

USDA's Actions on Food and Nutrition Security: opportunities to partner and engage



NLN 2024 Conference: Food as Medicine

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USDA



**1 in 4 Americans is
served by USDA's
nutrition
assistance
programs**



- ▶ Food and Nutrition Service
- ▶ 16 Nutrition Assistance Programs
- ▶ 175 states, U.S. territories, and tribal organizations
- ▶ Western Region: Alaska, American Samoa, California, CNMI, Guam, Hawaii, Idaho, Nevada, Oregon and Washington

USDA



- FNS Mission: increase food security and reduce hunger
- White House Conference on Hunger, Nutrition and Health



Food and Nutrition Security

- Nutrition assistance programs
- Dietary Guidelines and MyPlate
- Nutrition education and promotion
-





USDA's Four-Pillar Approach

Meaningful
Support



Healthy
Food



Collaborative
Action



Equitable
Systems





Meaningful Support

- Support healthy eating patterns
- Reflect the latest nutrition science
- Deliver high-quality nutrition education
- Promote and support breastfeeding





Healthy Food

- Promote and support fruit and vegetable consumption
- Utilize incentive programs
- Provide food for people in need





Collaborative Action

- Update and build the evidence base for the Dietary Guidelines for Americans (DGAs)
- Translate the latest DGAs
- Equip child nutrition program operators
- Tailor products to our programs





Equitable Systems

- Native American/Tribal School food programs
- Expanding online shopping options for SNAP and WIC
- Bridging language barriers
- Reaching underserved populations
- Diverse partners to foster healthy food options through diverse partners





WHITE HOUSE
CONFERENCE ON
**HUNGER,
NUTRITION,
& HEALTH**

National Strategy Pillar 1: **Improve food access and affordability**



- Increase access to local and regional food systems
- Fund training and equipment purchases
- Invest in the school nutrition workforce
- Expand nutrition education for children

Support a
**diverse WIC
workforce**





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National Strategy Pillar 3: **Empower all consumers to make and have access to healthy choices**

- Increase access to healthy food
- Encourage healthy workplace and school policies
- Invest in public education campaigns



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& HEALTH**

National Strategy Pillar 4: **Support physical activity for all**



- Ensure access to safe places to be active
- Increase awareness on the benefits of physical activity
- Conduct research on and measure physical activity



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& HEALTH**

National Strategy Pillar 5: **Enhance nutrition and food security research**

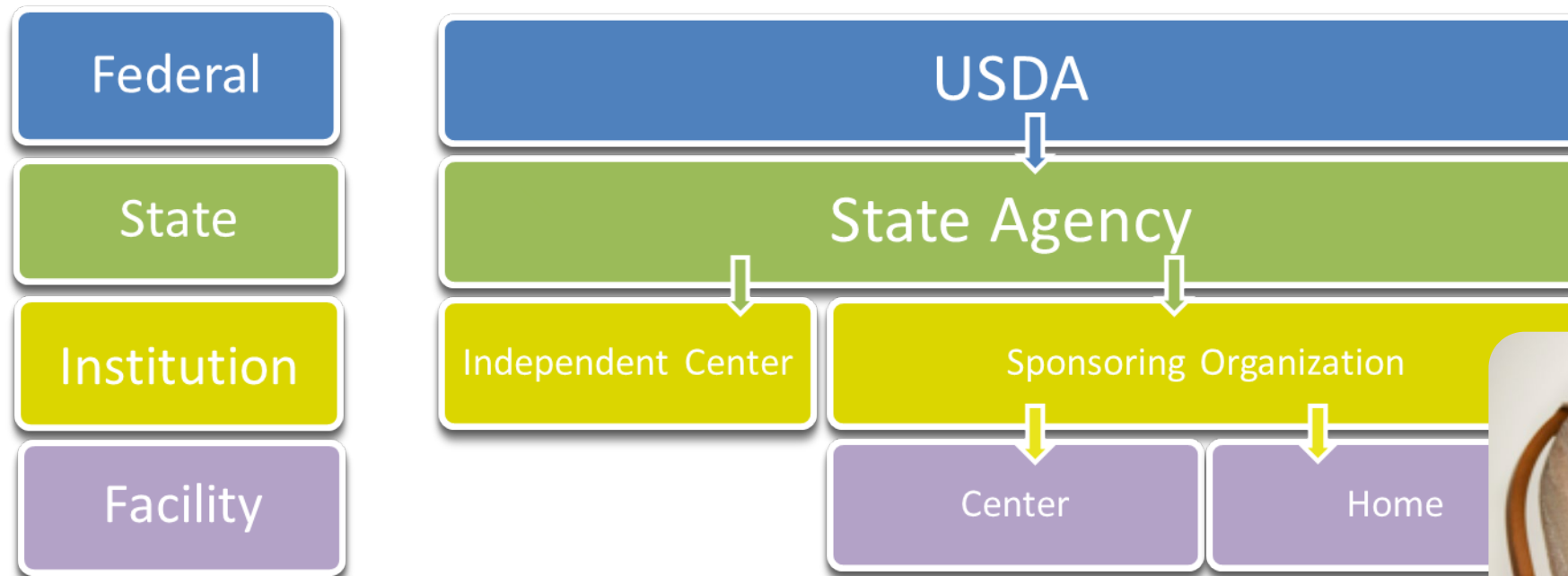


- Increase access to local and regional food systems
- Fund training and equipment purchases
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Food and Nutrition Service Programs



Child and Adult Care Food Program



► CACFP Components

- **Child Care Centers** 2 meals and 1 snack OR 2 snacks and 1 meal per day
- **Family Day Care Homes** 2 meals and 1 snack OR 2 snacks and 1 meal per day
- **At Risk Afterschool Care Centers** 1 meal and 1 snack per day
- **Outside School Hours Care Centers** 2 meals and 1 snack per day
- **Adult Day Care Centers** 2 meals and 1 snack OR 2 snacks and 1 meal per day
- **Emergency Shelters** 3 meals per day

Each day, more than 4.2 million children and 138,000 adults receive CACFP meals and snacks

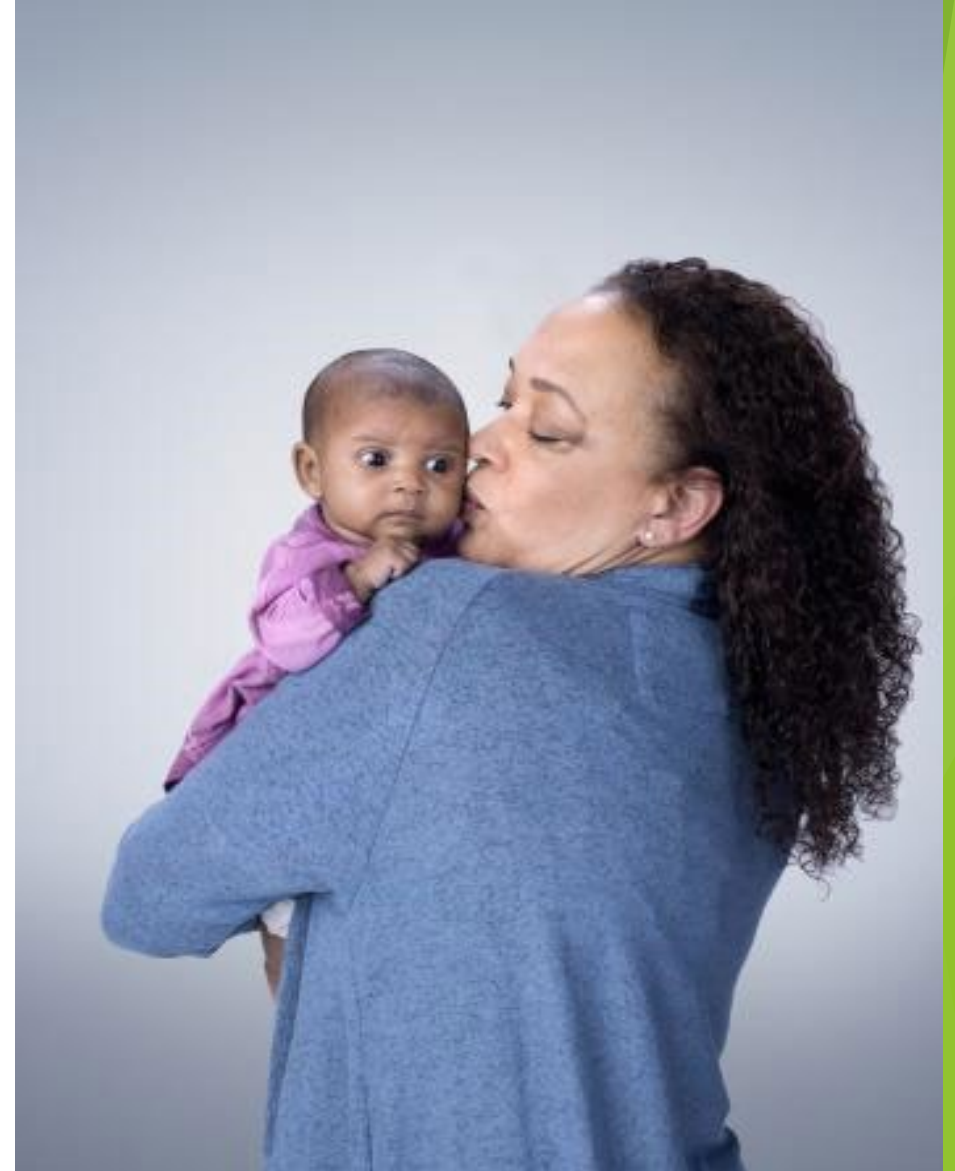
How The Child and Adult Care Food Program (CACFP) promotes and supports breastfeeding

- ▶ **Encourage and support**
- ▶ **Referrals**
- ▶ **Training**



Ideas for Collaboration

- ▶ Promote and support breastfeeding
- ▶ Develop and provide training to staff and resources for staff and participants
- ▶ Support/lead program promotion opportunities
 - ▶ i.e. <https://breastfeeding.org/breastfeeding-friendly-child-care/>.
- ▶ Partner on Farm to CACFP activities



50 WIC HONORING THE PAST. NOURISHING THE FUTURE.





Food and Nutrition Service
U.S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

50 states, 33 tribes, D.C., and 5 territories

6.3 million participants

39% of all infants in U.S.



Honoring the past.
Nourishing the future.



WIC Fun Facts

- decreases iron deficiency anemia.
- improves growth rates.
- reduces fetal deaths and infant mortality.
- *Improves nutrient intake*
- *More likely to be immunized*



Honoring the past.
Nourishing the future.





Food and Nutrition Service
U.S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

Tailored Food Packages

Nutrition Education

*Breastfeeding Promotion and
Support (i.e., peer
counselors, education)*

Referrals



**Honoring the past.
Nourishing the future.**



Ideas for Coordination

- ▶ 10 Ways' that WIC and Head Start can collaborate
- ▶ Webinar: How WIC, Head Start, CACFP and others can coordinate



SUN



SUMMER NUTRITION PROGRAMS FOR KIDS



- ▶ Summer Food Service Program
 - Onsite and offsite
- ▶ Summer-EBT (S-EBT)

We now have 3 ways to combat summer hunger



SUN Meals:
group onsite meals



SUN Meals To-Go:
to-go or meal delivery
in some rural areas

SUN Bucks:
grocery shopping benefits



SUMMER NUTRITION PROGRAMS FOR KIDS

- The Summer Food Service Program (SFSP) [Program Fact Sheet](#)
- Free meals and Snacks kids





SUMMER NUTRITION PROGRAMS FOR KIDS

- The Summer Food Service Program (SFSP) [Program Fact Sheet](#)
- Free meals/ snacks
- kids under 18 years old
- Learn [more](#)



How **SUN**
Meals To-Go
reduces child
hunger and
supports rural
communities





What is **SUN** bucks and who is eligible?

- new grocery summer EBT program, called SUN Bucks
- School age children participate in other programs
- Children who attend a National School school and income eligible for school lunch





Together,
we can help more
children thrive in the
summertime and
beyond





Close the Gap and Take Action

Spread the word

[Learn](#) more

Partner with State

Support and promote local
operators



STARTING SUMMER 2024,
grocery benefits will be available to
eligible families with school-age children
during summer break.



Patrick Leahy Farm to School Program

- ▶ Incorporate local foods in school lunch program, SFSP, and CACFP
- ▶ Promote food sovereignty and integration of traditional foods
- ▶ 67,000+ schools





Farm to Preschool

- ▶ serve local or regionally foods in early childcare and education settings
- ▶ provide hands-on learning activities
- ▶ integrate food-related education





Farm to Summer Food Service Program

- ▶ Capitalize summer abundance
- ▶ Hands on activities: growing, harvesting and preparing



USDA Patrick Leahy Farm to School Program: Opportunities to Partner

▶ Grant Program

- ▶ Increase availability of local foods
- ▶ Connect to food through education and activities





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Thank you!

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