

ATFED (Access To Food Every Day) Food Insecurity ITP - Invitation To Participate™

School Nutrition Committee - Food Insecurity Subcommittee

Date of Release: June 12, 2013

Accepting Responses

Project Overview

The Food Insecurity Subcommittee of the School Nutrition Committee is seeking community partners to actively work with schools to increase knowledge, awareness and/or provide a nutritious and consistent source of food for the school children and their families who are food insecure, while aligning community resources to address the overall issue of food insecurity in the schools' communities. The committee is seeking community partners to do one or more of the following:

1. Provide eight identified pilot schools with nutritious food that can be accessed by their student's families
2. Provide families of the eight pilot schools with opportunities to increase their knowledge and use of nutritious foods (Napier Elementary, Hermitage Elementary, John Early Middle, Dupont Hadley Middle, McMurray Middle, Glenclyff High School, Maplewood High School, Stratford High School)
3. Provide each pilot school with the support and tools to be a sustainable source of food for their food insecure students and families

The primary outcomes supported by this Invitation to Participate™ (ITP™) are to:

- Increase food distributed at pilot schools.
- Increase self-reporting of healthy eating habits
- Increase the skills and capacity for preparing nutritious meals of community of members participating in demonstration kitchens by 25%
- Increase the number of community partners engaged in partner schools by 25%

Services Needed from the Community:

This committee is looking to build a catalog of community-wide services and programs that could be offered to students and families at any of the eight pilot schools. We are looking for one or more services and programs, such as the examples listed below, that would assist the committee in achieving the above outcomes.

Please remember, these are examples and you may have other important resources for this pilot project that are not listed:

- (a) *Food distribution programs* (food pantry programs, mobile markets, back pack programs, summer food service, emergency kitchens, etc.)
- (b) *Space for food distribution programs in these pilot communities* (outside of the pilot school buildings, churches, community centers, etc.)
- (c) *Food Preparation Programs* (demonstration kitchens, food prep classes, affordable healthy recipes, food safety, menu planning, etc.)
- (d) *Nutrition Education* (Parent University, Nutrition classes, healthy food guidelines and labels, nutrition and wellness, Healthy Eating and Active Living, etc.)
- (e) *Nutrition Assistance Programs* (Food Stamp Programs, SNAP, etc.)
- (f) *Garden to Table Programs* (Community/school gardens, etc.)

School Nutrition Committee/Food Insecurity Subcommittee Members

Spencer Taylor - Chair, MNPS
Megan Morton - Vice Chair, Community Food Advocates
Braina Corke, MNPS
Jill Baker, MNPS
Jeremy Barlow, Entrepreneur/Parent
Jen Boulton, Healthways
Fred Carr, MNPS
Linda Catlett, Healthways
Sheila Clark, MNPS
Sue Clark, MNPS
Tanya Debro, Healthways
Kevin Dorr, American Culinary Foundation
Julie Fitzgerald, Metro Public Health Department
Linda Herrell, MNPS Parent
Pam Hull, Vanderbilt University
Lisa Jameson, Healthways
Melinda Judd, Second Harvest Food Bank of Middle Tennessee
Rachel Knight, Healthways
Jeff Krebs, Healthways
Holly May, LEAD Academy Teacher
Selena McCoy Carpenter, Glendale Elementary
Kimberly Molnar, Second Harvest Food Bank of Middle Tennessee
Rhonda Newborn, Healthways
Nicole Proffitt, MNPS
Jessica Trumble, Healthways
Deborah Walker, MNPS Food Services
Kathy Wantland, MNPS
Teresa West, MNPS

Project Explanation

General Description

In the United States, more than one out of six children lives in a household with food insecurity, which means they do not always know where they will find their next meal. According to the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA), 16.2 million children under 18 in the United States live in this condition - unable to consistently access nutritious and adequate amounts of food necessary for a healthy life. In 2009, the top five states with the highest rate of food insecure children under 18 are the District of Columbia, Oregon, Arizona, Arkansas, & Texas. 20% or more of the child population in 40 states and D.C. lived in food insecure households in 2009.

Education: Children from food insecure households are likely to be behind in their academic development compared to other children which ultimately makes it difficult for them to reach the same level of development as their fellow food secure peers.

Research conducted by Frongillo, Jyoti, and Jones, 2005 found that food insecurity impairs academic development of young school-age children. This study revealed that the reading and mathematical skills of food insecure children entering kindergarten developed significantly more slowly than other children.

The potential consequences of food insecurity for children: Good nutrition, particularly in the first three years of life, is important in establishing a good foundation that has implications for a child's future physical and mental health, academic achievement, and economic productivity. Unfortunately, food insecurity is an obstacle that threatens that critical foundation. According to the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA), 16.2 million children under 18 in the United States live in households where they are unable to consistently access enough nutritious food necessary for a healthy life. Although food insecurity is harmful to any individual, it can be particularly devastating among children due to their increased vulnerability and the potential for long-term consequences.

In Nashville this means:

- 16.8% of Nashville residents are food insecure (103,100 people).
- According to the U. S. Conference of Mayors, in 2009 there was a 74% increase in first-time recipients of food assistance in Nashville.
- In Metro Nashville Public Schools, approximately 70% students participate in the free and reduced meal program. That equates to 56,700 school-aged children.
- Feeding America Map the Meal stats say 16.8% of Nashville residents are food insecure = 103,100 people.

Through the Food Insecurity Pilot Program:

The MNPS schools participating in this pilot meet one or both of the following standards:

- Minimum 75% Free and reduced lunch (FARL)
- Unique community demographics
- Principals are signed on and support the pilot in their schools

The eight identified pilot schools are:

- Napier Elementary
- Hermitage Elementary
- John Early Middle
- Dupont Hadley Middle
- McMurray Middle
- Glencliff High School
- Maplewood High School
- Stratford High School

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Target Population

Students and student's families that attend the 8 pilot schools and are food insecure.

Needed Information from Community Service Providers

1. Name and Description of organization

2. Description of program/services being offered
3. Capacity to provide this program/service
4. Which schools can you offer program/service (choose from list of schools)
5. Organization's expertise in providing program/service
6. If workshop - what language is it available
7. Frequency of program/service

Expected Dates of Implementation

Implementation of Pilot - Phase I in August, 2013

Expected Outcomes

- Increase community support of food insecure students and their families
- Increase impact of healthy eating
- Increase the skills and capacity with preparing nutritious meals of each pilot schools' community
- Increase the resources necessary to support schools in working with their community

Assessment Strategies

- Amount of food distributed of students, parents and community organizations
- Pre- and post- surveys
- Number of community partners supporting pilot schools

Submission Requirements

Organizations who submit a proposal in response to this ITP must agree to the following statements of intent and conditions:

- This will be a collaborative effort. To achieve the goals of AN, organizations will need to work together to provide services.
- Your organization may need to redirect resources, personnel and otherwise, to participate in this project.
- **Alignment Nashville** has a small staff and is also supported by leadership from **MNPS**. These resources will be used where feasible to support your efforts.
- When delivering services in the schools, your organization must comply with **MNPS** policies.
- Your organization agrees to report resources contributed to committee work quarterly, using **AN** forms and processes.
- Your organization will be asked to provide process and output information (i.e., services actually provided, number of students served, student demographics, sites, etc.) on an annual basis.

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