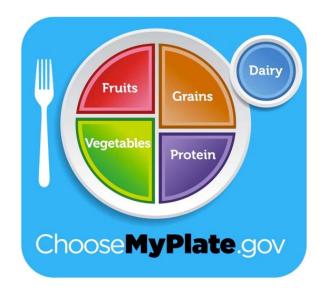


## How do American diets compare to recommended intake?



### **USDA Launches MyPlate June 2011**

 A goal is to help clients recognize the importance of each food group and consume foods from each group.



 The percent of clients eating the recommended number of servings from MyPyramid was less than 1% at baseline.



## EFNEP Improves Nutrition Practices

- 95% improved diet
- 50% more often thought about healthy food choices when making food decisions
- 64% more often used the Nutrition Facts label
- 38% reported their children more often ate breakfast

#### **Nutrition Facts** Amount Per Serving Calories 350 Calories from Fat 140 % Daily Value\* Total Fat 16g Saturated Fat 5g 25% Trans Fat 0g Cholesterol 30mg 10% 39% Sodium 940mg Total Carbohydrate 38g 13% Dietary Fiber 2g Sugars 5g Protein 15g 8% • Vitamin C Vitamin A 15% • Iron Calcium Percent Daily Values are based on a 2,000 calorie diet. Your daily values may be higher or lower depending on your calorie needs.

NutritionData.com





### Saving Money on Food...

EFNEP families
 decreased the amount
 of money spent on
 food by \$21.55/month



 76% of families are enrolled in a food assistance program, and an additional 5% enroll as a result of participation in EFNEP



### How did they do it? Planning!

- Overall, 85% improved one or more of their food resource management practices
- 55% more often planned meals
- 47% more often compared prices



## Cooperative Extension Engages Learners of All Ages in Nutrition Education



4-H

- Youth 5 19 years
- Family

\*\*\*\*\*\*

- Trained Youth Development Educators
- Volunteer Development



#### **EFNEP**

- Eligible Families and Youth and SNAP (Food Stamp) recipients
- Community Partners

\*\*\*\*\*\*

- Trained Nutrition Educators
- Volunteer Development

### What we do... Learning for













#### 4-H

- Youth development
- **Fitness**
- Health Rocks!
- Agriculture/Gardening
- STEM or Science
- Leadership / Citizenship
- Family Involvement

#### **EFNEP**

- **Nutrition and Physical Activity**
- Food Resource Management
- **Food Security**
- **Food Safety**
- Life Skills (cooking, meal planning, garden enhanced nutrition)
- Family Involvement

# Kansas Extension Programs Prevent Childhood Obesity

Get It- Do It! promotes physical activity and healthy eating while strengthening youth engagement in small towns





#### **Communities Preventing Childhood Obesity**

involves low income, rural communities in addressing local opportunities for improved eating and physical activities for 4 year olds (Kansas leads this \$4.5 million, 7 state project)

Walk Kansas for Kids encourages youth to eat a variety of healthy foods and increase the amount of physical activity they do each week.







### Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program – Education (SNAP-Ed)



- SNAP-Ed is a nutrition education program funded by USDA Food and Nutrition Service for families and individuals that qualify for SNAP (formerly Food Stamp) benefits
- Funding is available to Land Grant Universities (Cooperative Extension) through contracts with state and federal agencies
- Wisconsin Cooperative Extension was the first program, then it was piloted in 7 states in 1992, in FY 10, 54 LGUs were participating in 48 states







### **SNAP-Ed Partners**

- USDA Food and Nutrition Service (FNS) and state implementing agencies
- SNAP-Ed Connection web site
- Land-grant universities and Cooperative Extension
- Other SNAP-Ed Implementers
- Center for Disease Control







### **SNAP-Ed**

- In FY 2010, 4.5 million people were reached
- Priority audience is low income, e.g., at 120 percent of poverty or attend schools at or above 50 percent free/reduced lunch standard









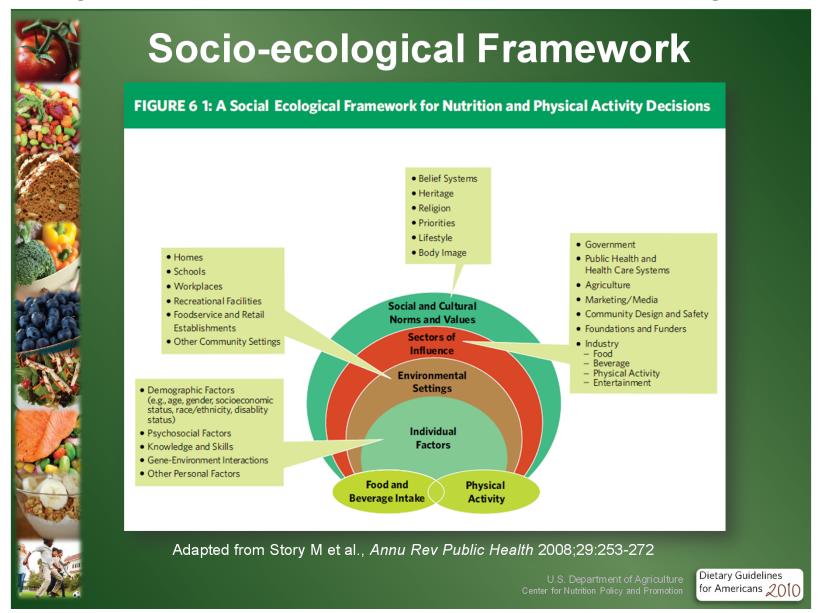
# Working Together: FNS and CES

- Coordinated Action
- Promising practices
- Benchmarking outcomes
- National forum
- Centralized resources
- Prioritizing and program foci





### **Cooperative Extension as a Catalyst**



#### Dietary Quality and Physical Activity

 More than 50% of participants improved eating practices, closer to recommended amounts



- 40% adopted the practice of eating breakfast
- Between 38 and 62% increased physical activity







### Food Security

- 34% enrolled in non-emergency food assistance programs
- 39% reported having fewer food insecure days
- 44% adopted beneficial food security practices





#### Food Safety

- 77% reported improved hygiene, such as hand washing
- 48% adopted practice of keeping food at safe temperatures







- Shopping Behavior/Food Resource Management
  - 31% adopted beneficial shopping techniques (food shopping, preparation, storage)
  - 78% tried new foods/recipes







#### Environmental Settings

- Increased referrals across organizations
- Joint efforts in communities
- Increased availability of nutritious foods in schools, restaurants, grocery stores, and farmers' markets
- Trends for increased support for community antihunger programs
- New grocery stores, farmers' markets, and community gardens in low-income neighborhoods





#### Sectors of Influence

- Extension reached 1,055 agencies, media,
   food/beverage industry and other sectors through
   SNAP-Ed
- More food service institutions
   required employees to be ServSafe Certified
- School vending machine restrictions were enforced





## Cooperative Extension's Role in Nutrition Education

- There remains a strong need for localized, targeted and relevant nutrition education.
- Given our teaching, research and outreach mission and success in achieving desired changes among individuals, families and communities, Cooperative Extension continues to be one of the best at delivering nutrition education.





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