

Food Insecurity Subcommittee Access To Food Every Day Pilot ITP

Invitation To Participate™

School Nutrition Committee - Food Insecurity Subcommittee ATFED (Access To Food Every Day) Pilot ITP

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 provide a nutritious and consistent source of food for the school children and their families, while aligning community resources to address the overall issue of food insecurity in the schools' communities. The subcommittee is seeking partners to:

1. Provide eight identified pilot schools with 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 HS, Maplewood HS, Stratford HS)
3. Provide each pilot school with the support and tools to be a sustainable source of food for their food insecure students

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

- Increase food distributed at pilot schools by 15%
- Increase self-reporting of healthy eating habits by 25%
- 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%
- Decrease perceived stigma around participating in food programs by 25%
- Increase awareness of food insecurity by 80%

Services Needed from the Community:

The following are examples of, but not limited to, services, programs or activities that support this ITP:

1. Organizations that provide outreach, information and space (i.e., Faith-Based, Nonprofits, etc.)
2. Education Programs (i.e., Healthy Recipes, workshops, Parent University, etc.)
3. Food Distribution Programs (i.e., Mobile Markets, Food Pantries, etc.)
4. Food Preparation Programs (i.e., Demonstration Kitchens)
5. Farm to Table Programs

School Nutrition Working 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.

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.

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.

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:

According to the **Community Needs Evaluation 2010**, from the **Metropolitan Social Services Department:**

Hunger in Nashville

According to the **U.S. Conference of Mayors, 2009 Hunger and Homelessness Survey**, between 2008 and 2009 there was an increase of:

- 38% in requests for emergency food assistance
- 74% increase in first-time recipients of food assistance in **Nashville**

As highlighted in the 2009 Conference of Mayors Report on Hunger and Homelessness, **Nashville** is experiencing a dramatic increase in the number of persons seeking food assistance, many for the first time.

Feeding America Map the Meal stats say 16.8% of **Nashville** residents are food insecure = 103,100 people.

Food Deserts:

The most commonly accepted definition for food desert is, *“any census tract that isn’t within a half-mile to a mile in an urban area, 10 miles in a rural area, of a full-service grocery store or supermarket, has high rates of residents with no access to a car, limited public transit options and high rates of poverty.”*

The **USDA** used this definition in its 2009 report to Congress, *Access to Nutritious Food: Measuring and Understanding Food Deserts and Their Consequences*, which found that **2.6 percent of Davidson County residents – more than 16,000 people – had no car and lived more than a mile away from the nearest supermarket.**

There are 4 identified food desert areas of Nashville: North Nashville, Edgehill, East Nashville near Cayce Place, and near-South Nashville near the Napier Homes.

In Metro Nashville Public Schools:

In Metro Schools, we have approximately 70% free and reduced lunch. To begin qualifying a family has to be at or below 125% of poverty. That equates to **56,700** school children.

THROUGH THE PILOT PROGRAM:

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

1. Minimum 75% Free and reduced lunch and/or
2. Unique community demographics
3. 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

Glenclyff HS

Maplewood HS

Stratford HS

Accordingly, the **Food Insecurity Subcommittee** of the **School Nutrition Committee** is seeking community partners to actively work with schools to **increase knowledge, awareness and provide a nutritious and**

consistent source of food for the school children and their families, while aligning community resources to address the overall issue of food insecurity in the schools' communities. The subcommittee is seeking partners to:

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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

Invitation to Participate Responses - January 25, 2013 (open) - Accepting Responses

Community Meeting - February 1, 2013 @ 1:30 pm, Second Harvest

Committee to review community response - May 21, 2013

Organizations notified - May 25, 2013

Implementation of Pilot - Phase I - June 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 **ANforms** 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.

If you agree to the above statements of intent and conditions, we invite you to submit a proposal on-line by May 10, 2013 using the following **Alignment Nashville** website link:

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