Welcome to the National Farm to School Network’s Lunch Bites webinar series

www.farmtoschool.org
Farm to School across the Nation

Our network includes national staff, eight regional lead agencies and leads in all 50 states. Click on the map above to contact the state lead in your area for more information, or contact someone on our national staff directly. We are here to help you get started and keep programs growing!

- National
- Alabama
- Alaska
- Arizona
- Arkansas
- California
- Colorado
- Connecticut
- Delaware
- District of Columbia
- Florida
- Georgia
- Hawaii
- Idaho
- Illinois
- Indiana
- Iowa
- Kansas
- Kentucky
- Louisiana
- Maine
- Maryland
- Massachusetts
- Michigan
- Minnesota
- Mississippi
- Missouri
- Montana
- Nebraska
- Nevada
- New Hampshire
- New Jersey
- New Mexico
- New York
- North Carolina
- North Dakota
- Ohio
- Oklahoma
- Oregon
- Pennsylvania
- Rhode Island
- South Carolina
- South Dakota
- Tennessee
- Texas
- Utah
- Virginia
- Washington
- West Virginia
- Wisconsin
- Wyoming
Integrating farm to school in summer nutrition programs

www.farmtoschool.org
Today’s speakers

Mary Stein
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Development and Programs Manager
Burlington School Food Project
Burlington, VT
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National Summer Food Service Program Awareness Week

Summer Food Rocks!
Find Sites Serving Summer Meals

http://www.fns.usda.gov/summer-food-service-program-sfsp
Summer Nutrition Programs
“Hunger Doesn’t Take a Vacation”

In 2012, summer nutrition program:*

- Provided 161 million meals
- Serving 2.8 million children in July, 2012

*Food Research and Action Center frac.org
Federal Summer Nutrition Programs

- Summer Food Service Program (SFSP)
- National School Lunch Program (NSLP) Seamless Summer Summer Option
Summer Nutrition Programs
A Win for Kids and Communities

• Ensure that children have access to healthy food, even when school is not in session

• Hunger – interferes with children’s mental alertness and cognitive/physical development

• Help families stretch their food dollars during the summer months

• Provide year-round employment for many food and nutrition services staff
Farm to School and Summer Nutrition Programs

A Natural Fit

- Farm to school practices and activities ENHANCE summer nutrition programs

- Peak production season - ample opportunity to connect children to delicious, fresh locally produced food

- Educational and experiential opportunities abound
  - Gardens
  - Farm visits
  - Taste tests
Farm to School

- School Gardens
- Local Procurement
- Experiential Education
- Food & Ag Curriculum
Farm to School Can Strengthen A Summer Nutrition Program

- Meet nutrition guidelines for meals and snacks
- Offer healthy, appealing and delicious options
- Summertime is more flexible - great opportunity to try new foods – taste tests!!
- Peak of growing season – buying local can be most cost-effective in summer
Farm to School Can Strengthen A Summer Nutrition Program

- Memorable culinary experiences with farm fresh foods
- Provides steady year-round market for growers
- Translates economic benefits to whole community
Getting Started

Integrating local products into menu

• Gain familiarity with agricultural products that grow in your area. Where to find info?
  • State Depts of Agriculture
  • Farmers Market Managers (USDA Farmers Market Directory)
    http://search.ams.usda.gov/farmersmarkets/
  • NFSN State Lead
    www.farmtoschool.org
Start Small and Grow From There

- Start by offering one or two local items
- Create signage or marketing materials - highlight the delicious local options... and your effort!
- Staff training and taste-testing for staff
- Field trips to local farms
- Connect with school/community garden coordinators.
Great Successes Across the Country
Ventura Unified School District

- 70,000 meals served each summer
- 25 staff retain summer employment
- Success stems from clear menu planning

Learn more about Ventura’s program at:
http://www.summermealcoalition.org/farm-to-school-summer/
Foodlink - Rochester, NY
Fresh, nutritious meals in summer

- Summer meal sites throughout the city of Rochester
- Free for all children
- Most fruits and veggies in program are locally grown
- Beef sourced locally
- Backpack program in summer too.

http://foodlinkny.org/
Florida
Best Practice Awards – Including Farm to Summer

- Florida Department of Agriculture
- Developed award program for summer nutrition programs
- Programs recognized for “Best Practices” including:
  - Farm to Summer
  - Outstanding Healthy Meals

FOOD UNITES US ALL
Food Truck

- Summer culinary job training program
- Connected to multiple class subjects during school year
- Relevant, cool and fun!
CP Smith Orchard

CP Smith Orchard Design

- Apples
- Pear
- 2 Peach
- 2 Cherry
- Flowers
- Running Track
- fall-bea
- Rasper
- grid
- a lot of CLOVER!
Resources

Hunger Doesn’t Take a Vacation: FRAC Summer Nutrition Status Report 2013

USDA Summer Meals Program Information
www.summerfood.usda.gov

National Hunger Hotline.
1-866-3-HUNGRY or 1-877-8-HAMBRE,
or visit http://www.whyhunger.org/findfood
Summer Food Rocks!
Find Sites Serving Summer Meals

Call
1-866-3-HUNGRY or 1-877-8-HAMBRE
Visit www.whyhunger.org/findfood
to find help getting food for your family

USDA is an equal opportunity employer and provider.
Questions?

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Stay connected! Sign up on:
www.farmtoschool.org