



Bringing healthy food from local farms to schools nationwide.



## National Farm to School Network Major Accomplishments

**Created a National Farm to School Network**, with regional lead agency staff in eight regions and four national staff, to meet state and region specific needs related to national farm to school efforts.

**Launched a new and improved website**, [www.farmtoschool.org](http://www.farmtoschool.org), in conjunction with National School Lunch Week, October 15-19, 2007. [Farmtoschool.org](http://Farmtoschool.org) is the portal for farm to school information in the U.S.

**Developed a monthly e-newsletter**, Farm to School Routes, highlighting pivotal policies, news, publications, events, and programs: please register to join at [www.farmtoschool.org](http://www.farmtoschool.org)

**Generated over 200 media articles** on Farm to School in the last year: Martha Stewart Living Radio, USA Today, Time Magazine for Kids, CNN, LA Times, Capitol Press, Seattle Post-Intelligencer, Chicago Tribune, New York Times, Boston Globe, and many more media outlets recognize the movement growing in communities across the nation.

**Advocated for Farm Bill legislation** that would allow food service directors to preference local products.

**Organized a Farm to School and Policy conference** in Washington, D.C., including over 100 visits to elected officials advocating for local preferences in school purchases and funding for rural infrastructure.

**Produced information resources** in response to hundreds of requests for information from community members working to make local healthy foods and a connection to farms a priority for children. For example, here is a request submitted by an 8th grade teacher in South Carolina:

“Ninety-six percent of our students are on free and/or reduced lunches. The big meal of the day for many of them is the school lunch; and sadly, it is often very poor in nutrition, filled with starch, fat and high fructose corn syrup which is used as a preservative in the freezing process. Most of the frozen vegetables served are covered in oil or a melted cheese/oil sauce.

Through my research online to find a federal grant or program promoting healthy school lunches, I found your organization. Yeah!!!!!!”

**Developed a “Procurement Information Package”** with legal assistance to clarify technical issues around preferring local products and barriers to developing farm to school programs.

**Formed committees of national leaders** to serve as “Partners” and “Program Strategy Advisors” to the National Farm to School Network.

The National Farm to School Network is supported in part by the W.K. Kellogg Foundation. The Network is coordinated by the Center for Food & Justice at the Urban & Environmental Policy Institute at Occidental College and the Community Food Security Coalition.